

Chicago Stands firm as a Sanctuary City

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Earlier this year, Mayor Rahm Emanuel reaffirmed Chicago's status as a Sanctuary City, ensuring we continue to provide a home to hardworking, honest individuals—regardless of their place of birth.

To reinforce Chicago's status as a Sanctuary City and our commitment to inclusivity for people from all parts of the world in the City of Chicago, Mayor Emanuel and the Chicago City Council took extra steps in 2012 with an ordinance that protects the rights of immigrants, and grants all residents access to city services, regardless of immigration status.

The Welcoming City Ordinance also codified local policies to help ensure undocumented residents are not prosecuted solely due to their immigration status. As such, the Sanctuary City protection covers Chicagoans of all ages—in school, at work and as they seek city supports and resources. This means that Chicago police officers cannot arrest on the basis of immigration status.

Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and the City Colleges of Chicago (CCC) have also taken extra steps recently to ensure that students have a safe and welcoming learning environment to thrive in, and have reminded staff and students of resources available to them post-election. Parents and families with a child in CPS are encouraged to reach out to their child's principal or teacher with any concerns or questions they may have.

To learn more about protections in Chicago as a Sanctuary City, visit the Chicago Office of New Americans website at: <http://www.cityofchicago.org/officeofnewamericans>

Chicago Municipal Identification Program

The City of Chicago Office of New Americans is in the process of developing a Municipal Identification (ID). The Municipal ID will be a photo identification card available to all Chicago residents which will not convey information about national origin or legal status. For many residents who do not have an identification card, the Municipal ID can serve as an official government issued identification and can be used to access city services. The City is now in the process of developing the identification and it will not be available until sometime next year. To stay updated, please visit: www.cityofchicago.org/officeofnewamericans.

Report hate crimes and speak out against discrimination

In Chicago, all residents have the right to live healthy lives, free from hate and bigotry. If someone believes they have been a victim of discrimination, they can file a complaint with the Chicago Commission on Human Relations (CCHR). CCHR also offers a variety of human relations workshops and presentations to schools, religious institutions, youth agencies and community groups. To file a complaint or to speak with an investigator, contact the Commission at (312) 744-4111.

Important Resources

The City's 311 operators have been given special instruction to help youth and families connect with supportive services throughout the city as a result of the uncertainty related to the election.

Chicago residents are encouraged to call 311 for additional information on supportive services offered through the City, including: services related to human rights; immigration services and health services; services specifically for families, children and youth; and legal services. These resources will be provided in both English and Spanish, as well as other languages as needed. The links below will help direct you to several organizations that provide free services.

Human Rights and Immigration Assistance

- Spanish Illinois Coalition for immigrant and refugee rights, 1-855-HELP-MY-FAMILY (1-855-435-7693)
- Chicago Commission on Human Relations, www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/cchr/supp_info

Health & Wellbeing Resources

- Chicago Department of Public Health, (312) 746-5905 or go www.cityofchicago.org/health
- The American Academy of Pediatrics talk to children about bias and resilience.
- The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline free, confidential, 24/7 Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255).
- Anyone who is in immediate danger or experiencing an emergency is encouraged to call 911.

Consumer Assistance

It's important to advise residents seeking services to be mindful of fraudulent businesses or organizations that prey on vulnerable residents. For consumer tips, visit the City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) at

https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/bacp/supp_info/immigration_assistancelaws.html.

Legal Clinics/Assistance

The Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection also provides an extensive list of free agency resources that provide services ranging from immigration legal services to domestic violence and discrimination services and much more at below:

<https://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/bacp/Consumer%20Information/bacppocketguide20151119.pdf>

<https://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/bacp/Consumer%20Information/20161013consumerselfhelpresourceguide.pdf>

https://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/bacp/supp_info/immigration_assistancelaws.html

<https://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/bacp/Small%20Business%20Center/legalservicestoolkits20151105.pdf>

Other recommended providers include:

- The Resurrection Project (TRP), (312) 763-3229, www.resurrectionproject.org
- Chicago Legal Clinic, (773) 731-1762 • F. (312) 731-4264, www.clclaw.org