

# OFFICE OF NEW AMERICANS

2017 YEAR  
IN REVIEW



**Chicago is With You  
Task Force**

**Legal  
Protection Fund**

**DACA Clinics**

**CityKey**

**Naturalization**

**One Chicago**

**Anti-registry  
Ordinance**

**2018**



# CHICAGO IS WITH YOU

In January, Mayor Rahm Emanuel convened the Chicago is With You Task Force, a collaborative community outreach effort aimed at connecting immigrant and refugee communities to mental health, legal services, as well as providing diversity training for employers and educational institutions. In 2017, Task Force members trained Community Navigators facilitate Know Your Rights workshops, educating immigrants and refugees on their legal rights.

▶ 24,255 ◀  
**Know Your Rights  
workshop attendees**

▶ 431 ◀  
**Community Navigators trained**

▶ 1,239 ◀  
**Participants at mental  
health trainings**



# LEGAL PROTECTION FUND

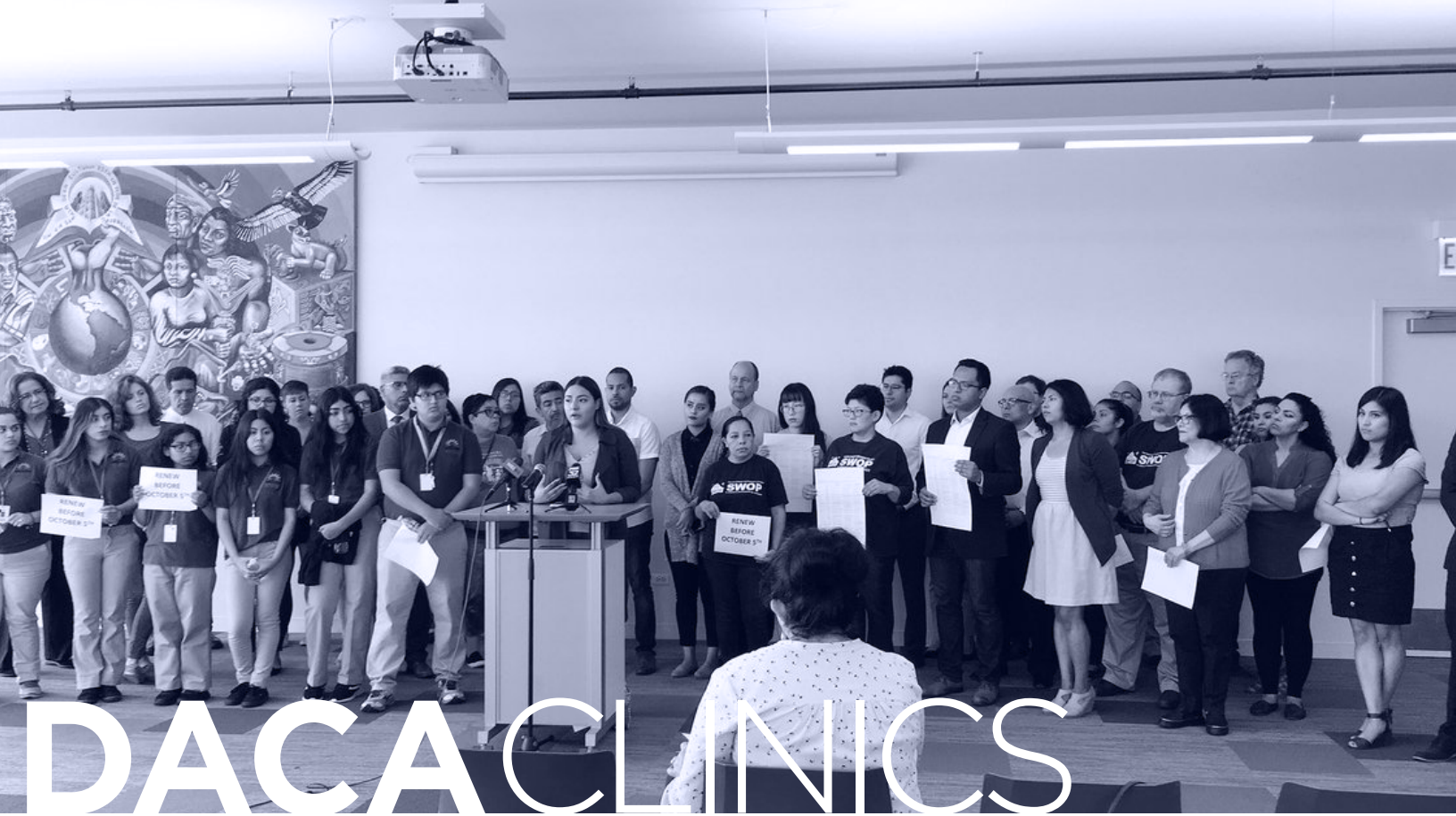
The Legal Protection Fund was established with Heartland Alliance's National Immigrant Justice Center and The Resurreption Project to provide legal representation for immigrants and refugees. According to the NIJC, approximately 150,000 Chicago area residents do not have legal permanent resident status and tens of thousands more are worried about their immigration status. The Legal Protection Fund planned to perform 1,500 free legal screenings, represent immigrants

