

Children in Immigrant Families: How to be an Advocate



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Disclosure

- In the past 12 months, I have had no relevant financial relationships with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in this CME activity.
- I do not intend to discuss an unapproved/ investigative use of a commercial product/device in my presentation.

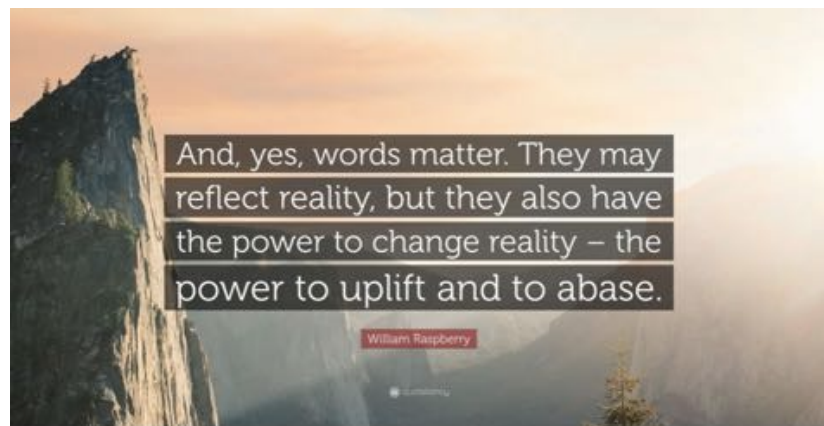
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Objectives

1. Consider evolving demographics in California and the United States as a whole and how all pediatricians have an opportunity to support children in immigrant families
2. Describe current immigrant policy and the potential health impact on children in immigrant families
3. Illustrate the role of pediatricians and all social service providers as advocates at multiple levels

The names and identifying details of the children and families whose stories I will share have been changed to protect their confidentiality and safety.

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Common Language

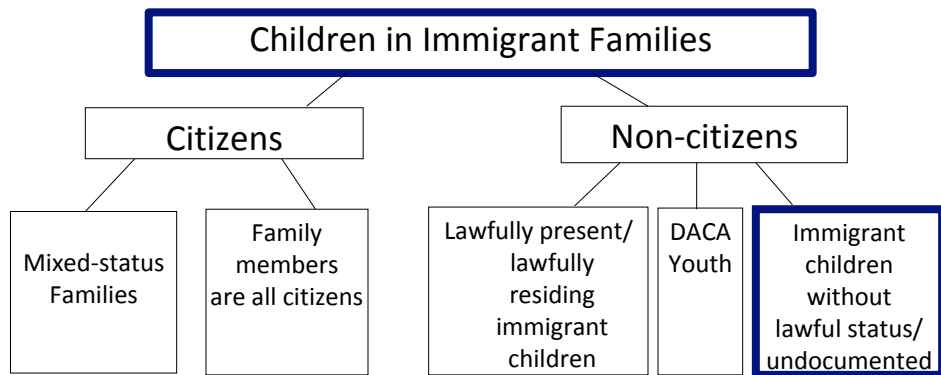
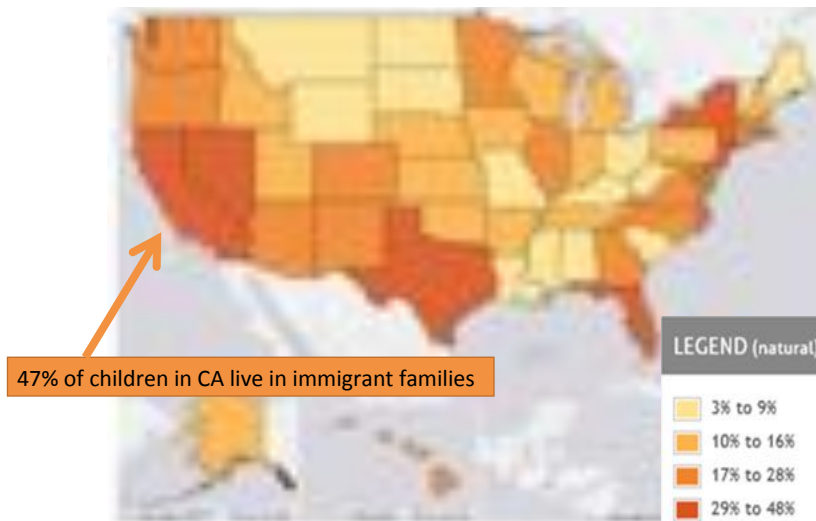


