



# LATINO HEALTH COLLECTIVE 2025 ANNUAL RETREAT

CLINIC FOR ASYLUM,  
REFUGEE, AND EMIGRANT  
SERVICES (CARES)  
MARLEE MCCADDEN, ESQ.

The slide features a light beige background with a large, dark olive-green abstract shape on the right side. A white rectangular box with a thin black border is positioned on the left, containing the title text. The text is centered within the box and reads: 

**CHANGES IN  
ACCESS TO  
PUBLIC BENEFITS  
FOR  
IMMIGRANTS**

# SNAP

- Background:
  - Income limit is 200% FPL; no asset limit
  - Grant depends on number of factors, including household size, income and childcare expenses
- Current rule/before BBB:
  - Eligible humanitarian immigrants: refugees, asylees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, T-visa holders, withholding of removal recipients, special immigrants from Iraq and Afghanistan, Afghan and Ukrainian parolees (based on parole date)
  - Eligible qualified immigrants: green card holders (subject to 5-year bar or possible exemption), parolees who have parole for 1+ year, and VAWA petitioners
- Eligible post-BBB: green card holders (5-year bar), VAWA (subject to 5-year bar), Cuban or Haitian entrants, citizens of Micronesia, Palau, or the Marshall Islands
- Timeline:
  - New rule will apply to new SNAP applicants on Nov. 1st
  - Unclear when current recipients will be affected

# MEDICAID/MEDICAL ASSISTANCE & MEDICARE

- Current rule/before BBB:
  - Eligibility for lawfully present (in the U.S. with permission) children and pregnant adults, refugees, asylees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, T-visa holders, withholding of removal, Special Immigrants from Iran and Afghanistan, parolees from Afghanistan and Ukraine
  - Eligibility for qualified immigrants—LPRs, VAWA petitioners, parolees with 1+ year (if they have qualified status 5+ years or are exempt from the 5-year bar)
- Changes starting Oct. 2026/rule post-BB
  - Eligibility for green card holders who have had their green card 5+ years or less than 5 years and exempt from bar, Cuban and Haitian entrants, and citizens of Micronesia, Palau, or the Marshall Islands
- Starting July 4, 2025, all new Medicare applicants need to meet new eligibility requirements
  - Green card holders, Cuban/Haitian entrants, and citizens of Micronesia, Palau, or the Marshall Islands
- On Jan. 4, 2027, all current Medicare beneficiaries who do not meet status requirements will be terminated by Medicare
- Other options: state-funded Medicaid or emergency EMA



**GOVERNMENT  
INFORMATION  
SHARING**

# APPLYING FOR BENEFITS AND THE CURRENT RISKS

## U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- SNAP

## U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (US HSS)

- Medicaid
- CHIP
- TANF
- LIHEAP



# CHANGES IN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT

# CHANGES IN ENFORCEMENT

- Arrests at USCIS interviews
  - Officers can: make arrests, carry firearms, execute search and arrest warrants, and other powers standard for federal law enforcement (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/09/05/2025-16978/codification-of-certain-us-citizenship-and-immigration-services-law-enforcement-authorities>)
- Operation “Freaky Friday”
  - An ICE operation that targets unaccompanied alien children (UACs) ages 14-18 (possibly as young as 10 years-old)
  - Targets those in federal care, and possibly those who were previously detained—pressures them to give up their legal rights by sending them a letter encouraging them to give up applications for relief, and depart the U.S.
  - Uses \$2,500 monetary incentive
  - Letter threatens ICE will arrest children’s parents who are in the U.S.
  - <https://immigrantjustice.org/press-release/operation-freaky-friday-what-you-need-to-know/>

## HOW WE CONTINUE TO SERVE

1. Year-long social work student working with our clinic who is able to assist clients with benefits related applications (for those who are eligible)
2. Community events: (1) naturalization clinic in Sept.; (2) asylum clinic in Nov., and (3) work permit clinic in the spring
3. Resource for legal consultations in this changing environment



**THANK YOU**

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