



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

**Correspondence Received**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
18.		Favor	Efrain Escobedo	
			Erik Deurmeier	I thank Supervisors Solis and Hahn for this effort to meet the needs of the increasingly targeted and terrorized immigrant communities of Los Angeles County. Recent federal actions to target communities of color, regardless of immigration status, has caused irreparable trauma and financial devastation to whole communities. Programs like RepresentLA are vital in sustaining and repairing this harm. The services funded through RepresentLA are increasingly important to meet the growing need of households who have had their rights violated, their bodies assaulted, and their households torn apart. I applaud your efforts to identify additional funding sources for this program and to assess the most effective impacts for its ongoing operations. Thank you.
		Item Total	2	
Grand Total			2	

June 30, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 W. Temple St., Room 383  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

The Center for Nonprofit Management (CNM) is proud to partner with the LA County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and the Office of Immigrant Affairs in strengthening the immigrant rights sector. We appreciate the introduction of the Revised Motion by Supervisors Janice Hahn and Hilda Solis, “Sustaining and Expanding RepresentLA,” dated July 1, 2025.

With the significant rise in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activities across Los Angeles County—targeting homes, workplaces, and community spaces—this evaluation and increased investment in RepresentLA is essential. The aggressive enforcement has created fear among immigrant families, heightening anxiety and escalating the demand for legal assistance and support services. Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) are on the frontlines of this crisis, providing vital support. Therefore, it is crucial to enhance the capacity of these organizations to effectively respond to the urgent needs of our immigrant communities.

CNM strongly supports increased funding for the RepresentLA program and emphasizes the urgent need for additional resources for the Capacity Strengthening Grants for Immigrant-Focused Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) initiative. Funded by the American Rescue Plan Act, these vital grants allocated \$4.7 million to 31 nonprofit organizations, enhancing their capacity and improving access to legal and case management services for both housed and unhoused immigrants. To address the urgent needs of our immigrant communities, we recommend the following:

### **Adaptation of Services**

The Office of Immigrant Affairs must collaborate with community organizations to develop innovative strategies to address the challenges of increased immigration enforcement. This includes:

### **Expanding Legal Support**

RepresentLA has successfully provided essential legal services to Los Angeles County's immigrant population. According to the “Status Report on RepresentLA Legal Representation and Resource Linkage Program for Immigrants at Risk of Removal,” as of November 2024, the program has served 5,075 individuals through full-scope and limited legal representation. This

includes court representation for 593 individuals facing removal, with 89 detained. Additionally, 462 individuals received affirmative representation in areas such as labor trafficking and asylum. Notably, 50% of completed detained cases and 84% of non-detained clients achieved positive outcomes. We urge the County to invest an additional \$3.5 million to strengthen legal service providers in meeting current community needs.

### **Investing in Case Management Support**

In the wake of the current humanitarian crisis, immigrant families will need more than legal services in order to begin healing and regaining stability. Using insights from Capacity Strengthening Grants for Immigrant-Focused Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) initiative, which has served over 30,000 immigrants on average each year and specifically provided legal and case management services to over 13,000 clients on average per quarter, we recommend enhancing RepresentLA to include:

- **Enhancing Service Delivery:** Previous funding has led to a 282% increase in average number of immigrants served per quarter through case management services. These services connect vulnerable families to immigration legal assistance as well as health, housing, food, and transportation support. Additional resources will allow organizations to expand their reach and provide services in more languages and to diverse ethnic groups.
- **Building Partnerships:** Previous grants have facilitated the formation of 328 new partnerships and coalitions, enhancing the impact of immigrant-serving organizations. Continued funding will enable these groups to collaborate more effectively and create comprehensive support systems for immediate legal and humanitarian needs.
- **Crisis Intervention Initiatives:** Immigrant-serving community-based organizations have already responded to 198 crisis situations. Establishing dedicated response teams trained in trauma-informed care can provide both legal guidance and emotional support to families facing immediate threats.

The success of these grants highlights the effectiveness of these investments in responding to community needs.

### **Funding Allocation Request**

To sustain and expand the vital services offered by RepresentLA and the network of immigrant-focused CBOs, **we respectfully request the Board to allocate \$5 million for the one-year renewal of the Capacity Strengthening Grants initiative and an additional \$3.5 million to the RepresentLA program.**

Expanding these investments in our immigrant communities is not just a moral obligation; it is a strategic imperative for the well-being and economic vitality of Los Angeles County. We urge swift action to secure the necessary funding to sustain and expand these critical services.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



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CC: Rafael Carbajal, Director, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs  
Rigoberto Reyes, Director, Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs

## APPENDIX A

Sample organizational testimonies from grantees providing case management services & the impacts of loss of funding for these critical programs & services:

### *CAIR- Los Angeles*

“CAIR-LA is uniquely positioned to offer non-legal case management services to immigrant families, drawing on our deep understanding of the challenges newly resettled immigrants face. As a trusted provider of both legal and non-legal services, we have become an indispensable resource for agencies across the region, especially in serving Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and South Asian (AMEMSA) immigrant communities. Our services include client-centered referral connections, community education, and navigational support. Our resource navigators conduct consultations to identify and address various county and non-county referral needs, helping clients overcome obstacles and achieve their goals of maintaining basic needs and reaching self-sufficiency.