Image adapted from image by Ricky Choi, MD, MPH and Julie M. Linton, MD

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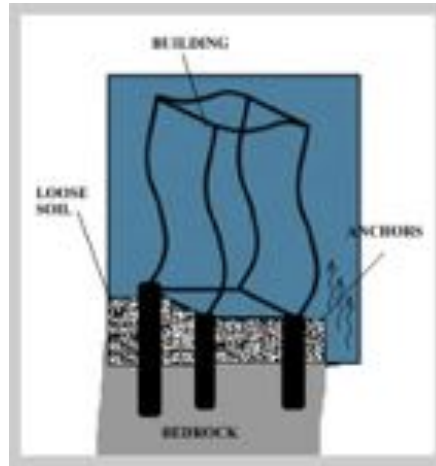
Children in Immigrant Families



Kids Count Data Center. <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>

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Federal Policy Update: Building a Foundation for Advocacy



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Changing Policy Landscape

Leading Pediatric Medical Organizations
Respond to Recent Executive Orders
Impacting Immigrants and Refugees

A screenshot of news articles. The top article is from CNN, titled "Pediatrics group slams DACA decision as 'latest, cruel, setback for immigrant children'". Below it is an article from NBC NEWS, titled "New Trump rule would deny green cards to immigrants who took food stamps, Medicaid". The NBC NEWS article text includes: "Doctors saw immigrant kids separated from their parents. Now they're trying to stop it." and "Proposed disqualifying benefits would also include parts of Medicare and vouchers for Section 8 housing."

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Children and Families in Flight



Photo Credit: Veronica Cardenas

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Refugee Resettlement



Omrin Dagneesh sits in the back of an ambulance after he was injured during air strikes in Aleppo.
Anadolu Agency/Getty Images

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Fear, Uncertainty, and Toxic Stress



Photo Credit: Veronica Cardenas

Sensitive Locations

By Marwa Eitagouri October 27, 2017 [Email the author](#)



Rosa Maria Hernandez, 10, and her cousin, Aurora Cantu. (Courtesy of Agustina Arroyo)

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals



Data on DACA:

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca-profiles>

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Public Charge

- Current policy: only cash assistance and government-funded long-term care are considered
- Proposed **DRAFT** rule: drastically expands the benefits considered to include non-emergency Medicaid, SNAP, Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy, and housing assistance
- Income test - based on federal poverty level and family size -disadvantages parents with children

FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY → impacts decisions to enroll children in public programs

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Disparities in Enforcement

Undocumented immigrants who are black are more likely to be deported than other races.



<http://stateofblackimmigrants.com>

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Health Impact of Emerging Policies



Kim Pisu for NPR

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Adverse Childhood Experiences



<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/about.html>

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Immigration Enforcement and Health

Image from: <https://www.aclu.org/blog/immigrants-rights/ice-and-border-patrol-abuses/returning-mother-and-child-torn-apart-ice>



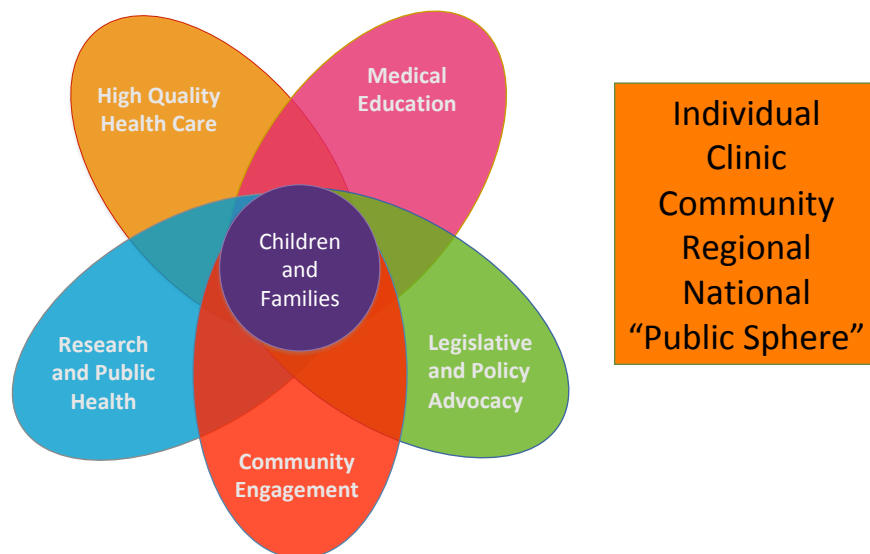
Ms. L and her daughter reunited at a shelter in Chicago

Restrictive immigration policies and increased immigration enforcement are associated with negative health outcomes.

