



***2019 National Community Action Immigration Summit***

**Building Opportunities for Immigrant Families:  
The Role of Community Action Agencies**

**April 3-5, 2019**

**El Paso Community Foundation, El Paso, TX**

**SUMMIT OBJECTIVES**

- ***Learn, Explore,*** and ***Uncover*** how individuals access legal residence status, existing immigration issues, and the role that Community Action Agencies can play to meet the needs of immigrant families
- ***Experience*** the realities of individuals and families who are navigating immigration process
- ***Spotlight*** what Community Action is currently doing
- ***Motivate*** a national policy response

**PRESENTED BY**

*The national Community Action Partnership with support from  
Project Bravo El Paso Community Action Program*



**2019 National Community Action Immigration Summit**  
**Building Opportunities for Immigrant Families:**  
**The Role of Community Action Agencies**  
**April 3-5, 2019**  
**El Paso Community Foundation, El Paso, TX**

**AGENDA**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>**

**7:30 AM - 8:30 AM**

**BREAKFAST (PROVIDED)**

**8:30 AM – 9:00 AM**

**Welcome, Objectives, and Agenda Overview**

**Presenters:** *Denise Harlow*, MSW, CCAP, NCRT, Chief Executive Officer, Community Action Partnership – National Office; **Commissioner David Stout**, El Paso County Commissioner's Court, Pct. 2 (*Invited*); **Senator José Rodríguez**, District 29, The Texas State Senate (*Invited*)

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

**Understanding Immigration in the US and the Current Crises (Panel)**

Learn about immigration history, myths, and facts impacting refugee families. An overview of the immigration crisis from the national and local levels will be provided. Key advocates in the work and resources will be highlighted.

**Presenters:** *Clarissa Martinez de Castro*, Deputy Vice President, Policy and Advocacy, UnidosUS; **Dylan Corbett**, Director, Hope Border Institute

**10:00 AM – 10:15 AM**

**BREAK**

**10:15 AM – 11:30 AM**

**Deriving a Legal and Policy Perspective (Panel)**

During this session, a team of legal experts will provide a survey of immigration law and policies which provide opportunities and barriers for families. The panel will also discuss how people can immigrate legally to the US or get legal status and the changing dynamic of the deportation policies on vulnerable persons.

**Presenters:** *Connie Choi*, Protecting Immigrant Families Campaign Field Manager, National Immigration Law Center; *Bernadette Segura*, Team Manager-El Paso, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (TRLA); *Veronica H. Zhang*, Assistant Counsel, Community Action Program Legal Services (CAPLAW); *Melissa Lopez*, Director for Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services Ministry, Catholic Archdiocese El Paso

**11:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Special Remarks**

**Presenter:** *David Bradley*, Co-Founder, Chief Executive Officer, National Community Action Foundation (NCAF)

**12:00 PM – 12:15 PM**

**Working Boxed Lunch**

**12:15 PM – 1:15 PM**

**Community Action Immigration Stories (Panel)**

Community Action leaders from around the country will share their stories of supporting families, best practices for navigating “systems” and lessons learned.

**Presenters:** *Elizabeth Jonasson*, Communications and Strategy Officer, Fresno Economic Opportunity Commission; *Elizabeth Steinberg*, Chief Executive Officer, Community Action Partnership San Luis Obispo; *Karina Hernandez*, Bilingual Site Coordinator, Mid-Iowa Community Action; *Berenice Sanchez*, Health Programs Specialist, Mid-Iowa Community Action

**Afternoon & Evening**

**Crossing the Border, Dinner, and Cultural Experience**

This emersion experience includes crossing of the U.S. Border by bus into Mexico and learning about life and business south of the US border. ***Bring passports or government issued ID and birth certificate (if you don't have a passport).***

Plan to wear comfortable shoes. **All participants in this activity must remain with the group at all times.**

**DINNER AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCE IN MEXICO (PROVIDED)**

**NOTE:** Participants should plan to return to Hotel Indigo El Paso Downtown by bus late evening - approximately 10:00 PM MT.