▶ 1,879  
screenings

▶ 950  
cases

in 1,000 cases, and bring Know Your Rights trainings to 20,000 people, and [has met those goals](#). Because of its dedication to the rights and representation of its residents, Chicago was identified by the Vera Institute as 1 of 11 members of their [SAFE Cities Network](#), and the Jones Day Law Firm awarded Chicago \$40,000 to support the Community Navigators program.





After the Trump Administration rescinded the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) in September, we mobilized the Chicago is With You Task Force to provide DACA clinics for Dreamers. These clinics provide information and resources for Dreamers, despite the unsure future of DACA.

▶ 64 ◀  
**DACA Clinics**

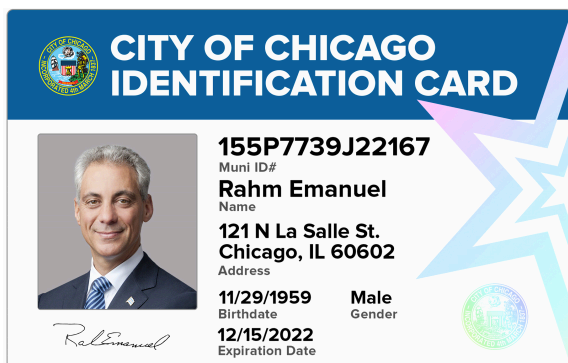
▶ 456 ◀  
**Residents Served**

▶ 254 ◀  
**DACA Renewals**

▶ \$28,000 ◀  
**Raised for Scholarships**

# CITYKEY

The Chicago CityKey is the culmination of years of research and stakeholder engagement. The CityKey is open to all Chicago residents. In addition to serving as a valid government-issued ID, residents can use their CityKey as their Ventra, library card, as well as a host of other things. A year after allocating \$1 million to the project, Mayor Emanuel and Clerk Valencia announced the initiative. Look out for the full launch in Spring 2018, and for more information, visit the [City Clerk's website](#).



CityKey front



CityKey back



There is a backlog of applications with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. Last year, Mayor Emanuel issued a letter urging Congress to appropriate the necessary funds to address the over 500,000 legal permanent residents waiting for citizenship.

Despite this backlog, Chicago remains committed to celebrating those immigrants that achieve naturalization. Mayor Emanuel hosted a number of naturalization ceremonies over the year, including those on November 8, 2016 for Election Day, February 20, 2017 for President's Day, and May 5, 2017 for Cinco de Mayo, in conjunction with Mayor Miguel Mancera of Mexico City. Over 100 immigrants became citizens in these ceremonies.

