present today’s webinar:

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY THROUGH IMMIGRANT ASSET BUILDING: WHAT DO FUNDERS NEED TO KNOW?

March 21, 2018 #ImmigrantAssets

Thank you to the Sponsors of the upcoming Brief, Expanding Economic Opportunity through Immigrant Asset Building:
WEBINAR CONTROL PANEL

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Type your question in the
QUESTIONS BOX
to be addressed during
discussion breaks or
during Q/A
Asset Funders Network

the only grantmaker membership organization focused on building economic well-being for all.

AssetFunders.org
Our Mission

Asset Funders Network advances economic opportunity and prosperity for low and middle income people through philanthropy.

AFN members are:

- Private, Public, Corporate, and Community Foundations
- Public-Sector Funders
- Financial Institutions
- Corporate Giving Programs
- Credit Unions
- Community Development Financial Institutions
- United Ways
Since 1990, GCIR has sought to influence philanthropy to advance the contributions and address the needs of the country's growing and increasingly diverse immigrant and refugee populations. In so doing, we seek to promote effective grantmaking that not only improves the lives of newcomers but also strengthens communities.

- **Learn** about current issues through in-depth analyses, research reports, online data, tools, and resources tailored specifically for grantmakers
- **Connect** with other funders through a diverse slate of programs, briefings, and conferences
- **Collaborate** with grantmaking colleagues on strategies for immigrant-related funding locally, regionally, and nationally
DISCUSSION AGENDA

INTRODUCTIONS AND FRAMING REMARKS

JOBI CATES
ASSET FUNDERS NETWORK

FELECIA BARTOW
GRANTMAKERS CONCERNED WITH IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES (GCIR)

EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY THROUGH IMMIGRANT ASSET BUILDING: WHAT DO FUNDERS NEED TO KNOW?

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EXAMPLES IN ACTION

PAULINA GONZALEZ
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CHI-MEI LIN
CHINESE COMMUNITY CENTER

NEXT STEPS AND CONCLUSION

JOBI CATES
ASSET FUNDERS NETWORK

#ImmigrantAssets
Immigrant Lives, American Futures: Linking Asset Building and Immigrant Integration

03.01.18

Manuel Pastor

@Prof_MPastor
OVERVIEW

- Despite heated rhetoric, the United States identifies as a country of immigrants - we know that **newcomer success** is crucial to the national future

- Another core American value - economic security

- Our **goal**: to encourage further collaboration between asset building and immigrant integration funders

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IMMIGRANTS IN THE UNITED STATES

- 43 million foreign born in the United States (over 13% of the total population)
  - Half of all immigrants have been in the country 18 years or more

- A diverse group:
  - 45 percent Latino,
  - 27 percent Asian-American/Pacific Islander,
  - 18 percent non-Hispanic white, and
  - 8 percent Black.

WHAT IS IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION?

• Immigrant integration is
  • improved economic mobility for,
  • enhanced civic participation by, and
  • receiving society openness to immigrants.

• It is a dynamic, two way process in which newcomers and the receiving society can both benefit.

• It is profoundly local
THE IMPACT OF STATUS

• U.S. immigrants by status
  o 25% undocumented
  o 27% lawful permanent residents
  o 44% naturalized citizens
  o <5% documented but temporary

• Affects access to formal employment and government benefits
  o Lack of documentation decreases wages, increases financial instability
  o Ripple effects on families
THE IMPACT OF STATUS

Immigration Status and Family Ripple Effects in the US, 2012-2016

- Undocumented Immigrants: 11,032,000
- U.S. Citizens Living with Undocumented Family Members: 8,961,000
- LPRs Living with Undocumented Family Members: 2,803,000
THE IMPACT OF STATUS

Recency of Arrival for Naturalized, LPRs and Undocumented Immigrants, USA, 2012-2016

Over half of undocumented immigrants nationwide have been in the US for more than a decade.

