

Reimagining A More Inclusive Economy: *Supporting the Economic Security of Undocumented Immigrants*



November 16, 2022 | 10:00 – 11:00am



Grantmakers Advancing Economic Equity

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SPEAKERS



**Adriana Ramos-
Yamamoto**
(moderator)

California Budget &
Policy Center



Luis Arteaga

Y&H Soda Foundation



Sasha Feldstein

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Judith Ortiz

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California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC) is a statewide immigrant rights organization that combines legislative and policy advocacy, strategic communications, organizing, and capacity building to pursue our mission: to advocate for policies that uphold the humanity of immigrants and refugees while advancing racial, social, and economic justice.

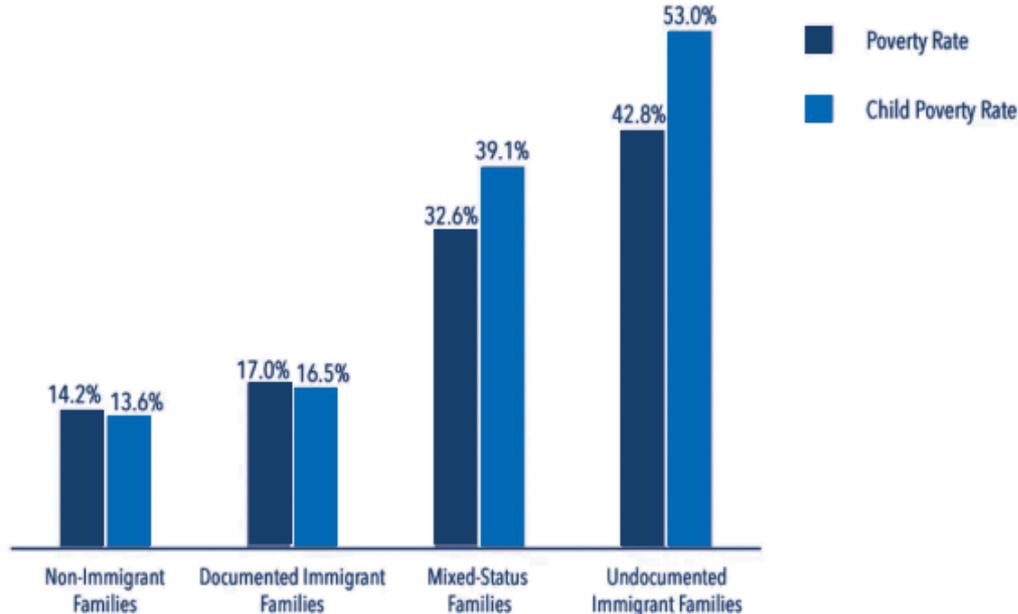
NEIGHBORS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, LOVED ONES



- An estimated 20% of all Californians under the age of 18 live with someone who is undocumented or is undocumented themselves.
- Over two-thirds of undocumented Californians have lived here more than a decade.
- 78% estimated to work in jobs considered to be “essential and critical” to the economy.

Economic Hardship is Much More Common Among Californians With Family Members Who Are Undocumented

Percentage of Individuals in Poverty Under the California Poverty Measure, 2018



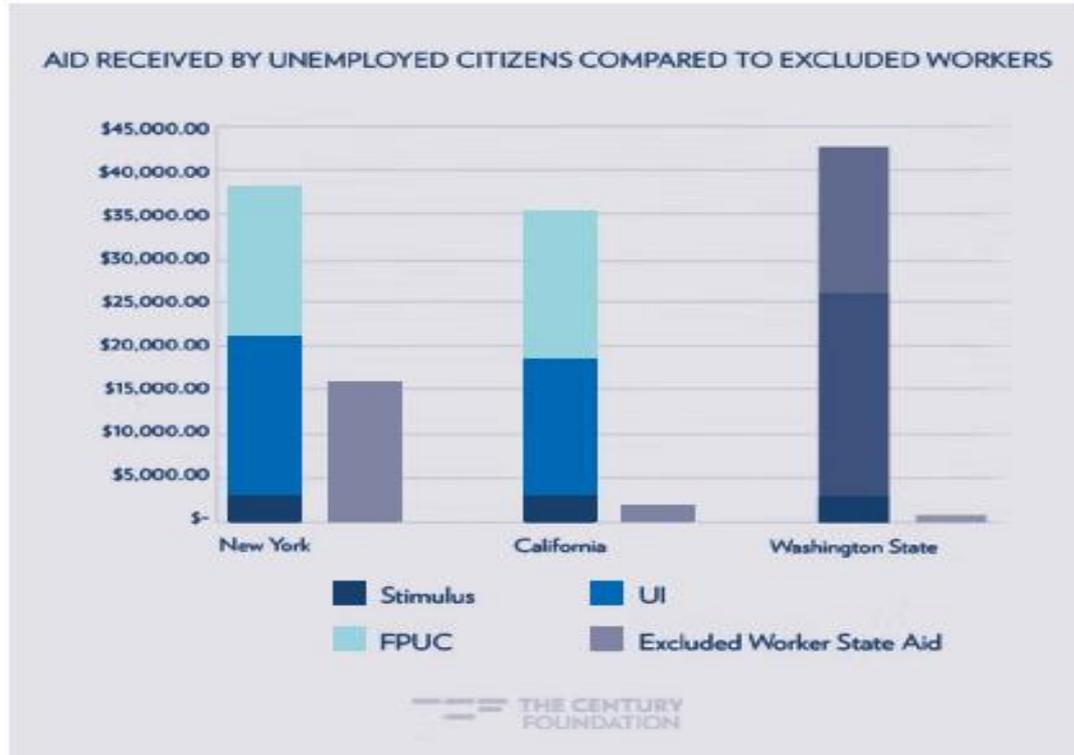
Note: The California Poverty Measure improves upon the official poverty measure by better accounting for local costs of living and by factoring in a broader range of resources that families use to make ends meet. Undocumented immigrant status is imputed.