**1:15 PM – 1:30 PM**

**Load buses and travel to Ciudad Juarez**

**2:00 PM**

**FEMAP School of Nursing**

Escuela de Enfermería FEMAP  
Ave. Malecon No. 788  
Col. Centro, C.P. 32000, (En tercer piso).  
Cd. Juárez, Chih., México

**3:00 PM**

**Technology HUB**

Ave. López Mateos #924.  
Colonia La Playa. C.P. 32317  
Ciudad Juárez, Chih. México

**5:30 PM**

**Dinner at Viva Mexico (Included)**

Av. Abraham Lincoln 900-1  
Zona Pronaf Condominio La Plata  
32310 Cd Juárez, Chih., Mexico

**7:00 PM**

Viva Mexico Cultural Show

**9:00 PM**

Load Buses and Return to El Paso

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>**

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST (PROVIDED)**

**9:00 AM – 9:15 AM**

**What We Know Now**

Engage in a recap of learning and resources thus far and review the upcoming summit agenda objectives.

**Presenter: Denise Harlow**, MSW, CCAP, NCRT, Chief Executive Officer, Community Action Partnership – National Office

**9:15 AM**

**What Happened at Tornillo? (Plenary)**

This session will explore the impact of displacement, particularly on children. Tornillo was a “tent city” detention center which recently closed. While in operation, it housed hundreds of children who were separated from their families. Experiences

from Tornillo will be shared to deepen participant perspectives about the urgent needs of immigrant families.

**Presenter: Bob Moore**, Journalist

**10:45 AM – 11:00 AM**

**BREAK**

**11:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

**Education: An Opportunity Pathway for Families (Panel)**

This session will highlight barriers to accessing education and feature transformation stories related to early childhood education and Models for increasing access to college/trade school for adults

**Presenters: Yvette Sanchez-Fuentes**, Director of the Children, Youth, and Family Services Division, Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo, Inc.; **Weldon T Beard**, President, Texas Head Start Association; **Lucia Rodriguez**, Office of Student Access, El Paso Community College; **Ivette Savina**, Office of Outreach & Student Success, University of Texas at El Paso

**12:30 PM – 1:30 PM**

**LUNCH (PROVIDED)**

**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM**

**In Our Own Words (Panel)**

Families will share their real displacement narratives along with their dreams for their future. They will provide insight on what is the most helpful response to meet their needs at this time.

**3:00 PM - 3:15 PM**

**BREAK**

**3:15 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Making the Case & Changing the Narrative (Panel)**

This session will highlight the impact of living in a community without legal status, barriers facing immigrant families, and make the case for a humanitarian response to the immigration crisis. Additionally, racial bias and cultural stigma and culturally informed strategies for navigating institutional barriers and social isolation will be highlighted.

**Presenters: Dr. Ángel Gallardo**, Scholar and Activist; **Dr. Cathy Gillard**, Activist & Pastor, Park Avenue United Methodist Church; **Dr. Dalitso Sulamoyo**, Chief Executive Officer, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission

**FRIDAY, APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>**

<b>7:30 AM – 8:30 AM</b>	<b>BREAKFAST (PROVIDED)</b>
<b>8:30 AM – 8:45 AM</b>	<p><b>A Call to Action</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <i>Denise Harlow</i>, MSW, CCAP, NCRT, Chief Executive Officer, Community Action Partnership – National Office</p>
<b>8:45 AM – 9:45 AM</b>	<p><b>Making the “Count” Count (Panel)</b></p> <p>This session will highlight the role that data plays in understanding the needs of families and strategies for effective data collection, reporting and analysis.</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <i>Pauline Núñez</i>, Partnership Coordinator, U.S. Census Bureau – Denver Region; <i>Denise Harlow</i>, MSW, CCAP, NCRT, Chief Executive Officer, Community Action Partnership – National Office</p>
<b>9:45 AM – 10:30 AM</b>	<p><b>Resources for CAA Toolboxes (Plenary)</b></p> <p>This will be an interactive session to highlight practical tools and information on how to connect families to resources.</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <i>Tiffney Marley</i>, CCAP, NCRT, Director of Practice Transformation, Community Action Partnership – National Office</p>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>ADJOURN</b>