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## **NIIC 2020 is Less Than One Week Away**

*Largest and First Post-Election Immigrant and Refugee Sector Conference Will Take Discussions Online for Two Days of Solution-Based Agenda Setting in the Biden Era*

WASHINGTON – The [National Immigrant Integration Conference \(NIIC\) 2020](#) will kick off next week as the first national gathering of immigrant and refugee advocates following the victory of President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris. The fully virtual conference aims to pave a new path for the immigration agenda to be tackled by the incoming Biden/Harris administration, which has promised changes to more than 400 Trump-era executive actions that have devastated immigrant and refugee communities over the last four years.

The [National Partnership for New Americans \(NPNA\)](#) will host the *NIIC 2020 – New American Dreams* – to be held Dec. 8-9 entirely online, and emceed by [journalist and author Maria Hinojosa](#). The event will draw some of the nation’s top immigration and refugee experts and advocates leading their communities with innovative solutions and inclusive agendas, and is expected to attract over 5,000 participants from across the nation.

“The Trump administration’s immigration agenda became a reality – not through sweeping legislation passed in Congress – but through a combination of executive measures, coupled with regulatory, policy, and programmatic changes. If we don’t address these policies one by one, they will have long-term, detrimental impacts on our communities, America’s standing in the world when it comes to human rights, and immigrant and refugee communities,” said *Eva Millona, president and CEO of the Massachusetts*

***Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition, and co-chair of NPNA.*** “We fervently hope we have turned the page on the nightmare that was the last four years and are hopeful and encouraged that the Biden administration will make good on its promise to protect Dreamers, reverse the Muslim ban, and carry out other key long-haul policy changes for our communities.”

*NIIC 2020 – New American Dreams* – is anchored by NPNA and a robust cohort of national partners, including: the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), Church World Service, Immigration Hub, National Immigration Law Center (NILC), Unidos US, UNITE HERE, World Education Services, MIRA Coalition, and the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC).

Among the NIIC 2020’s goals are to build immigration policies that include the full civic integration of immigrants, refugees, and people of color into our communities; commit to comprehensive approaches to racial justice and equity; and to continue to demand accountability for the injustices inflicted against Black and Brown communities.

“We are hopeful about having a new administration in Washington which has already signaled that dignity, equality and safety are core principles that will guide their tenure. We look forward to having policy partners at the table who will engage with the real issues facing our communities,” added ***Nicole Melaku, executive director of NPNA.*** “There is hard work ahead, but we are encouraged that the incoming administration will not brush aside serious concerns around immigration, the response to the current Covid-19 emergency and economic crisis, and the need for racial justice and equity. We have the drive and the knowledge to lead the way, and we are not backing down.”

The December virtual NIIC 2020 gathering kicks off at 12 p.m. ET on Tuesday, Dec. 8. To ensure the event reaches the broadest possible audience, tickets to attend the entire virtual NIIC cost just \$15.

**To register, visit the NIIC 2020 website [here](#). Find more details on the NIIC schedule and program [here](#). For information on the two-day invitation-only Black Virtual NIIC for Black and African Diaspora leaders hosted by BAJI, [see here](#).**

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*The [National Partnership for New Americans \(NPNA\)](#) is a national multiethnic, multiracial organization that represents 41 of the largest regional immigrant and refugee rights organizations in 37 states. Its members provide large-scale services for the communities, to leverage their collective power and expertise for a national strategy. More information about the New American Voters 2020 campaign is available at <http://newamericanvoters2020.org/>.*



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