- Naturalized immigrant
- Lawful Permanent Resident
- Undocumented

- 5 years or less
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- 21-30 years
- More than 30 years

- 0%
- 10%
- 20%
- 30%
- 40%
- 50%
- 60%
- 70%
- 80%
- 90%
- 100%
IMMIGRANT PROGRESS OVER TIME

Homeownership Rate by Nativity and Recency of Arrival, USA, 2012-2016

- US-born: 65%
- Immigrated more than 30 years ago: 71%
- Immigrated 21-30 years ago: 56%
- Immigrated 11-20 years ago: 43%
- Immigrated ten years ago or less: 22%
Homeownership Rate by Nativity and Recency of Arrival for US-born & Undocumented Immigrants, USA, 2012-2016

- US-born: 65%
- Immigrated more than 30 years ago: 45%
- Immigrated 21-30 years ago: 38%
- Immigrated 11-20 years ago: 28%
- Immigrated ten years ago or less: 16%
WHAT IS ASSET BUILDING?

Asset building is a strategy to enable greater access to economic security and opportunities, particularly for low-income communities and communities of color. –Asset Funders Network

• Key to both short-term security and long-term economic mobility.
• Assets are tangible and intangible, explicitly financial and otherwise.
WHAT ARE ASSETS?

- Assets can be tangible and intangible, explicitly financial and otherwise. Examples include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal</th>
<th>Financial</th>
<th>Social</th>
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<tr>
<td>Post-secondary education</td>
<td>Stable Income with disposable cash</td>
<td>Community services</td>
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<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>Checking and savings accounts</td>
<td>Locally-owned businesses</td>
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<td>Affordable child care</td>
<td>Access to credit</td>
<td>Diverse and trusted social network</td>
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<td>Language abilities</td>
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<td>Citizenship</td>
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<td>Insurance</td>
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WHAT ARE ASSETS?

• Non-financial forms of assets that can help low-income individuals and families include:
  
  • **Human capital** – education, experience and skills
  
  • **Social capital** – benefits accrued through relationships and networks
  
  • **Cultural capital** – knowledge, skill, and resources needed to navigate across borders and obstacles
  
  • **Civic capital** – shared values and principles that facilitate valuable group cooperation or action

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WHAT ARE ASSETS?

• Having assets enables immigrants (and all U.S. residents) to:
  • Maintain stability through financial emergencies
  • Use good credit to secure a mortgage
  • Pursue higher education for themselves or their children
  • Take risks that result in better jobs or new business
  • Save for retirement
BUT THERE ARE GAPS FOR INCOME & ASSETS

Family Poverty Rates by Nativity in the United States, 2015

Source: USC CSII analysis of 2015 American Community Survey data
ASSETS, BARRIERS AND STRATEGIES

• **Homeownership** is a significant way in which families accumulate wealth—it is often the greatest asset in the portfolios of minority and low-income households.
  - Barrier: Limited access to credit and bad credit history
  - Strategy: Increase access to mortgage credit, protect against housing discrimination, and protect against predatory lending
ASSETS, BARRIERS AND STRATEGIES

• **Post-secondary education** increases earnings and the likelihood of employment, including the likelihood of having a job with benefits (e.g., healthcare, pension)
  • Barrier: Lack of knowledge about college requirements, admissions, and financial aid
  • Strategy: Help low-income students and parents navigate the process of applying for college/financial aid
ASSETS, BARRIERS AND STRATEGIES

- **Small business ownership** is another way of building wealth—particularly for those facing barriers to entering labor markets. Like all assets, small businesses can support intergenerational mobility.
  - **Barrier:** Lack of knowledge and networks around business formation and planning
  - **Strategy:** Entrepreneurship courses for students, and new business owners

Photo Credit: https://www.careerguide.com/ask/t/what-are-the-challenges-and-rewards-of-entrepreneurship
ASSETS, BARRIERS AND STRATEGIES

• Traditional financial services can help in building, protecting, and preserving wealth through banking products like checking, savings, and investment accounts as well as loans.

• Barrier: Lack of products with low or no minimum balance and requirements of SS# or extensive government identification

• Strategy: Improving cost, transparency, and service at traditional banks

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INTEGRATING IMMIGRANTS AND ASSETS

• A pathway to economic security for immigrant/refugee communities considers:
  • the life course and status of the individual
  • barriers to accessing financial systems in place
  • mechanisms for financial inclusion to help build and protect intergenerational wealth

• Conditions of arrival do matter, but so do the systems (or lack of systems) in place
1. Immigrants face discrimination and devaluation of their assets in the U.S., much like native born people of color;
2. Assets are often undervalued or unrecognized, like educational achievements or credentials;
3. Immigration status limits access to asset building, depending where one is along the spectrum;
4. Experiences with financial practices in one’s country of origin impact usage in the United States.
COMMON CHALLENGES FOR IMMIGRANTS

Even if immigrants can use mainstream banking and financial services, they often face these barriers:

• Lack of trust in financial institutions
• Concern that banks ask too much in minimum balance requirements and fees
• Lack of knowledge or access to online banking
• Inconvenience of locations and hours
• Lack of knowledge about financial products
• Uncertainty about documentation and ID requirements
• Lack of culturally and linguistically appropriate services
Asset building is easier for immigrants with a more permanent status, but this can vary by geography and institution.

