Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing

POWERED BY VITAL VILLAGE

2020 NOW Webinar Series

Learning and Transforming Together: Community Centered Equity Practices

Community-Driven Policy Advocacy: Upholding the Dignity of Immigrant Children and Families

Thursday, July 30, 2020

1:00 pm ET/ 10:00 am PT

Session Outline

1. Welcome & Overview
2. About Vital Village
3. Community Driven Policy Advocacy
4. Questions & Discussion
5. Closing

Housekeeping

- Spanish Language Line
  - Marque: 1 646-558-8656 EE. UU. // ID de la reunión: 981 1600 0996
- Slides and recording will be posted on the NOW Forum (https://www.networksofopportunity.org)
- Please mute audio when not speaking
- Submit questions on dashboard
- Use the chat box for comments

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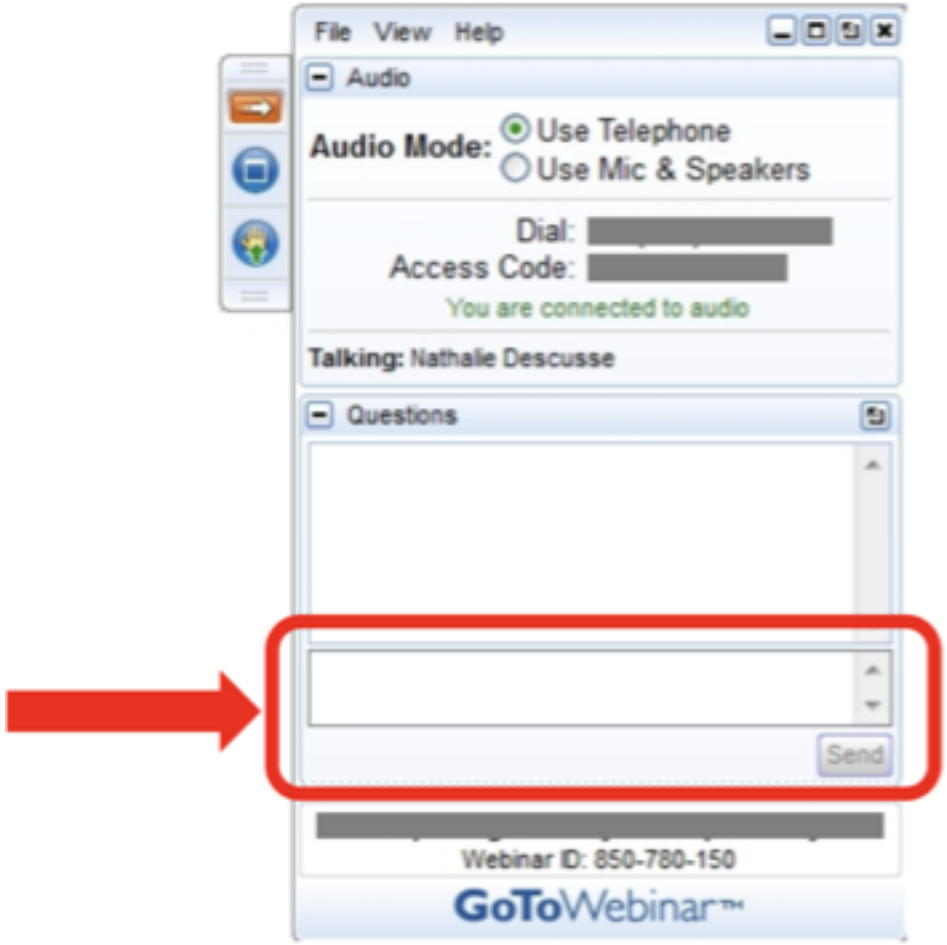
Q&A

- Submit your questions on the dashboard



About Vital Village

Vital Village Networks is committed to maximizing child, family, and community wellbeing. Since 2010, Vital Village has fostered partnerships between residents and organizations designed to improve the capacity of three Boston communities to promote child wellbeing and prevent early life adversities.

- Service learning and leadership model
- Trauma-informed lens to align systems
- Iterative improvement and data sharing

Why NOW?

Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing (NOW) is a national initiative powered by Vital Village Networks to improve the capacity of local communities and coalitions to advance health and educational equity for children.

The **NOW Innovation Forum** is a national network of peer communities working to promote child wellbeing and prevent early childhood adversities.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION IS CLOSING SOON...SLOTS FILLING UP

NOW Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing
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NOW Innovation Forum – Sign up to engage with a network of community leaders

https://www.networksofopportunity.org/

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Latest episode:

Episodio 10: Adelante, Adelante: El movimiento hacia la justicia del idioma y la equidad

Episode 10: Adelante, Adelante: The Movement Towards Language Justice and Equity

- First Spanish bilingual episode
- English transcript available
- Find us on Apple, Google, Spotify, Stitcher & iHeartRadio

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Are you interested in a collective data sharing effort to demonstrate parent and family engagement during COVID-19?