Source: Budget Center analysis of US Census Bureau, American Community Survey public-use microdata developed for the California Poverty Measure, a joint project of the Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality and the Public Policy Institute of California.



California Budget
& Policy Center

FIGURE 2 Aid Received by Unemployed Citizens Compared to Excluded Workers



Deep legacy *of xenophobia and racism has led to harmful policies*—as well as narratives and practices—that deliberately and consistently exclude people who are undocumented from realizing economic security



Exclusions Based on Employment Status

- Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986
- Employee vs. Independent Contractor
 - Min. wage and overtime
 - Workers' compensation
 - Paid family leave
 - Unemployment insurance
 - Collective bargaining
 - Harassment and discrimination protections



Exclusions Based on Immigration Status



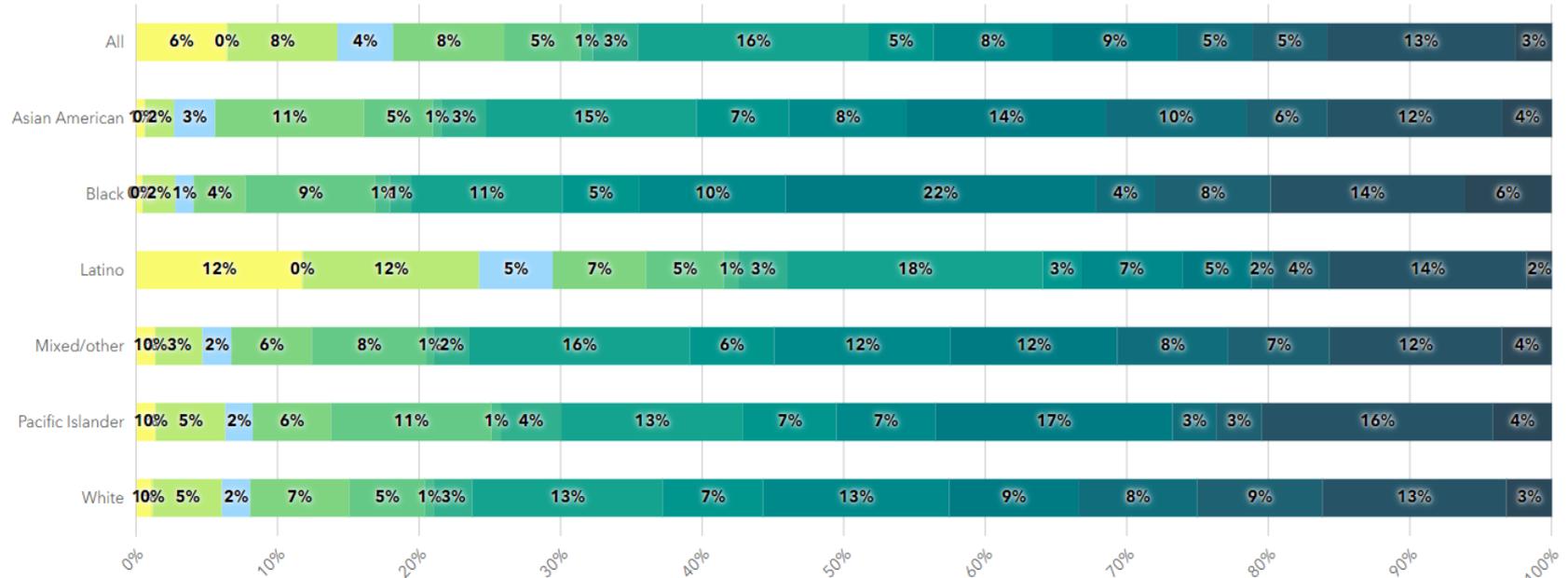
- Food assistance - 55+
- Healthcare assistance - MediCal expansion
- Cash assistance
- Assistance for seniors and people with low-income and disabilities
- Housing assistance
- Low-income tax credits - CalEITC, Young Child Tax Credit
- COVID-19 stimulus payments - state relief and stimulus
- Unemployment benefits
- Workforce development services - state funded workforce services
- Business and professional licenses - state legislation
- Banking and financial services

Exclusions Based on Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Gender

Industry by race for immigrants who are employed: California; 2019



SELECT BREAKDOWN ▾



Building the Future We Want

- Equity and justice
- Support local economies
- Protect our collective health
- Care for future generations
- Prepare for an uncertain future



When California expanded Medi-Cal eligibility to undocumented residents under 26 years of age, it reduced the uninsured gap from

14.5% to 6%.