Through this grant we served 35 new clients including TPS holders, refugees, asylees, and undocumented immigrants, helping them access and enroll in critical resettlement services. Additionally, we’ve provided 81 one-on-one case management and referral services to 48 new and returning clients. This funding has also allowed us to significantly expand our referral networks, adding 8 new immigrant-serving resource hubs across California. This expansion enhanced our ability to direct clients to more in-language and geographically targeted County and non-County services. By broadening our knowledge of community resources, we’ve strengthened our internal community services toolkit and built connections with local Masjids and other ethnic-based community spaces to share referrals and conduct outreach. Currently, there are 27 eligible clients on our waitlist, and without renewed funding, we risk losing our ability to serve them and continue supporting our existing 17 clients. The trust our community has placed in us, and the ongoing referrals we receive, underline the indispensable role we play in the non-legal support network for AMEMSA immigrant communities. We respectfully request your continued support to allow us to meet this ongoing demand. Additional funding will ensure that we can maintain and expand our services, providing life-changing non legal client-centered support to even more immigrant families as they build new lives in the United States.”

### *Community Lawyers, Inc.*

“With funding from the Center for Nonprofit Management (CNM), Community Lawyers, Inc. (CLI) has made significant strides in its service delivery and organizational capacity. The financial support allowed CLI to bolster its staff and infrastructure during a challenging period, particularly after the Covid-19 Pandemic, the unexpected resignation of the previous Executive Director, and high rates of staff turnover. The CNM grant enabled CLI to hire key staff members, including a Program Coordinator, Paralegals, and a combined position of Administrative Assistant & Volunteer Coordinator. These roles were critical in expanding CLI’s service offerings, including legal clinics, case management, community outreach programs, and volunteer recruiting efforts

allowing CLI to serve over 50 callers with referrals and registering 21 clients for legal clinics in just a short span of time. The grant also allowed for improvements in the organization's financial and operational strategies, with the hiring of consultants to enhance executive capacity and board governance, which are vital for long-term sustainability. With the CNM funding CLI was able to build a strong sustainable organization infrastructure with the new leadership and restructuring efforts have put CLI back on track to achieve its goals. By the end of the CNM grant allocation in 2024 CLI was able to provide legal services to over 800 consumers and provided over 50 clinics.

However, the loss of this funding opportunity for CLI and other non-profit organizations similarly situated to CLI, would have severe consequences for CLI's ability to maintain its momentum and service the community. The departure of key staff members due to salary endangerment, without the financial ability to replace them, would likely lead to further service interruptions, reducing the number of legal clinics, in-house cases, and community outreach initiatives available not only in our organization but throughout the county. The immediate impact would include a reduction in the number of cases accepted, especially in immigration law, and an inability to expand the services that CLI has committed to providing. The organization would be forced to scale back staff salaries or eliminate positions altogether, causing further instability and possibly leading to a loss of skilled professionals who are integral to CLI's operations. Furthermore, the infrastructure necessary for staff training, client intake, and legal clinic management could face significant cutbacks, undermining CLI's ability to serve its core population of immigrant and low-income individuals."

#### *Comunidades Indígenas en Liderazgo (CIELO)*

"The loss of funding would impact our organization, Comunidades Indígenas en Liderazgo (CIELO) since it would limit our ability to grow our services to Indigenous migrant communities in Los Angeles. Additionally, it would not allow for long-term sustainability for the organization and the programs that many families rely on. The Indigenous migrant community would feel the effects of reduced access to critical resources and support."

#### *International Institute of Los Angeles*

"Our Immigration Legal Services Division provides free or low-cost services to the immigrant community, helping individuals with adult removal defense, unaccompanied minors, and immigration detention. Through the OIA grant, we've been able to deliver critical case management support, as well as resources and referrals, to 49 asylum seekers. The loss of the OIA funding would significantly impact our ability to staff the program and would result in a reduction of services to these highly vulnerable asylum seekers.

Recent policy changes under the new administration put many of our currently documented clients at risk of losing their status, particularly if they are unable to renew their work permits. This would increase their vulnerability and create a surge in demand for services that we would struggle to meet without continued funding. We urge the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and the Board of Supervisors to recognize the crucial role we play in supporting immigrant communities and to continue investing in our work."