Child Wellbeing Tracker - Phase 2

- A data sharing effort and a tool to capture the collective actions to promote parent and family engagement
  - Data: info about event/activity/program engaging parents & families

- Please check out the collective data dashboard from the pilot implementation! (the link is in the chat)

- Components
  - Building a collective data dashboard
  - Our support to document parent & family engagement

- If you are interested in joining an exploratory call in August, please fill this simple survey today! (the survey link is in the chat)

Featured Speakers

Angela Kelly
Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network

Cindy C. Liou, Esq.
State Policy Director
Kids In Need of Defense (KIND)

Wendy Miron, LCSW
Senior Director of Social Services
Kids In Need of Defense (KIND)

Liza Schwartzwald, JD
Manager of Education Policy
New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC)

Community-Driven Policy Advocacy

Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing

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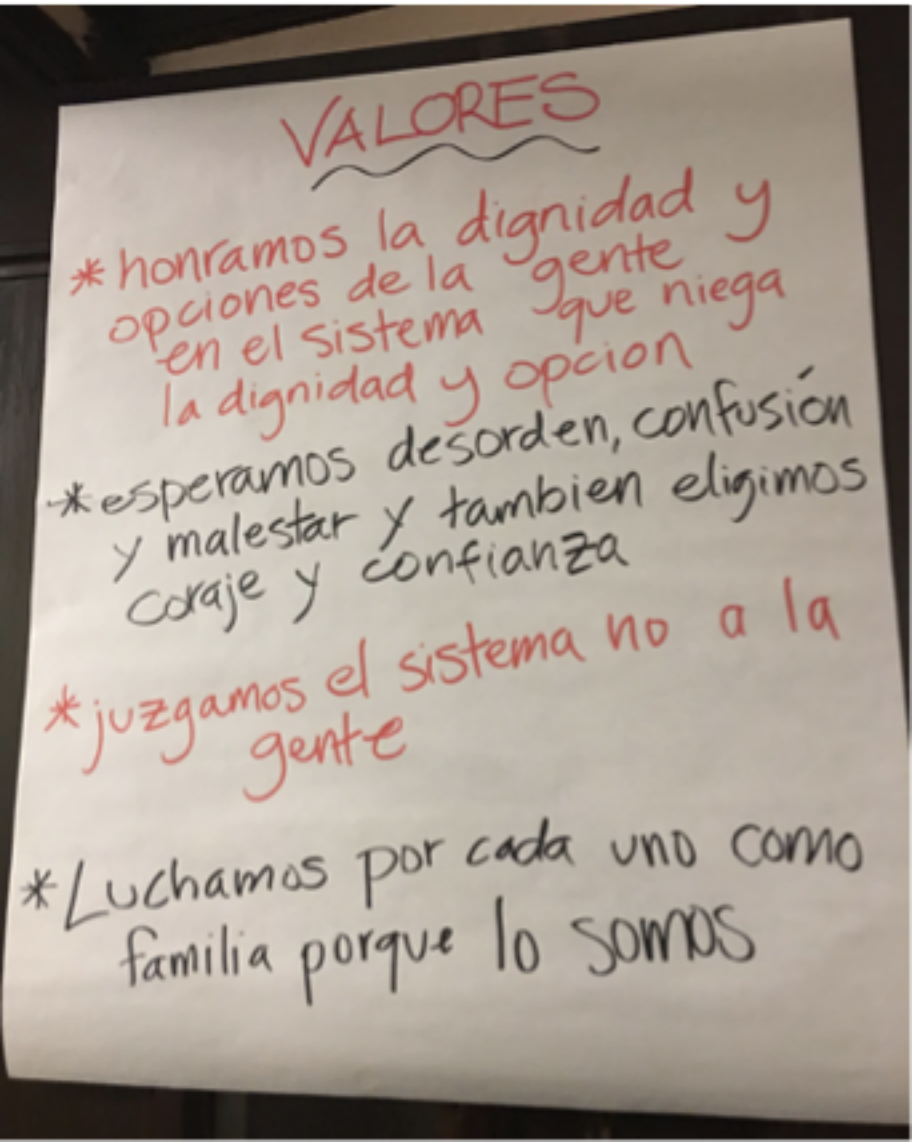
Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network

Red de Acompañamiento de Justicia de Inmigración de Boston



Our Values in BIJAN, a.k.a. “Beyond”

- We honor people's dignity and choices in a system that denies dignity and choice.
- We expect messiness, confusion, and discomfort, and we also choose courage and trust.
- We judge the system, not people.
- We fight for one another as family, because we are.

Fiona
Jasper
Cristian

What We Do

Maintaining Supportive Contact with People Incarcerated by ICE (Calls, Letters, Visits)

Collaborating with Loved Ones and Attorneys to Identify Legal Strategies and Support

Accompaniment to Court Hearings and/or ICE Check-Ins

Fund-Raising for and Coordinating Bond Payments

Immediate Post-Release Supports, Incl. Rides, Supplies, Housing, Sponsorship

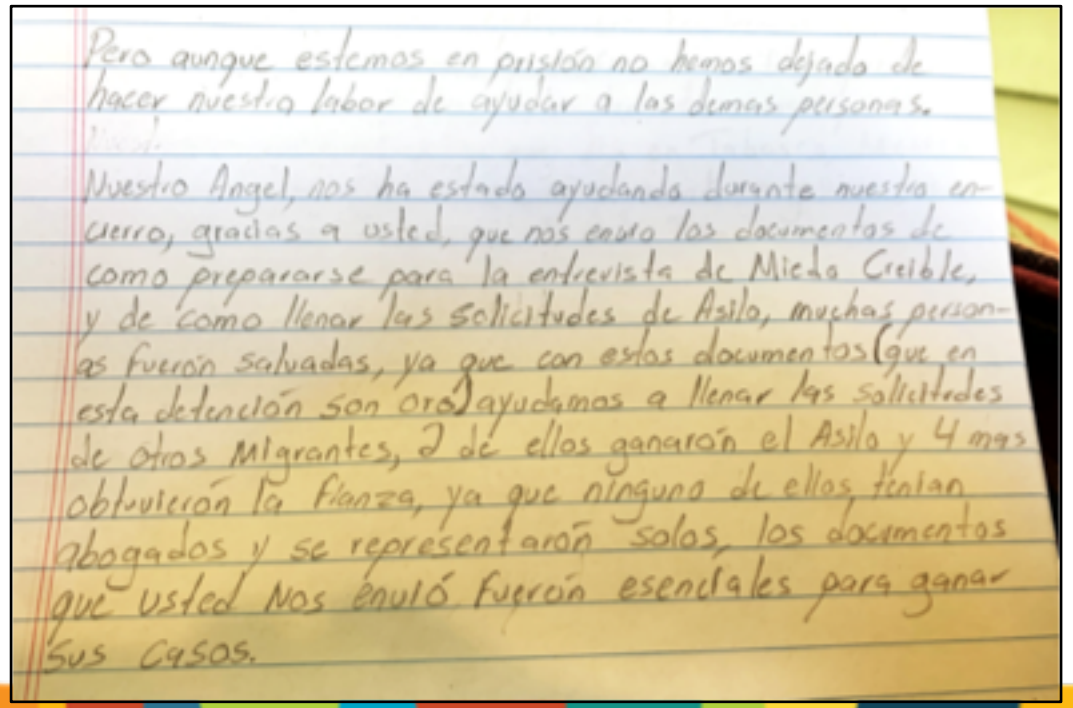
Ongoing Accompaniment, Incl. Community Connections to Jobs, Legal, Medical, Mental Health and Housing Supports

