

## NEW AMERICAN DREAMS SOLIDARITY \* STRENGTH \* TRANSFORMATIC

NATIONAL IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION CONFEREN

A PROJECT OF NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR NEW AMERICA

DETROIT. MICHIGAN | OCTOBER 20-22, 2019 | NIICNEWAMERICANDREAMS.O

## \*\*\*PRESS ADVISORY\*\*\*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, September 18, 2019

CONTACT: SUSANA FLORES (915) 525 2434 susana@communicationsshop.us FERNANDA DURAND (443) 396-3317 fernanda@communicationsshop.us

## New American Dreams Platform to Take Center Stage at NIIC 2019 Conference in Detroit

**DETROIT** – At a time of historic hostility toward immigrants, refugees, and Muslims, the <u>National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA)</u> is leading the way by setting its platform for the country based on issues, strategies and an ethos of inclusivity, equity, and shared opportunity and prosperity that will be the centerpiece of it's <u>12th Annual "New American Dreams" National Immigrant Integration Conference (NIIC2019)</u>.

The conference to be <u>held Oct. 20-22, 2019, in Detroit</u>, will present a thoughtful "New American Dreams" vision and policy platform to move our nation forward in these uncertain times that include:

- Investing in naturalization;
- Investing in English and our new American workforce;
- Investing in legal services and due process for immigrants;
- Investing in building welcoming communities of neighbors;
- Supporting our nation's values as a place of refuge for those fleeing war, persecution, and climate disaster;
- Divesting in walls, the militarization of the border, enforcement, detention and policies that tear communities apart.

"At a time when we need strong and clear voices on the immigration issues affecting so many people nationwide, NPNA is presenting a positive vision for America that is welcoming, uplifting and about our shared prosperity," said Eva Millona, a naturalized citizen from Albania, NPNA co-chair and Executive Director of the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition. "We work to empower our communities to defend and protect themselves and amplify their voices. Instead of investing billions of tax dollars on hate and family separation, our platform invests in a positive and common-sense vision that will ensure all our communities thrive."

While presenting a positive path forward for the country, NPNA will continue to harshly criticize attempts to limit citizenship access and the treatment of migrants -- including those who are undocumented and those seeking asylum -- within and at our borders. NPNA will also continue its crucial role as policy and subject matter expert at a time when deliberate attempts continue to circumvent the law and enact cruel rules and regulations that harm our community.

NPNA's National Immigrant Integration Conference: New American Dreams, is led by NPNA and its 35 member and affiliated immigrant organizations from across the country. Now in its 12th year, the conference runs over three days and is attended by more than 1,400 leaders annually. The 2019 conference will include over 45 plenaries and workshops with leaders from across the country; Concert of Colors Live at the NIIC, a free evening of performance open to conference-goers and the general public in Detroit; and is co-located with the <u>Detroit Presidential Forum on Economic</u>, Immigrant & Racial Justice.

NIIC is co-hosted by Michigan United, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) and ACCESS (Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services), the largest Arab American community nonprofit in the United States.

ACCESS, with 11 locations and more than 120 programs serving metro Detroit, is one of the largest social service providers in Michigan and offers a wide range of social, economic, health, and educational services to a diverse population. Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) is a leading legal resource center for Michigan's immigrant communities. MIRC works to build a thriving Michigan where immigrant communities experience equity and belonging. Michigan United is the largest statewide organizing coalition, comprised of some 50 faith, labor, business, and community institutions fighting for the dignity of all people, an economy that works for the many, a participatory democracy that is strong, and a society that protects civil rights.

The National Partnership for New Americans (NPNA) leads the annual National Immigrant Integration Conference. In the past two years, NPNA partners have assisted over 50,000 immigrants to become U.S. citizens and pursue legal status. NPNA harnesses the collective power and resources of the country's 35 largest regional immigrant rights organizations in 37 states. It aims to achieve a vibrant, just and welcoming democracy for all.

