

Citizenship

Agencies:

Family Focus - Aurora

550 Second Avenue

Aurora, IL 60505

(630)844-2550

www.family-focus.org

Jorge Rios - Jorge.rios@family-focus.org

(630)256-7017

Agency sponsors workshops to educate people about immigration issues - will schedule interpreter if scheduled far enough in advance.

At Family Focus our support and life-enrichment services for children start at the pre-natal stage and continue to the age of 18. We also serve families by giving parents the support, knowledge and resources they need to give their children the best possible start in life.

- Art For All
- Early Childhood Initiative
- Hug-A-Book
- Fatherhood Initiative
- Healthy Kids and Families
- Teen Pregnancy and Prevention Initiative
- Violence Prevention Initiative
- Mental Health Initiative
- Welcoming New Citizens

South Suburban Immigrant Project (SSIP)

P.O. BOX 208 Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Please call for appointment - Phone: 630.296.6755.

email: info@SSIPChicago.org

Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project is a nonprofit organization committed to community organizing for the rights of immigrants in Chicago's southwest suburbs through education, civic engagement, and advocacy.

- Parent Mentor Program
- Know Your Rights (workshops)
- Mariachi Matters
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

2013 contact info: Jose Vera - 630-863-9130

Heartland Alliance

<http://www.heartlandalliance.org/>

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights

208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite 1300

Chicago, IL 60604

312-660-1300

The leading anti-poverty organization in the Midwest— believes that all of people deserve the opportunity to improve their lives. Each year, Heartland Alliance helps ensure this opportunity for nearly one million people around the world who are homeless, living in poverty, or seeking safety.

- **Housing**

- Development
- Property Management
- Supportive Housing Services
- Homeless Services
- Housing Policy Analysis and Advocacy
- Signature Housing Programs

- **Health Care**

- Comprehensive Health Care Services
- Health Care Policy Analysis and Advocacy
- Signature Health Care Programs

- **Jobs**

- Asset Building and Financial Education
- Job Training and Workforce Development
- Emergency Financial Assistance
- Refugee Resettlement and Skills Training
- Economic Security Policy Analysis & Advocacy
- Signature Economic Security Programs

- **Justice**

- Services for Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylum-Seekers -Heartland Alliance - National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC)
- Violence Recovery Services
- Youth Services

Centro Romano

6216 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60660
(773) 508-5300 P
(773) 508-5399 F

A community-based organization that serves the refugee immigrant population on the northeast side of Chicago. Our interrelated programs include the Youth Learning and Leadership Program, Family Services (encapsulating the Domestic Violence Prevention Program, the Public Benefits Program, and the New Americans Initiative), Adult Education, and Legal Services.

- **Legal Services**

Centro Romero's Latin American Legal Assistance Services Program (LALAS) provides Direct Service Representation, Immigration Education, and Advocacy Services to low-income, primarily Spanish-speaking immigrant community members. By assisting persons in attaining lawful permanent residency and United States citizenship, the LALAS Program directly enhances the person, the family, and the greater community.

Centro Romero's legal department is open to the public:

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:30am to 3:30pm.

Saturdays with appointment only.

The Legal Department is CLOSED on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

You can come as a walk-in or make an appointment by calling us at 773.508.5300.

There is a \$30.00 fee (non-refundable) for the first consultation.

In 2014, our Legal Services Program staff (comprised of one full BIA accredited and two partial BIA accredited representatives, several paralegal assistants, law student interns, and numerous volunteers) assisted more than 3,000 clients with immigration and naturalization issues.

- **Family Services**

Our Family Program is comprised of immigrant family resources, health care education, social services support, and the domestic violence program.

The New Americans Initiative Project - The New Americans Initiative Project is a partnership between the State of Illinois and the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights. Centro Romero is part of the NAI North West Side Chicago Collaborative along with four other organizations. Together we organize monthly workshops at different locations, such as churches, schools, colleges, and partner agencies to help Lawful Permanent Residents through the process of becoming U.S. citizens.

At these monthly workshops, Lawful Permanent Residents can receive an interview with a volunteer attorney to determine eligibility, assistance on completing the application for naturalization by a trained volunteer, and have their photos taken, free of charge.

You might qualify for a USCIS (US Citizenship and Immigration Service) Fee Waiver if your annual household income is below the poverty level.

- **Public Benefits**

Immigrant Family Resource Program

Due to fear of authorities and lack of financial resources, many immigrants do not frequent public clinics or other related service agencies. Their trust in most agencies is quite limited. Lack of transportation and childcare to avail themselves of services in the City and State are obstacles for them. There are no other services providers in our area who are prepared to deal with the language and cultural needs of this population on the scale in which it is needed.

- **Domestic Violence Prevention Project**

Centro Romero's Domestic Violence Prevention Program offers a variety of services for victims of domestic violence as well as their children.

- **Adult Education**

The Adult Education Program provides instruction for life-long learning and fosters strong identity recognition and construction while encouraging upward socio-economic mobility through education. All of our students, whether learning English, seeking Citizenship or studying to pass the GED, are empowered to build a strong community. *Interested individuals must register in person.*

The Adult Education Department offers classes and activities that help build the skills and knowledge of participants in Centro Romero Programs. We provide:

- Citizenship Preparation
- English Language Acquisition (English Classes)
- GED program in English
- GED program in Spanish
- Spanish Literacy
- Computer Classes

One on one tutoring matches available upon request

- **Youth Program**

Youth Learning and Leadership Program provides intensive after-school programs for academic support, tutoring, recreational and cultural activities for children.

- After School Program Ages 6-11
- Teen Program (Ages 12-16)

World Relief - Wheaton Office

World Relief Aurora
73 S. LaSalle Street Aurora, IL 60505
General: (630) 906-9546
Immigration: (630) 264-3171
Fax: (630) 906-9722

World Relief Dupage
1825 College Ave, Suite 230 Wheaton IL 60187
General: (630) 462-7566
Immigration: (630) 462-7660
Fax: (630) 462-8103
(last contact name 2013 - Catherine Norquiston)

Office Hours
Mon, Tue, Thurs, Friday: 8:30 am to 5 pm
Wed: 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: Closed
Closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.

United States Citizen and Immigration Services

<http://www.uscis.gov/>

The latest news within the immigration benefit world, handled by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Both news media and general public can find important information about updates, alerts and events that impact legal immigration.

Immigration Attorney:

Mary Helen Reyna
536 W Boughton Rd, Bolingbrook, IL 60440
(630) 759-0101
www.reynalawoffice.net/

Catholic Office for the Deaf

Fr. Joe Mulcrone
312-534-7899
Colleen Curry (very helpful)
Deaf Literacy Program

Citizenship Classes

The following information is old (2013) and not recently verified, but offers a place to start.

- Deaf Adults Education Access Program - offers classes for Deaf and Hard of Hearing immigrants in ASL, reading skills, writing skills and citizenship preparation.
 - **Citizenship Preparation Classes**
Northwest Church of Christ
4602 N. Kilbourn Ave
Chicago, IL
Every Saturday from 10:00AM - 1:00PM
There is a cost per class

Contacts from 2013.....

Maureen Philbin - 312-493-9632 (v)
312-802-3566

Bob Paul - 847-925-6602 (text)

Demir Bekiri 773-745-9788 (VP)

Calbert Williams - cw80@gmail.com

Carmen Aguilar - in Schamberg