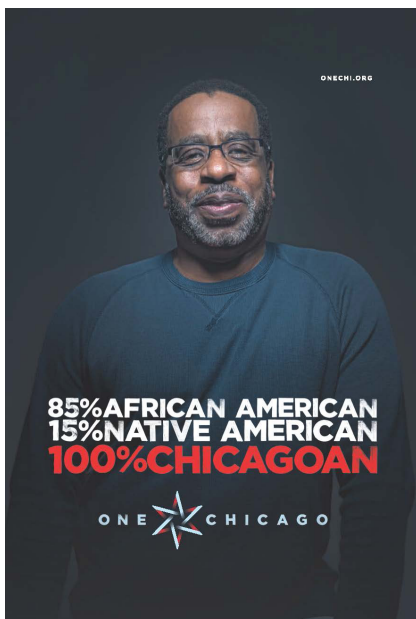




ONE  
CHICAGO



In May, Mayor Emanuel announced [One Chicago](#), a campaign with the purpose of telling the stories of the Chicagoans that make our city strong and contribute to our vibrant community, especially our immigrant and refugee residents. Chicago is proud of our unique culture and rich diversity, and One Chicago highlights stories from all over the world of those calling themselves Chicagoans, whether whether they came through the Great Migration, or across the Atlantic or Pacific.



**“Chicago will continue to be what it has always been—a welcoming city. A city that supports you and your dreams, no matter who you are or where you came from.”**

**-Mayor Rahm Emanuel**





# ANTI-REGISTRY ORDINANCE

In Partnership with CAIR-Chicago, City Council unanimously passed an anti-registry ordinance in June. The ordinance prohibits the use of City resources on a federal registry program that would disclose resident information on any registry.

The ordinance was an important step in demonstrating Chicago's commitment to ensuring a welcoming environment for all.



In January 2017, the Trump administration announced it had banned travel from seven majority-Muslim countries. Lawyers and mental health professionals immediately mobilized to O'Hare in order to provide assist green card holders, asylum seekers, and anyone else that was worried about how the travel ban might affect them or their families.

Along with the Chicago chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, the lawyers and mental health professionals were able to establish a schedule to ensure someone was at the airport to assist at all times.

Now, with the help of CAIR-Chicago, there is a 24-hour hotline for anyone in need of assistance.



In August, the Department of Justice announced they would withhold crucial community policing funding for cities that refuse to provide information to the federal government. As a sanctuary city, Chicago does not collect this information on its residents.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel responded with a lawsuit, accusing the Department of Justice of acting unconstitutionally. In September, a federal judge granted us a primary injunction, granting not only us, but the nation, a victory in this matter.

**“Chicago is a welcoming City and always will be.”  
-Mayor Rahm Emanuel**



# 2018

In 2018, we will....

- ▶ continue to fight for Dreamers, offering legal clinics at City Colleges of Chicago to help immigrant youth previously covered under DACA navigate the legal system
- ▶ roll out a full launch of the CityKey card
- ▶ continue to increase language access across City departments with the help of the Language Access Advisory Committee
- ▶ continue to fight for Temporary Protected Status extensions for those who are unable to return to their home countries



# Thank you

While 2017 presented innumerable challenges to the immigration landscape in our country, with the help of our many partners we were able to ensure Chicago remains a safe place for all.

American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)  
American Muslim Task Force on Civil Rights and Election  
Archdiocese of Chicago  
Catholic Charities  
Centro Romero\*  
Centro de Trabajadores Unidos (CTU)\*  
Chicago Federation of Labor (CFL)  
City of Chicago Office of the City Clerk  
Chicago Public Library (CPL)  
Chicago Public Schools (CPS)  
City Colleges of Chicago (CCC)  
Chicago Commission on Human Relations (CCHR)  
Chicago Police Department (CPD)  
Cook County State's Attorney  
Cook County Commissioner Bridget Gainer  
Circle of Service  
Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR-Chicago)  
DePaul University

Erie Neighborhood House\*  
Hana Center\*  
National Immigration Justice Center (NIJC)  
Illinois Business Immigration Coalition (IBIC)  
Illinois Health and Hospital Association  
Illinois Restaurant Association  
Illinois Comptroller  
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR)  
Indo-American Center (IAC)\*  
Instituto de Progreso Latino (IDPL)\*  
JB and MK Pritzker Family Foundation  
Lurie Children's Hospital  
Noble Network of Charter Schools  
One Chicago Fund  
Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP)\*  
Syrian Community Network (SCN)  
The Resurrection Project (TRP)  
United African Organization (UAO)\*  
United Way  
University Church Chicago

\* denotes Community Navigators collaborating organizations

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