Organizing for Systemic Change in Coalition with Many Others!

Impacts on Children and Families

Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network

Voices from “Beyond”

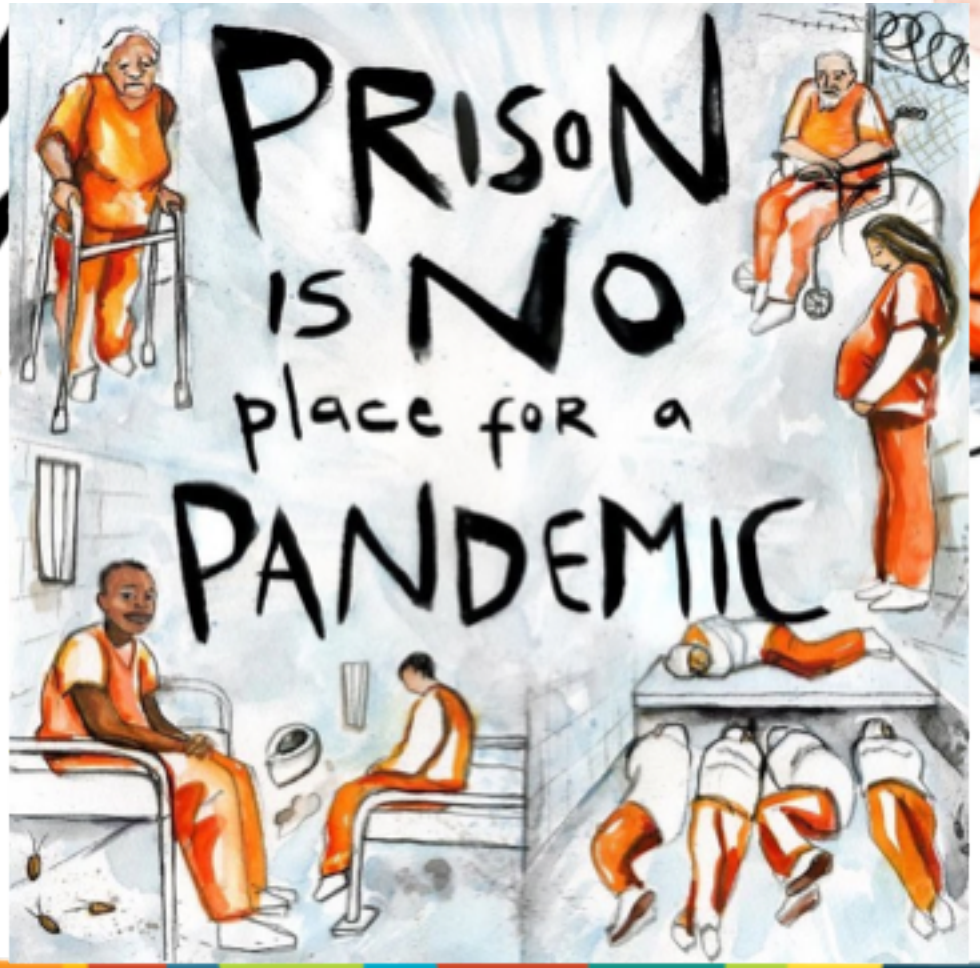

Pero aunque estemos en prisión no hemos dejado de hacer nuestra labor de ayudar a las demas personas.

Nuestro Angel, nos ha estado ayudando durante nuestro encierro, gracias a usted, que nos envio los documentos de como prepararse para la entrevista de Miedo Creible, y de como llenar las solicitudes de Asilo, muchas personas fueron salvadas, ya que con estos documentos (que en esta detención son oro) ayudamos a llenar las solicitudes de otros Migrantes, 2 de ellos ganaron el Asilo y 4 mas obtuvieron la fianza, ya que ninguno de ellos tenian abogados y se representaron solos, los documentos que usted Nos envió fueron esenciales para ganar sus casos.

Additional testimonies at Facebook.com/BeyondBondBoston/videos

Adapting During COVID…

Art by Molly Crabapple



Art by Micah Bazant

Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network

(BIJAN — *pronounced 'beyond'*)

VALUES

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Adapting During Pandemic and Uprising

- Increased efforts to #FreeThemAll - incl. led by those who are incarcerated
- Strengthening connections within our network and with mutual aid networks
- Partnering to mobilize new forms of COVID-response material supports

Why defund BPD?

The Boston Police Department's budget is much larger than other departments in our city that are meant to help support our communities.

- 4x larger than the Public Health Commission
- 10x larger than the Library Department
- 15x larger than the Neighborhood Development Department
- 182x larger than the Office of Arts & Culture

... and 473x larger than the budget for the City's Office of Immigrant Advancement!

Budget graphics created/shared by Muslim Justice League

...and Mobilizing to Support the #DefundPolice Uprising and the Movement for Black Lives!

Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network

(BIJAN — *pronounced 'beyond'*)

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Adapting During Pandemic and Uprising

- Building capacity to address more intersecting issues, incl. campaigns to #DefundPolice, re-invest in communities, stop surveillance and evictions
- Connecting in community in new ways (zoom gatherings, whatsapp groups)
- Organizing Community Action Circles to mobilize in alignment with BIPOC-led grassroots campaigns and coalitions

Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network

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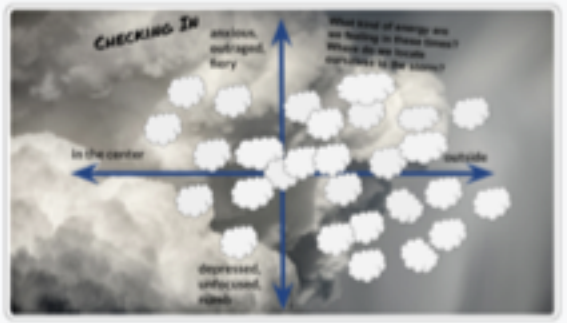

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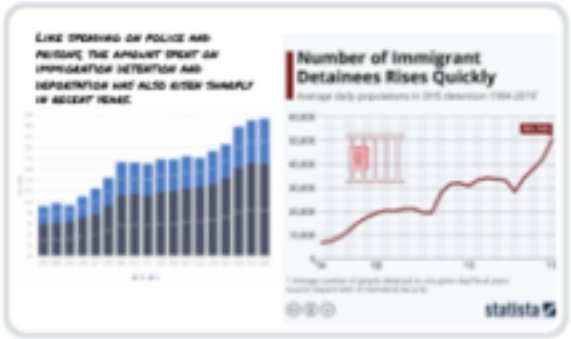

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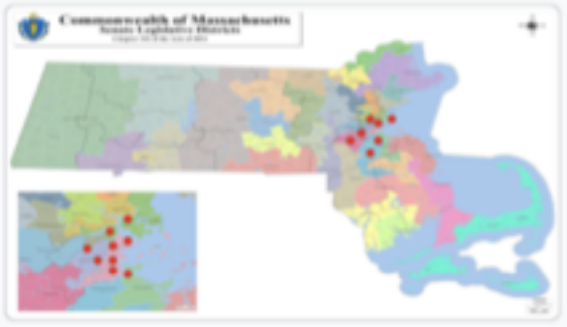

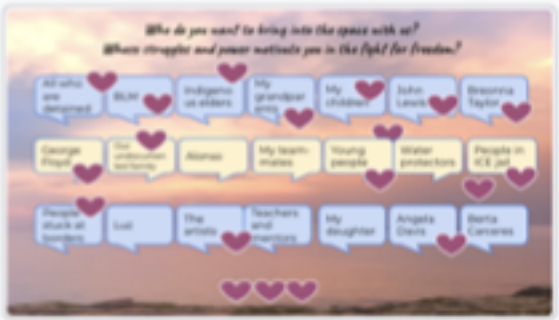

Action Circle Examples

Current Campaigns We Are Amplifying

Led by...		To...	Act/Connect:
SIM! STUDENT IMMIGRANT MOVEMENT	Student Immigrant Movement (SIM)	Stop the School-to-Prison / Deportation Pipeline	• bit.ly/SIMcampaigns • SIMforus.org
MJL Muslim Justice League	Muslim Justice League (MJL)	Stop CVE and Get the BRIC Out of Boston	• bit.ly/DefundBRIC • MuslimJusticeLeague.org

Current Campaigns We Are Amplifying

	Led by...	To...	Act/Connect:
COSECHA	Cosecha Mass. PVWC & Others	Win Drivers Licenses for All, #Licensias ParaTodos	• facebook.com/CosechaEnMassachusetts • LaHuelga.com
FAMILIES FOR JUSTICE AS HEALING — Building Up People, Not Prisons	Families for Justice as Healing (FJAH)	Decarcerate, Reduce Harm, and *Build Up People Not Prisons!*	• tinyurl.com/MAWeekofAction • facebook.com/familiesforjusticeashealing

Stay Connected: BeyondBondBoston.org

Facebook.com/BeyondBondBoston | Twitter.com/BeyondBondBos

Hotline for Support: 617-396-7143

KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

2020 NOW WEBINAR SERIES
LEARNING AND TRANSFORMING TOGETHER:
COMMUNITY CENTERED EQUITY PRACTICES

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN POLICY ADVOCACY: UPHOLDING THE DIGNITY OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CINDY C. LIOU, ESQ. STATE POLICY DIRECTOR, CLIOU@SUPPORTKIND.ORG
WENDY MIRON, LCSW SENIOR DIRECTOR OF SERVICES, WMIRON@SUPPORTKIND.ORG

July 30, 2020

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KIND's Mission

A world in which children's rights and *well-being* are protected as they migrate alone in search of safety

KIND
KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

Promoting the Protection of Children

We ensure that no child appears in immigration court alone without high quality representation.

We advance laws, policies, and practices that support children's protection and uphold their right to due process and fundamental fairness.

We encourage durable solutions to child migration that are grounded in the best interests of the child and ensure that no child is forced to migrate involuntarily.