Hatzenbuehler *et al.*, 2017; Lopez *et al.*, 2017; Novak, Geronimus, & Martinez Cardosa, 2017; Potochnick, Chen, & Perrera, 2017; Rhodes *et al.*, 2015; Torres *et al.*, 2018; Vargas, 2015; Krieger, *et al.*, 2018

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Advocacy: Many Facets, Many Levels



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Cultural Humility and Cultural Safety

- Cultural humility: Openness and respect for differences¹
- Cultural safety: Recognition of power differences and in[equities] in health and the clinical encounter that result from social, historical, economic, and political circumstances²



1. Tervalon & Murray-Garcia J, *Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved*, 1998
2. Papps & Ramsden, *International Journal of Quality in Health Care*, 1996

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Creating Safe(r) Spaces

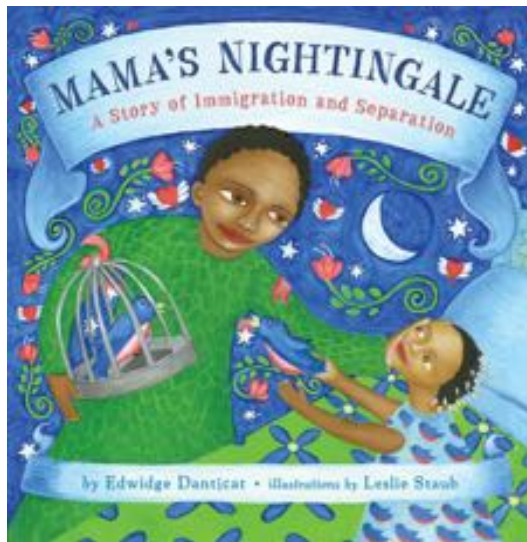


Image from Bellevue Hospital, courtesy of Dr. Benard Dreyer



Image from the Downtown Health Plaza, Wake Forest School of Medicine

Supporting Families



- Read, talk, sing, play
- Parental self care
- Cultural pride reinforcement
- Know Your Rights

NATIONAL IMMIGRATION LAW CENTER | WWW.NILC.ORG

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT Know Your Rights, Know Your Patients' Rights

APRIL 2017

The threat of increased federal immigration enforcement has raised concerns among immigrant families, some of whom may decide to forego necessary medical services out of fear that they could be putting themselves and their family members at risk. This factsheet provides advice to hospitals, medical centers, community health centers, other health care facilities, and advocates on how to prepare for and respond to (a) enforcement actions by immigration officials and (b) interactions with law enforcement that could result in immigration consequences for their patients.¹

Immigration enforcement power limited by the Fourth Amendment

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the interior enforcement agency within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), another agency within DHS, is responsible for enforcement at or near the nation's

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Multidisciplinary Research



Team Kapwa

Team Kapwa is a multidisciplinary team of health professionals and community partners, whose vision is to create a culture of [mental health](#) and healthy parenting in the Filipino community. We are honored to be chosen for the first cohort of the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Fellowship, a national leadership program aimed at creating a culture of health for all.

Team Kapwa includes:

Joyce Javier MD, MPH, MS (leader), Dean Coffey PsyD, Jed David MS, OT, Horacio Lopez MD, Aislinn Sepulveda OTD, OTR/L, and multiple community partners/members.

<https://filipinofamilyhealth.com/>

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Public Dissemination of Research

KFF | Immigrant Families in America Today: How Fear and Toxic Stress Are Affecting Daily Life, Well-Being, and Health

Home // Newsroom // Immigrant Families in America Today: How Fear and Toxic Stress Are Affecting Daily Life, Well-Being, and Health

IMMIGRANT FAMILIES IN AMERICA TODAY: HOW FEAR AND TOXIC STRESS ARE AFFECTING DAILY LIFE, WELL-BEING, AND HEALTH

Immigrant Families in America Today: How Fear and Toxic Stress Are Affecting Daily Life, Well-Being, and Health

Published: Nov 30, 2017

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Community Engagement



**HEALTHY CHILDREN.
KNOWLEDGEABLE FAMILIES.
STRONG COMMUNITIES.
*One paso (step) at a time.***

Website: www.scpasos.org//Facebook: @pasosprograms//Twitter: @SCPASOs

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Evidence-Based Communication



ABOUT US WHAT'S NEW IMPACT RESEARCH ON ISSUES

Immigration

Perhaps no issue presents the contradictions within Americans' thinking more strongly than immigration. Americans struggle to find the right mix of policies that would both protect our national interests and welcome newcomers accordingly.