Key Policy Recommendations



Ensure everyone, regardless of employment status, has jobs that enable economic security, mobility, dignity, and voice

- ✓ Ensure accurate, proper classification of workers
- ✓ Enforce anti-discrimination, anti-harassment and anti-retaliation laws
- ✓ Remove exclusions and barriers to unemployment benefits, paid sick and family leave, and health and safety protections
- ✓ Establish portable benefits for all workers
- ✓ Increase support for small businesses, worker ownership, and entrepreneurship
- ✓ Expand worker decision-making power

Ensure everyone, regardless of immigration status, has equitable access to public benefits and economic supports

- ✓ Healthcare, food assistance, cash assistance, etc
- ✓ Tax credits
- ✓ Workforce development and apprenticeships
- ✓ Responsible banking and financial services
- ✓ Identification and voting



Address exclusions based on race, ethnicity, class, and gender



- ✓ Expand support for community-based organizations and worker centers that represent and work with diverse undocumented immigrant communities
- ✓ Expand legal and navigation services to address wealth stripping, including excessive fines and fees, in the immigration system
- ✓ Expand language access and language justice

We need You!



Nationally, only 1% of philanthropic funding goes to grantmaking specifically for immigrant-related issues, and only a fraction of that addresses economic security.

Opportunities and Investment Strategies

- Grassroots Organizing and Building Immigrant Worker Power
- Capacity Building for Policy Advocacy
- Organizations that Serve the Diversity of Immigrant Communities
- Worker Ownership and Entrepreneurship
- Changing Harmful Narratives and Cultural Norms
- Community-Grounded Research
- Pilots, Testing, and New Models that Support Economic Security
- Program Implementation and Evaluation to Ensure Meaningful Impact

Support Grassroots Organizing and Building Immigrant Worker Power

Worker centers

- Grassroots organizing
- Strengthen and amplify worker voice
- Know your rights
- Workforce development
- Build power



Capacity Building for Policy Advocacy



- Funding and capacity constraints
- Campaigns can take years and require long-term support
- Help build powerful and sustainable coalitions and campaigns

Changing Harmful Narratives and Cultural Norms

- Cultural norms and narratives are at the heart of how policies and programs are created, implemented, and enforced.
- Significant narrative challenges govern our current debates around the economy, immigration, and the intersection of the two
- More testing needed

Thank you

List of California Community Based Organizations Working on Intersectional Economic Security Issues

ORGANIZATION	REGION	CITY/COUNTY	ECONOMIC SECURITY POLICY ADVOCACY	ENTREPRENEURSHIP	GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING & BUILDING WORKER POWER	NARRATIVE CHANGE	COMMUNITY GROUNDED RESEARCH	GUARANTEED INCOME FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE UNDOCUMENTED	IMMIGRANT WORKERS' RIGHTS	DIRECT SERVICES
Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative (CVIIC)	Central California	Fresno	●	●	○	○	○	○	●	○
Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño (CBDIO)	Central California	Fresno	●	○	●	○	○	○	●	●
Centro La Familia	Central California	Fresno	○	○	●	○	○	○	●	●
Jakara Movement	Central California	Fresno	●	○	●	○	○	○	●	●
Services, Immigrant Rights And Education Network (SIREN)	Central California	Fresno	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●
UC Merced Community and Labor Center	Central California	Merced	●	○	○	●	●	○	○	○
Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing Project (MICOP)	Central California	Oxnard	●	○	●	●	○	○	●	●
Lideres Campesinas	Central California	Fresno, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	○
United Farmworker Foundation	Central California	Fresno, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara	●	○	●	○	○	○	○	○
Buen Vecino	Central California	Ventura	●	○	●	○	○	○	●	●
Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)	Central California	Ventura	●	○	●	○	○	○	●	●
Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE)	Central and Southern California		●	○	●	○	○	○	●	○
Multicultural Institute Day Labor Program	Northern California	Berkley	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	●
Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance	Northern California	Contra Costa	●	○	●	●	○	○	●	○
Monument Impact	Northern California	Concord	●	●	●	○	○	○	●	●



Judith Ortiz

Executive Director,
Monument Impact



Together, building a stronger community

Three Core Programs:



Community Engagement



Healthy Community



Asset Building



Together, building a stronger community

- CCIRA (Contra Costa Immigrants Rights Alliance)
- Monument Impact has been responding to the Bay Area housing crisis, working on local and regional policy with our allies.
- Without housing stability, immigrants cannot advance economically and systemically and are excluded from opportunity and mobility.



- During COVID- 19, Monument Impact established a \$2M Monument Relief & Recovery Fund--the County's largest Undocufund.
- Guaranteed Basic Income pilot program





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