LEGAL SERVICES | **POLICY AND ADVOCACY** | **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS** | **SOCIAL SERVICES** | **FAMILY SEPARATION RESPONSE**

ATLANTA || BALTIMORE|| BOSTON || EL PASO || HOUSTON || LOS ANGELES || NEWARK
NEW YORK CITY || SAN FRANCISCO/FRESNO || SEATTLE || WASHINGTON, DC/NORTHERN VIRGINIA

KIND
KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

Legal Representation

- **Over 60%** of children have no one to represent them in their deportation proceedings
- **9 out of 10** children without attorneys are ordered deported
- A child with an attorney is **five times more likely** to be granted protection

KIND
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Legal Representation and Social Services Support in 2020

- KIND represents 5,378 clients in a total of 6,496 open and active case matters
- **The Social Services Team has served 780 clients**
- Social Service coordination areas include Education, Mental Health, Medical Care, Food and Housing

KIND
KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

Holistic and Trauma Informed Services

- International Programs
- Policy & Advocacy
- Legal Programs
  - Family Reunification Team
  - Social Services Team

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Policy

- International, Federal, State/Local Policy
- Immigration System
- State Court System
- Language Access

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Policy

- Inclusive COVID recovery efforts
- Economic security
- Child welfare
- Safeguarding problems and rise in child abuse
- Digital divide
- Education, recreation, afterschool programs
- Food Security
- Mental, medical, and dental health
- Housing
- Confidentiality of Children
- Workers' Rights
- Budget advocacy
- Access to counsel

Holistic Approach

Centering Community Voices and
Creating Supportive Networks

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Social Services Team

Social Services Team - 2019 Staff Retreat in Baltimore, MD.

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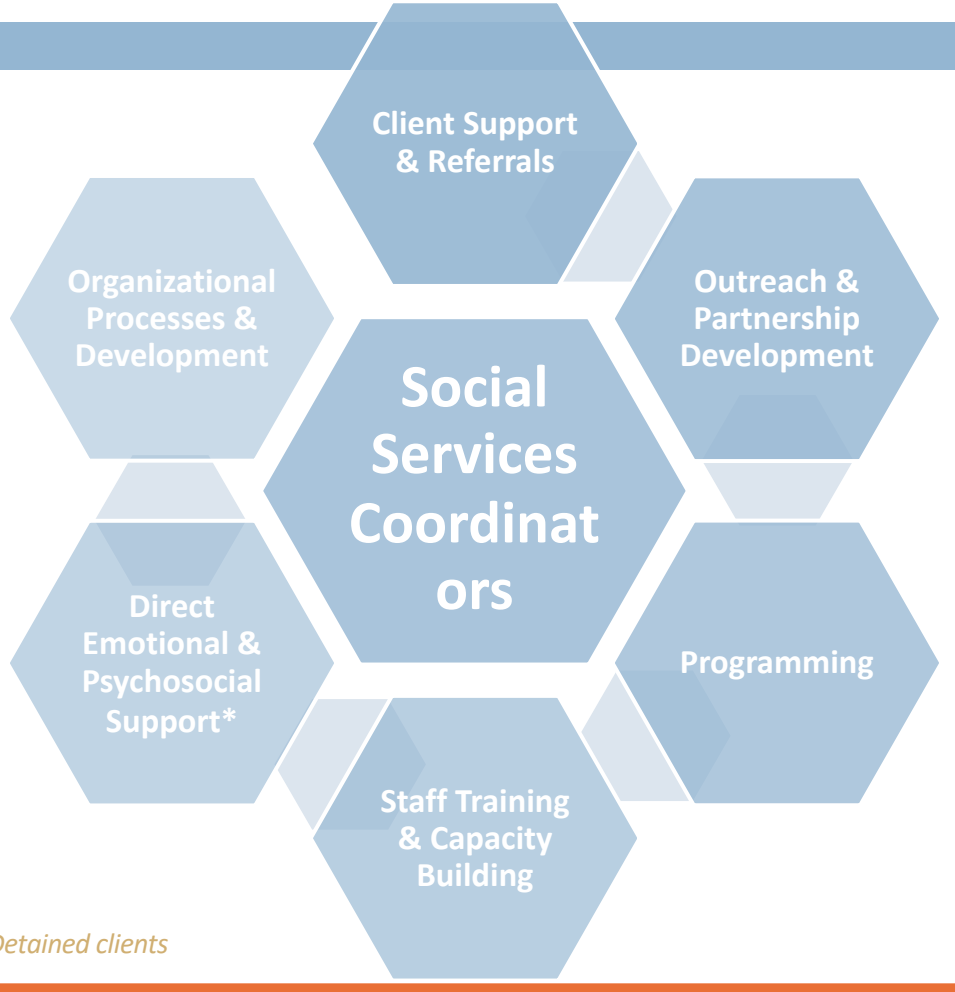
Social Services Team Scope of Work



