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Building Legal Capacity to Combat Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Against Immigrants

With **Rose Thelen** and **Liz Carlson**, Praxis International
Nathaly Perez and **Silvana Arista**, CLINIC
Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Praxis International – Rural Technical Assistance on Violence Against Women
This project is supported by Grant #2015-TA-AX-K057 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed here are those of the presenter(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice.

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Building Legal Capacity to Combat Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Against Immigrants


November 16, 2016 2:00-3:15pm Central

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3 

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4



Presenters

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5



Webinar Agenda

- Overview
 - CLINIC
 - Building Legal Capacity Project
- Overview of Board of Immigration Appeals Recognition and Accreditation
- CLINIC Trainings and Schedule
- Integrating legal services for immigrants into your CCR
- Questions/resources

6



Introduction to CLINIC: Who We Are

- Established in 1988
- Largest network of charitable legal immigration programs in the United States.
- Includes over 300 affiliate organizations in over 465 sites and spans 47 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.
- CLINIC and its affiliate agencies serve a quarter of a million immigrants each year.

7



Introduction to CLINIC: What We Do

- Capacity Building
- Training - Substantive Immigration Law and Program Management
- Technical Assistance
- Publications
- Advocacy
- Religious Immigration Services

8



Overview of Building Legal Capacity Project

- Large unmet need for immigration legal services for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.
 - Enhances abuser's control
 - Heightens risk
- Many survivors qualify for relief under US immigration law


9



CLINIC Building Legal Capacity Project


To expand legal capacity through BIA recognition and accreditation

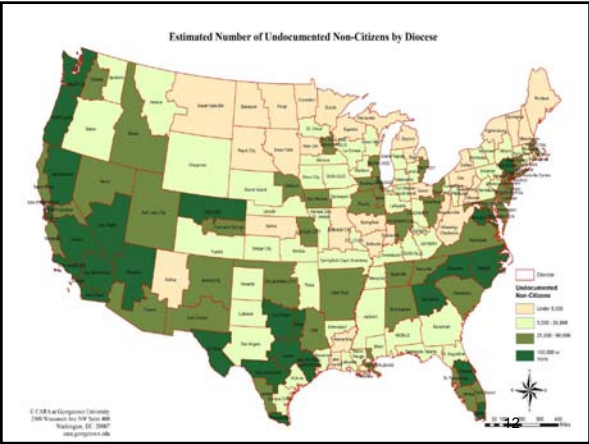
- Availability and/or access to low income immigration legal service providers
- Knowledge about immigration legal benefits

10 

Overview of Building Legal Capacity Project

- To increase knowledge about Board of Immigration Appeals Accreditation...
 - DOJ certification of nonprofits as legal immigration program
 - Non-attorneys authorized to practice immigration law

11 



Nonprofit Immigration Attorneys by State



BIA Reps by State



What is the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA)?

- Part of U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR)
- Appeals court for immigration court cases
- Grants agency recognition and individual accreditation to practice immigration law
8 CFR § 292.2



What is BIA R&A?

- **Recognition:** Non-Profit Religious, Charitable, Social Service, or Similar Organization
- **Accreditation:** Employee/volunteer of BIA recognized non-profit agency
- Requirement: Knowledge and experience in immigration law

16



BIA Recognition & Accreditation (R&A)

- Recognition authorizes non-profits to practice immigration law through non-attorneys
- Non-profits must also obtain accreditation for staff/volunteers to be able to practice immigration
- Legal practice limited only to immigration
- BIA roster available at www.justice.gov/eoir/statspub/raroster.htm

17



CCR Implementation

- Local BIA recognized programs
- Linkage to BIA recognized programs
- Advocacy Initiated Response
 - Identify gaps
 - Provide info, resources, referral
- Inter-agency protocol expansion
- Tracking/monitoring/evaluation

18



CLINIC Trainings

- **In - Person** – The Legal Advocate’s Perspective: Board of Immigration Appeals Recognition and Accreditation and Immigration Legal Services for Battered Immigrants
- **Self Directed /Rapid e-learning**
 - Fundamentals of Immigration Law
- **E-Learnings**
 - Introduction to Immigration Law: A Course of New Practitioners
 - Ethics, Skills, and Program Management
 - Grounds of Inadmissibility
 - Selected Issues in VAWA and U

19



CLINIC E-Learning

- Introduction to Immigration Law: A Course of New Practitioners **January 10– February 21, 2017**
- Selected Issues in VAWA and U **TBD**
- Ethics, Skills, and Program Management **TBD**
- Fundamentals of U.S. Immigration Law **Self-Directed**
 - <https://cliniclegal.org/ovw/fundamentals>
 - <https://cliniclegal.org/ovw/fundamentals-spanish>

20



CLINIC In-person Training Schedule In-Person

February 8-9, 2017, San Diego, CA

The Legal Advocate’s Perspective: Board of Immigration Appeals Recognition and Accreditation and Immigration Legal Services for Battered Immigrants

21



Resources

- BIA toolkit with step-by-step guide that contains sample application documents:
 - www.cliniclegal.org/clinic_toolkit/672
- OVW Project Webpage:
 - www.cliniclegal.org/ovw
- CLINIC Training Calendar:
 - www.cliniclegal.org/training/calendar

22



Questions?




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23



Thank you!

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