### *Korean American Coalition*

“Loss of funding impacts nonprofits like us directly by limiting the number of qualified, bilingual employees we could hire and maintain to serve the community, especially those that are marginalized and have limited access to resources. A lot of the constituents we serve are from severely low income, monolingual households that need the support of the nonprofits that they trust in the community who have a history to protect their rights and serve them with competence and cultural sensitivity. The services we provide go beyond a mere interpretation level of Language support services. There is a level of trust, knowing that those that serve them have a full grasp of the cultural sensitivities and a reputation of serving them well.

As a nonprofit organization, it is imperative that we seek employees that have the right mindset to serve community members that have this dire need. Bilingual staff that are competent and have the experience as well as the heart to serve are hard to come by. Loss of funding impacts retention and recruitment during this critical time when committee members may feel unsafe to reach out for help to the government directly and prefer to reach out to nonprofits. Loss of funding, impacts or capacity as a whole to help our community, regardless of where they are at the stages of immigration. And the work that we could do together by helping bridge the gap between constituents and the government can be transformative for people in our community.”

### *Los Angeles LGBT Center*

“The loss of funding for our program would significantly impact our ability to serve the LGBT immigrant community in Los Angeles. Especially during a time where the livelihood of our population is under direct attack by this presidential administration, these funds are more critical now than ever. These funds have allowed us to provide holistic and trauma-informed case management services, connect individuals with life-saving legal and social/medical services, and offer a safe and welcoming space to individuals who are experiencing erasure due to policies. The LGBT immigrant community experiences a multitude of systemic barriers and experience an incredible amount of trouble navigating complex systems. With the loss of funding, we will lose our ability to help bridge this gap. Continued investment will help us ensure that we can continue offering critical support to this population that is under direct attack by this new administration.”

### *Pomona Economic Opportunity Center (PEOC)*

“The capacity-strengthening grant has been instrumental in PEOC’s ability to integrate person-centered case management into our legal services and community organizing efforts. Prior to this funding, PEOC was limited in capacity and staffing to provide direct services and resource navigation for our immigrant communities. Since joining this cohort, our organization has been able to fund the position of Community Resources Manager to formalize our case management system and begin developing the necessary processes to provide quality services to our community in Pomona and East SGV. This funding opportunity has also provided us with invaluable access to resources, mentorship, and necessary training to ensure we deliver case management with cultural humility that targets day laborers, domestic workers, and other low-wage immigrant workers in Pomona and SGV.

The loss of this funding would cut our capacity significantly and thwart our budding efforts to integrate case management across the organization effectively. Although we are taking the initiative in searching for additional funding to keep the program running, the current lack of secured funding would mean losing the Community Resources Manager and encumbering the rest of the staff to ensure clients' needs are followed through, albeit in a significantly reduced capacity. In most cases, it has been challenging to find funding that has allowed us to integrate case management in a way that complements the work we already do and allows us to effectively target the particular populations we service as a Day Labor Center. We encourage the county to see this funding as an integral opportunity to expand services in overlooked areas and populations.”

#### *Program for Torture Victims*

“At this crucial point in history, organizations like ours find themselves at peril. The federal administration has focused its ire on immigrant serving organizations, freezing their funding or rescinding their contracts. In the next few weeks, PTV will learn the outcomes of DOGEs assessment and funding at the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), the organization that funds PTV.

Since the beginning of the year, PTV has seen additional asylum seekers walk through the doors in need of assistance. Many have missed their opportunity to file, others need an expedited forensic psychological or medical evaluation, and the majority are in need of intensive case management and therapy. The stories we hear daily are unimaginable, and we cannot afford to downsize when we are needed the most.

The extension of this grant means we can continue meeting the demand set forth by the urgency of time.”

#### *Saahas for Cause*

“The loss of federal funding has had a significant impact on our ability to serve the community. We had two federal grants in the pipeline, averaging \$350K each, that were pulled back due to changes in administration. As a result, our founding members have taken substantial salary cuts and are now working as volunteers to sustain operations.

Our outreach team is critically underfunded, limiting our ability to distribute essential resources to vulnerable populations. Additionally, we are struggling to cover rent for both our office and community gathering locations—spaces that are crucial for conducting workshops and meetings to address health disparities, post-LA Fire resources, and immigrant rights. This funding shortfall also directly affects our ability to support victims of domestic violence by providing safety, shelter, and access to critical resources. Furthermore, our efforts to offer transportation services for seniors, enabling them to attend wellness groups and access essential services, have been severely impacted.

Without immediate funding support, our capacity to provide these vital services will be significantly diminished, leaving many community members without access to the support they urgently need. We appreciate your efforts to secure funding and stand ready to support this advocacy in any way we can.”