** On a limited basis and only to Detained clients*

KIND
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Coalition Building

- **Baltimore's Partnerships in support of Emergency Funds**

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Coalition Building

- Boston's Mentoring Program

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Creating Counter-Narratives

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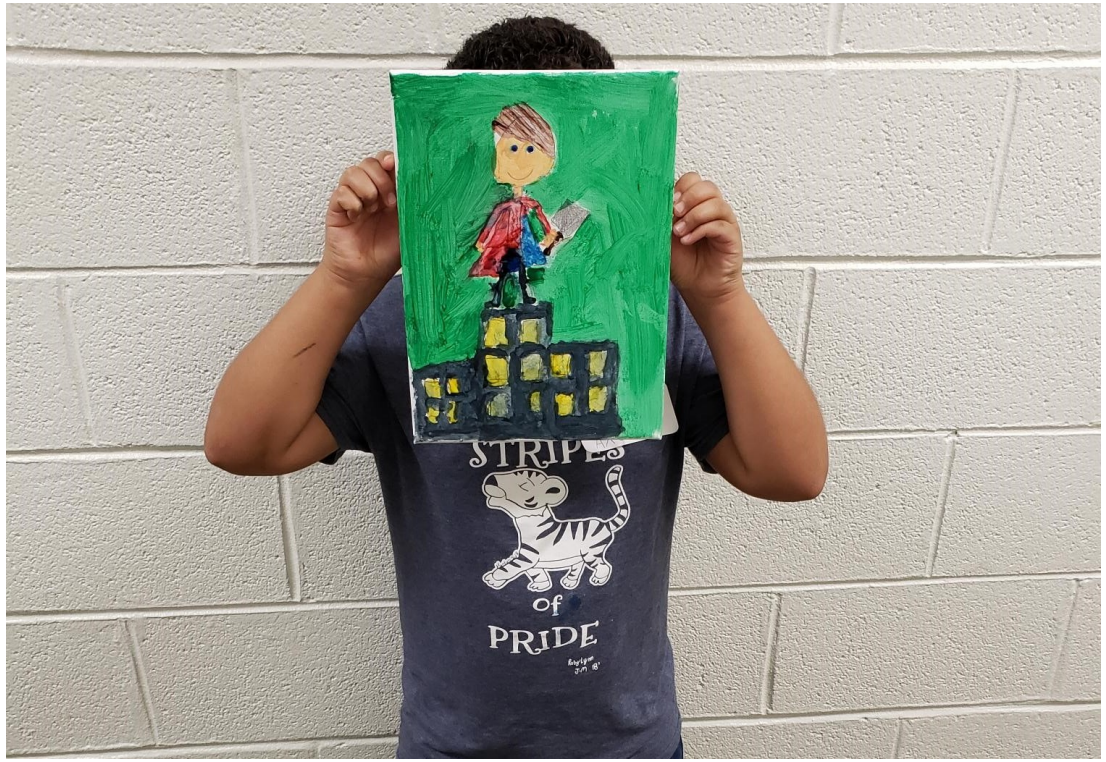
Resilience



We know our clients have gone through trauma, but remember people are more than their experience and resiliency factors exist in each of us.

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Coalition Building

- Virtual Art Workshops Collaborations

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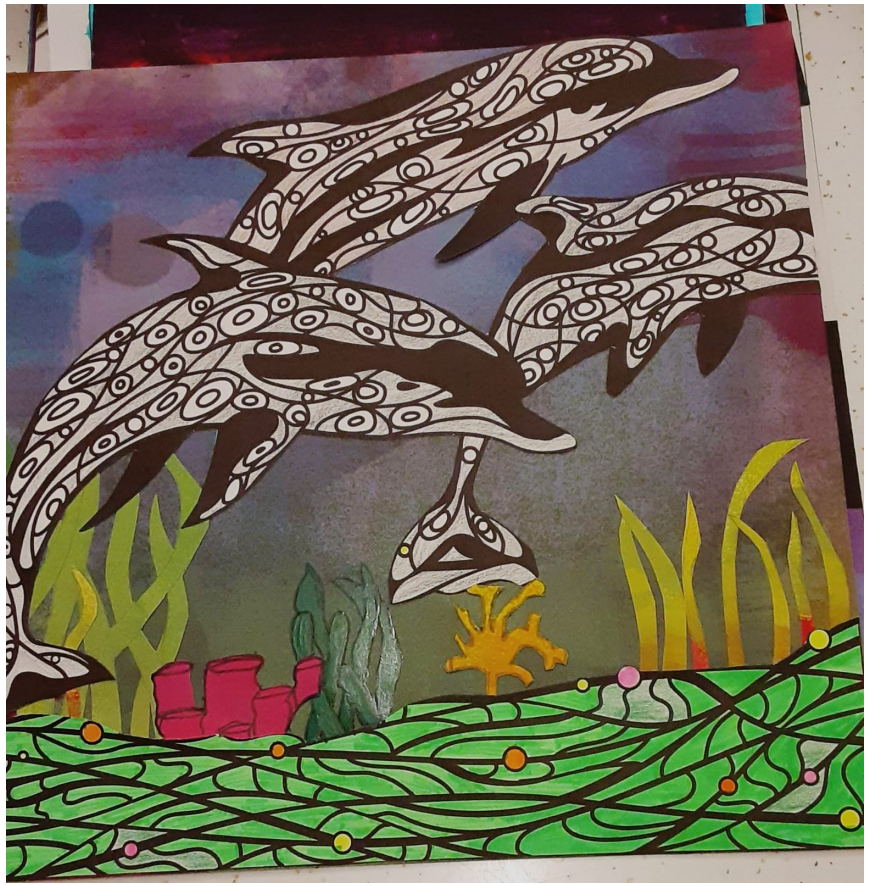
Arts Corps Partnership



Arts Corps Partnership,
Seattle Washington
https://artscorps.org/

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Artolution Virtual Exchange Partnership

