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## **New Day in America as Incoming Biden Administration Promises Relief for Immigrants and Refugees**

*Five weeks after the election, National Immigrant Integration Conference leaders convene to chart a path forward for the immigrant and refugee sector under new political climate*

**WASHINGTON** – It's a new day for the immigrants and refugees in America after the victory of President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris—who makes history as the first woman, Black person, and person of South Asian descent to occupy the second-highest office in the nation—opens the way for a new approach to immigration policy.

The country's leading immigrant and refugee leaders and advocates will kick off the discussion and strategizing at the fully virtual [National Immigrant Integration Conference \(NIIC\) 2020](#) to be held Dec. 8-9, as a starting point in rebuilding a policy and service sector and communities nationwide decimated by four years of cruel and draconian strategies targeting populations in the most vulnerable situations.

The [National Partnership for New Americans \(NPNA\)](#) will host the online [NIIC 2020—New American](#)

[Dreams](#), which will be moderated by veteran journalist Maria Hinojosa, and gather more than 5,000 attendees from across the nation. The virtual conference aims to: promote immigration policies that include the full civic integration of immigrants, refugees, and people of color into our society; seek accountability for the injustices inflicted against Black and Brown communities; and collectively commit to comprehensive approaches to racial justice and equity through holistic, community-based remedies that address our nation's foundational inequities.

President-elect Biden has already announced plans to reverse several disastrous policies enacted by the Trump administration. Among these are:

- Creating a task force to reunite parents and children separated at the border, including the more than 500 school-age children whose parents have not yet been located.
- Undoing attempts to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which impacts more than 1 million people
- Relief for the more than 400,000 Temporary Protected Status (TPS) beneficiaries whose status has also been under attack.
- Ending the Muslim travel ban and raising the annual ceiling for refugees back to Obama-era levels; refugee admissions are their lowest point in since the program was created in 1980.

"The last four years have wreaked havoc on people's lives and our communities, and it's time we set a path out of this wreckage. With this victory, we must set a course underpinned by the principles of inclusion and compassion that we as a nation have aspired to since its founding," said **Nicole Melaku, executive director of NPNA**. "We are encouraged that President-elect Biden will be tackling many of the most egregious policies under the Trump administration, and look forward to creating a long term plan on immigration that will be welcomed by the incoming administration."

**NIIC 2020 National Partners:** *Black Alliance for Just Immigration, Church World Service, Immigration Hub, Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition, National Immigration Law Center, New York Immigration Coalition, UnidosUS, UNITE HERE, World Education Services.*

**NIIC 2020 Regional Partners:** *Asian Community Development Council, CHIRLA, Comunidades Unidas, Make the Road Nevada, Promise Arizona, Unite Oregon, One America, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada.*

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[The National Partnership for New Americans](#) (NPNA) hosts the annual National Immigrant Integration Conference (NIIC). Over the last four years, NPNA and its member organizations have assisted over

250,000 immigrants to become U.S. citizens and pursue legal status. NPNA harnesses the collective power and resources of the country's 41 largest regional immigrant rights organizations in 37 states. Its aim is to achieve a vibrant, just, and welcoming democracy for all. More information about the New American Voters 2020 campaign is available at <http://newamericanvoters2020.org/>.



National Partners



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