For Example:
- Undocumented individuals have access to some credit cards through ITINs, but very limited access to non-predatory loans.
- LPRs and Naturalized citizens can access a wide variety of secure options in banking, including private and federally-backed loans.
PROMISING PRACTICES: BUNDLING

- Coordinating a set of services appropriate to specific communities (e.g. Annie E Casey Center for Working Families model)

**CONNECT**

Funder: Clowes Fund

- Services from five agencies in one location:
  - Skill building
  - Job-seeking skills
  - Access to financial tools (e.g. financial coaching)
  - Support in income stabilization (e.g., EITC, SNAP)
PROMISING PRACTICES: ENTREPRENEURSHIP

• Immigrants form businesses at higher rates than non-immigrants, but encounter specific challenges
  • Lack of access to capital
  • Linguistic exclusion
  • Lack of familiarity with business support structures

Educators for Fair Consideration’s (E4FC)
Funders: Grove Foundation, Unbound Philanthropy

• The Fund for Undocumented Social Entrepreneurs (FUSE): for undocumented entrepreneur projects with high social impact
• Immigrants Rising: toolkit of online guides, webinars, and recommended community-based service providers for immigrant entrepreneurs regardless of status
PROMISING PRACTICES: WORKFORCE

- Workforce Development Encompasses
  - Training to move up the skills and income ladder
  - Revaluation of credentials earned in home countries
  - Access to post-secondary education

Funder: The Community Foundation of Sarasota County

- Two-generation approach
- Guide students and parents through the post-secondary education application process and financial literacy workshops
- Present workshops on interview etiquette, leadership development and teamwork for students
- Offer student internships at the Foundation
- Provide training and classes for parents
PROMISING PRACTICES: PUBLIC POLICY

- A wide range of policies affecting immigrant asset building are in place or in development
  - E.g., state-level policies that reduce barriers to professional licenses for immigrants trained in other countries (e.g., California, Michigan, Minnesota, Utah)

California Reinvestment Coalition
Funders: Walter & Elise Haas Fund, Y&H Soda Foundation

- Released a report recommending expanding eligibility for the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) to ITIN holders
- Called on banks and regulators to improve access to accounts and loans for homes/small businesses and improve education about consumer privacy laws
OWNING THE FUTURE – OR OWING THE FUTURE?

• Increasingly important to shed light on shared needs in our polarized nation

• Encouraged by the promising programs, strategies and enthusiasm encountered in our interviews

• Moving forward: Scaling up and continuing to link the fields can help make economic security a reality for all Americans

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Thank you!

For more information on CSII and additional reports, please visit: http://dornsife.usc.edu/CSII

The mission of the Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII) is bring together scholarship that draws on rigorous research, data that provides information, and engagement that seeks to create new dialogues with business and civic leaders, immigrants and the voting public.
EXAMPLES IN ACTION

PAULINA GONZALEZ
CALIFORNIA REINVESTMENT COALITION

CHI-MEI LIN
CHINESE COMMUNITY CENTER
Investment Recommendations

✓ Assess and Increase Grantee Capacity
✓ Prioritize Bundled Services
✓ Support Entrepreneurship
✓ Expand Workforce Opportunities
✓ Advance Needed Research
✓ Fund Policy Advocacy
Internal and Peer Recommendations

✓ Staff Up

✓ Break Down Silos

✓ Eschew “Either/Or” Arguments

✓ Utilize Philanthropy-Supporting Resources
QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

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#ImmigrantAssets
Thank you for attending today’s Asset Funders Network presentation

PLEASE FILL OUT OUR SURVEY

The survey will pop up on your screen momentarily and will also be sent to you via email

WE VALUE YOUR TIME, AND YOUR RESPONSES WILL INFORM OUR FUTURE PLANNING
THE WEBINAR HAS CONCLUDED