Artolution Partnership,
Virtual Exchange Group
https://www.artolution.org/

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For More Information

Facebook.com/supportKIND

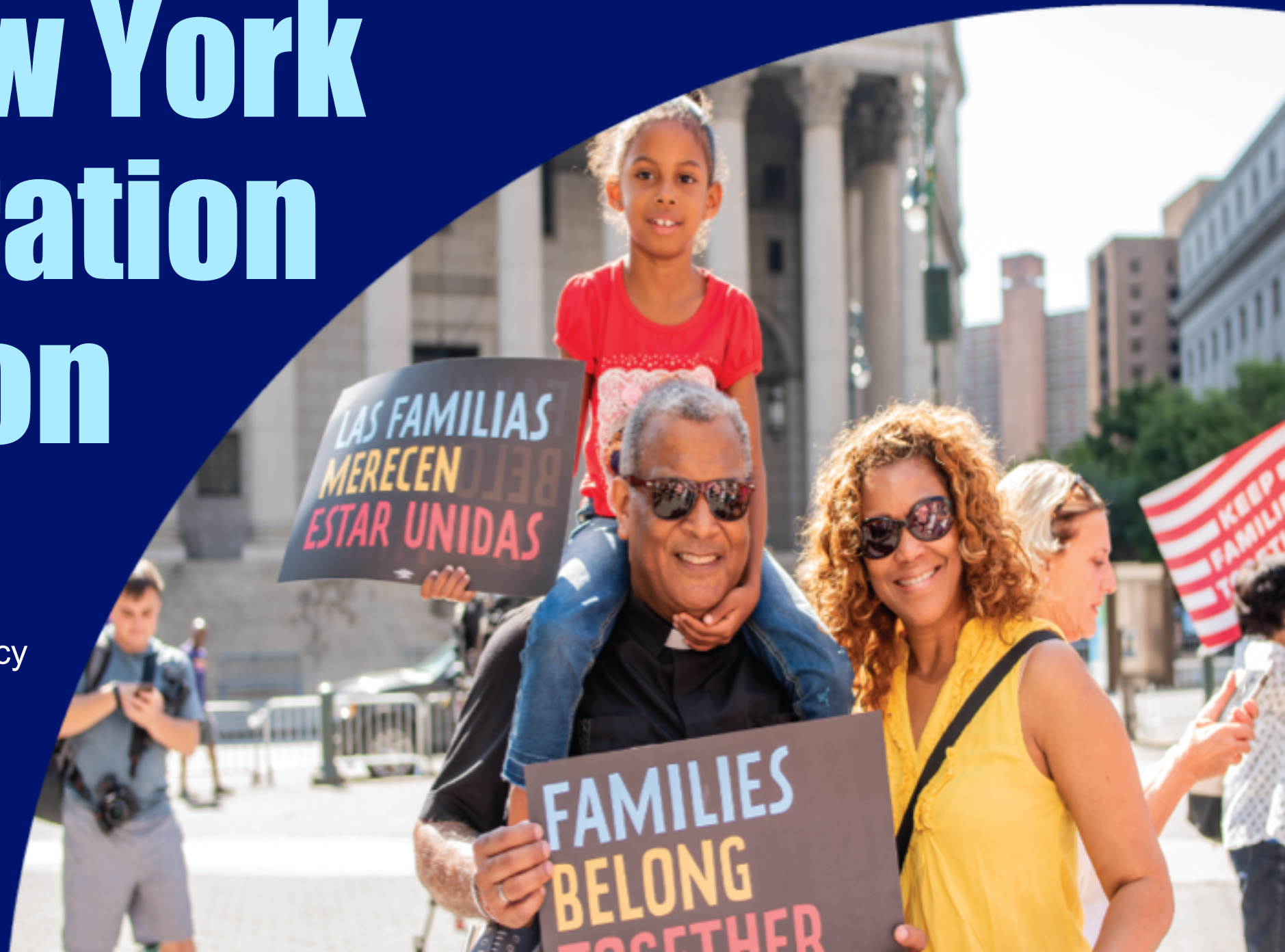
@SupportKIND

@SupportKIND

Youtube.com/supportKIND

KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE

The New York Immigration Coalition



Presenter: Liza Schwartzwald, Esq., MSW
Manager of Education Policy

August 2020

Who We Are

The NYIC is an umbrella policy and advocacy group that brings together more than 200 diverse member organizations to advance justice & opportunity for all.

OUR MISSION

Unite immigrants, members & allies so all New Yorkers can thrive. Our work includes advocating for civic participation, education, comprehensive health policies, and supporting immigration services.

38%

Percentage of New York City's population

52%

Percentage of New York City's businesses owned by immigrants

62%

Percentage of New York City's households with at least one immigrant

45%

Percentage of New York City's workforce despite making up 38% of the population

54%

Percentage of New York City's essential workers who are immigrants

$195 billion

Immigrants contribution to NYC's GDP

- … and have made outsized contributions to the city
- 38% of New York City's population
- 62% of New York City's households have at one immigrant

New York United

NEW YORK UNITED is our new comprehensive COVID-19 response campaign.

Our mission is to make sure that New York's immigrants who are on the front lines of the COVID-19 response don't get left behind as we respond to this crisis.

This campaign includes free testing and treatment for all New Yorkers, multilingual COVID-19 hotlines and resources to make sure everyone knows the latest updates; the suspension of all ICE immigration enforcement activities; and emergency economic support for all workers.

Strategies for COVID-19 Response

- Rapid response information sharing
- Activating member organizations
- Fundraising
- Grassroots advocacy
- Direct advocacy (legislative)
- Administrative advocacy
- Legal

New York United WINS!

- Free COVID-19 testing, evaluation, and treatment for all low-income people in New York States, regardless of immigration status.
- Direct grants to small businesses under 500 employees (including non-profits) to allow them to meet payroll and cover other business expenses for the duration of the crisis
- Direct aid to small nonprofits whose donations are declining during the pandemic and assurance that non-profits receive the same economic relief as businesses.
- Public charge: identify health care, nutrition and other programs responding to COVID-19 as disaster relief to ensure they will NOT count toward a future public charge determination by USCIS
- Suspension of Summer Regents exams, All students on track to get a diploma- those that pass the class connected with the Regents exam there due to take- will still be able to graduate.

New York United WINS!

Emergency Cash Grant Program (ECAP)

The NYIC has raised and distributed **$2,700,000** to over 5,000 New Yorkers through our NYIC member organizations, with more to come.

These funds will provide undocumented folks that have lost income due to COVID-19 with real money in their pockets to pay for groceries and rent, at a desperate time.

Education Policy & Advocacy

COVID-19's arrival has profoundly compounded all of the challenges immigrant youth and parents have long faced. As a result, our K-12 and our adult education systems are facing an existential crisis pushing us to the brink of leaving generations of immigrants behind. Remote learning has not worked for so many immigrant families because parents haven't been able to access the English, technology and systems navigation skills that are absolutely necessary for meaningfully engaging in online learning.

- Supported members through daily education updates during the massive shift of over 1.1 million students to remote learning
- Host weekly calls with the NYC Department of Education to provide timely feedback and troubleshooting for members
- Pivoted existing projects like our Linking Immigrant Families to Early Childhood Education (LIFE) to remote outreach and support
- Protected adult literacy funding in the city and state budgets

NYIC WINS!