FrameWorks research, conducted over five years, answers the following questions: How do Americans think about immigration, why do they think what they do, what consequences does that have for immigration advocates, and how might they best engage Americans in a discussion about immigration reform?



<http://www.frameworksinstitute.org/immigration1.html>

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The Public Sphere: Earned Media

DAILY BEAST

POLITICS ENTERTAINMENT WORLD NEWS HALF FULL CULTURE U.S. NEWS TECH SCIENCE SCOUTED TRAVEL

Jakelin Caal's Death Was Medically Cruel and Utterly Preventable

The Trump administration must give medical professionals [access](#) to migrants and immigration detention centers now.

John Harlow 12.17.18 9:06 AM ET



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The New York Times

Tear-gassing asylum-seekers is a new low in our country's persecution of our fellow human beings who are pursuing their legal right to seek asylum and refuge. We must advocate to protect the most vulnerable among us.

Sural Shah
Los Angeles

Opinion
LETTER

Tear-Gassing at the Border

A pediatrician tells of her experience of evaluating immigrant children.

Nov. 26, 2018

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The Public Sphere: Social Media



Deanna Behrens, MD Retweeted

Amer Acad Pediatrics @AmerAcadPeds · Dec 8

Dr. Jasmine Saavedra's immigrant patients are refusing vital health services because of fear. Her own parents did so years before because of shame. In [@chicagotribune](#) she writes on how the public charge proposal could have changed her family's story.

The path to legal immigration — and the risk of bel...
A Chicago-area pediatrician tells of her father's path to legal immigration — including the years he lived in the U.S. illegally.
[chicagotribune.com](#)

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AAP Chapter Advocacy

Letter on family separation,
signed by
540 national and state
organizations,
including 31 from California

June 7, 2018

The Honorable Kirstjen M. Nielsen
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

California

- American Academy of Pediatrics – California Chapter
- California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAEYC)
- California Child Care Resource & Referral Network
- California Department of Social Services
- Casa Pacifica Centers for Children & Families
- Children Now
- Children's Defense Fund – California (CDF-CA)
- Children's Law Center of California
- Consortium for Children
- County Welfare Directors Association of California
- Family Violence Appellate Project
- Family Voices of California
- First 5 Association of California
- First 5 LA
- Harriet Bahai Center for Family Law
- Hillside
- Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity
- Kids in Common, a program of Planned Parenthood Mar Monte
- Legal Services for Children
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners – San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
- OneJustice
- Parent Voices
- San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program
- Southwest Key Programs
- Sunny Hills Services
- The Children's Partnership
- The Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
- University of California, Berkeley Center for the Study of Child Care Employment
- VOICES Youth Centers
- Wayfinder Family Services
- Youth Justice Coalition

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Protecting Immigrant Children (January 2017)

Opposing Separation of Mothers and Children at the Border (March 2017, 2018)

Professional Organizations:

American Academy of Pediatrics Response

Opposing Decision to End DACA (September 2017)

Opposing Public Charge Proposal (December 2018)

Slide adapted from slide by Tamar Magarik Haro, Madeline Curtis

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Legislative Advocacy



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REMOTE Act

- Remote, Emergency, Medical, Online Training, Telehealth, and EMT (REMOTE) Act
- Introduced by U.S. Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich (NM)
- Takes steps toward ensuring that appropriate medical screening and care is available to all children in CBP custody
 - Online training for border patrol agents
 - Enhances level of pediatric training for EMTs and paramedics
 - Requires minimum supplies like water for CBP agents
 - Requires 24-hour access to a board-certified physician or mid-level health care provider with pediatric training for consultation

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How Can You Get Involved?

- Join the **AAP Immigrant Health Special Interest Group** by joining the AAP Council on Community Pediatrics: email cocp@aap.org
- Become an AAP Federal Advocacy key contact: email kids1st@aap.org



Conclusions

- Our nation is better when all children and families can reach their full potential.
- We all have a role and responsibility to work together to create a healthy future for all children – no matter zip code or passport.



Photo Credit: Veronica Cardenas PRISMA HEALTH.

Acknowledgments

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- Wake Forest School of Medicine colleagues
- Community partners in Winston-Salem, NC and Greenville, SC
- Children and families who offer the privilege of their trust



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