The New York Immigration Coalition and other advocates secured…

The passage of Resolution 1016 which expands the Language Access Law in Long Island. The bill will expand multilingual resources at all Suffolk County correctional facilities allowing individuals to understand their full legal rights-including their right to refuse an interview by U.S.

New York's Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) bill passed in both houses and is heading to the Gov's desk.

A win against the Trump administration in 2019 which blocked the attempt to add in a citizenship question to the 2020 census.

Protect our courts which makes it unlawful for any law enforcement officer, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, to arrest a person for attending a court.

NYIC Census 2020 Updates

Last week, the Trump administration released a memo that stated that only citizens should be considered in population figures used for both apportionment and redistricting. The memo serves as a clear attempt to manipulate the census for political gain by stoking fear, hatred, xenophobia while fanning the flames of divisiveness.

NYIC Response:

- NYIC filed a lawsuit seeking declaratory, injunctive, and/or mandamus relief to prohibit the this Administration from excluding undocumented immigrants from the population count used to apportion the House of Representatives.
- We continue our Census 2020 outreach, including participating in this week's NYC Census Week of Action

NYIC Resources & Links

Immigrant Eligibility Chart for Public Benefits Chart

- https://www.nyic.org/our-work/supporting-immigration-services/immigrant-eligibility-for-public-benefits-chart/

Responding to COVID-19: New York United

- https://www.nyic.org/our-work/campaigns/responding-to-covid-19-new-york-united-campaign/

New York City Education Platform for Immigrant Families

- https://www.nyic.org/2020/04/pandemic-response-education-platform-for-immigrant-families/

Q & A

Question and Answer

Q & A

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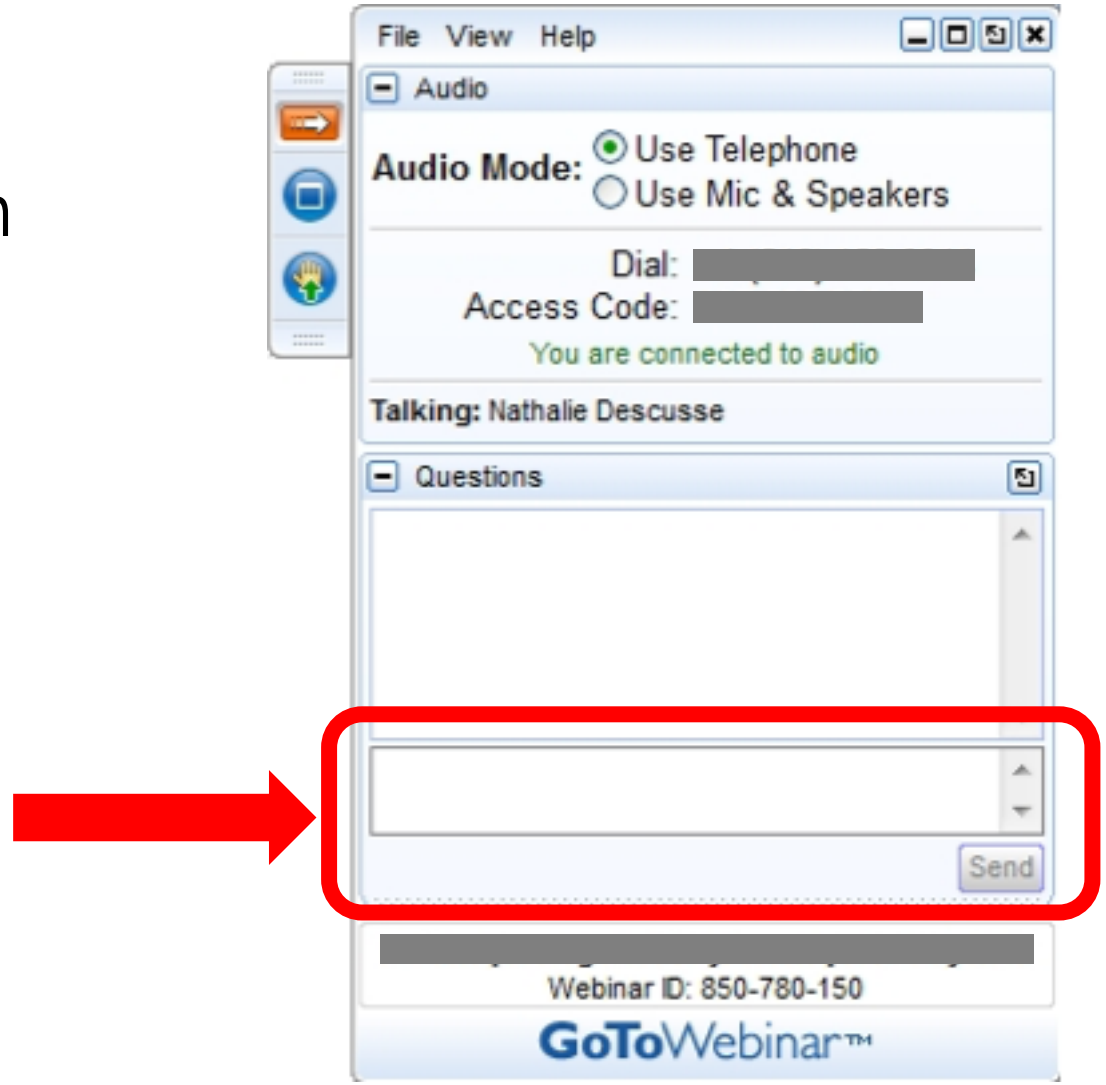

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https://www.networksofopportunity.org/

projecthope.csc@gmail.com

Follow us on Twitter at:
@NOW_WellChild @Vital_Village

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