



Office of Immigrant Affairs

OIA – Overview

OIA@PHILA.GOV



City of
Philadelphia



Office of Immigrant Affairs

- Implementing policies and programs and ensuring access to services that strengthen the well-being of Philadelphia's immigrant communities.
- From the beginning, Philadelphia has worked to be a welcoming place to people from all walks of life. Our country was built by immigrants and our strength as a city is reinforced by our vibrant diversity.
- The mission of the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) is to promote the well-being of Philadelphia's immigrant communities. We do this by recommending and developing policies and programs, which in turn provide opportunity and access to services.
- We help facilitate the successful inclusion of immigrants into the civic, economic, and cultural life of the city. We highlight the essential role that immigrants have played and continue to play in our city.



OIA's Commissions and Commission Work

- The Mayor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (MCAPAA) is composed of 25 professionals and community leaders who represent the diversity of Philadelphia's Asian American population.
- The Mayor's Commission on African and Caribbean Immigrant Affairs (MCACIA) addresses the needs of black immigrant communities in Philadelphia. The commission is chaired by former Councilperson Jannie Blackwell.
- MCACIA's 2025 Black Immigrant Capacity Building Project Grants: <https://philacityfund.org/2025-bicbp-grants/>
- Currently in nominations process for new Commissioners for both commissions.



The Philly Welcoming Network

- The **Welcoming Network** is a cross-sector collaboration of public and private partners committed to the successful inclusion of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in our city.
- Supported by the City of Philadelphia's Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) through a grant from the Open Society Foundation, alongside 10 other funded city and state projects across the country.
- Mechanism for coordinating the efforts of many partners who are ready and willing to support immigrant communities as they arrive and resettle, but who often find themselves needing more collaboration to be effective and successful in that work.
- Ongoing capacity building and resource sharing projects, through a Steering Committee and Project Focused Action Teams.





- This September, we were pleased to launch the **Welcoming Community Resource Finder**, a powerful new tool that connects immigrant communities with the services and resources they need. <https://www.phila.gov/oia/resource-finder/>
- Your organization can be part of this valuable tool—simply submit your information to get started.
- The Welcoming Network are recruiting New Steering Committee & Action Team Members - Monthly Info Sessions:

The screenshot shows the 'Buscador de recursos comunitarios de bienvenida' (Welcoming Community Resource Finder) website. The header includes the City of Philadelphia logo and the text 'An official website of the City of Philadelphia government. Here's how you know'. The main title is 'Buscador de recursos comunitarios de bienvenida' with the subtitle 'Encuentre servicios para inmigrantes en Filadelfia'. A 'Español' language dropdown is visible. Below the title is a 'FILTRO' section with various service categories, each with a checkbox: 'Arte y cultura', 'Ayuda para la solicitud de ciudadanía', 'Clases de ciudadanía', 'Educación', 'Clases de inglés (ESL)', 'Servicios de salud/salud mental', 'Asistencia de vivienda', 'Defensa de los inmigrantes', 'Programas para jóvenes enfocados en inmigrantes', 'Preparación para el trabajo', 'Servicios legales', 'Servicios para refugiados/asilados', 'Preparación de impuestos', and 'Apoyo a las víctimas y testigos'. There is a 'Selecciona todos' checkbox, an 'IMPRIMIR' button, a dropdown for 'Alfabéticamente', and a dropdown for '3 milla'. A search bar contains the text 'Buscar por dirección, código postal o palabra c'. Below the search bar, it says 'Mostrando 47 fuera de 47 resultados'. There are two expandable sections: 'Juntos' and 'Justice at Work'. At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with links: 'Ciudad de Filadelfia', 'Acerca de este buscador', 'Comentarios', 'Tutorial 1', and 'Tutorial 2'. The URL 'https://www.phila.gov/oia/resource-finder/' is also visible.





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Want to add your organization to our Welcoming Community Resource Finder?

Complete this Intake Form!

We are continually expanding our Resource Finder and will be updating the Finder bi-annually.
More information to come!



Welcoming Network Program

INFO SESSIONS

Are you passionate about making Philadelphia a more welcoming City for all? Come and learn more about how you can get involved in the **Welcoming Network Program**.

The **Welcoming Network** is a cross-sector collaboration of public and private partners committed to the successful inclusion of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in the City of Philadelphia. The program is based on the **Collective Impact Model**.



EVERY THIRD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Register here for the info sessions!

For more information, please contact:
WelcomingNetwork@phila.gov





Language Access Philly

- The City of Philadelphia is committed to ensuring that all people, regardless of language, have access to City services and information.
- In 2015, Philadelphians voted to amend the Home Rule Charter to require all City agencies to provide meaningful language access services to city programs and services for all Philadelphians.
- The Office of Immigrant Affairs manages Language Access Philly, the City's language access program that oversees language access policies and language services.
- Individuals who speak languages other than English (LOTE) may have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English and possess Limited English Proficiency "LEP." Language Access Philly ensures that City departments can communicate with people with Limited English proficiency (LEP).
- By providing interpretation and translation, Language Access Philly helps improve communication between Philadelphians and City government.



In August 2025, Language Access Philly Partnered with the Office of Domestic Violence Strategies to distribute ...

- over 1800 English brochures
- 1400 Spanish brochures
- almost 400 Portuguese brochures
- over 500 Haitian Creole brochures
- over 600 Chinese brochures



Office of Domestic Violence Strategies
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

PCADV
PENNSYLVANIA COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ASERT
Bringing autism resources together.

Office for People with Disabilities
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Office of Immigrant Affairs
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

New Resources about Domestic Abuse



Multi-Language Videos

Videos in English, American Sign Language, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish that share how to get help for domestic abuse.

WATCH bit.ly/DVhelpPlaylist



Tri-Fold Brochures

Easy-read information with phone numbers for getting help, available in English, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish.

DOWNLOAD bit.ly/DVbrochure



Office of
Immigrant Affairs



2025 WELCOMING AWARDS

City of Philadelphia



Recognizing government and community leaders who demonstrate exceptional leadership in immigrant inclusion and empowerment for the following categories:

Education Excellence
Public Safety Partnership
Arts & Culture Appreciation
Economic Empowerment
Health & Wellness Achievement
Clean & Green



[NOMINATE A LEADER HERE](https://forms.gle/RDpZNG39tB4TH7Nn8)

<https://forms.gle/RDpZNG39tB4TH7Nn8>

- This year's **2025 Philadelphia Welcoming Awards**, will be held on **November 13, 2025**, hosted by the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA).

Key Dates & Deadlines

- Deadline to submit nominations 10/3/2025 5:00 PM EST
- Deadline Nominees questionnaire prompt submit 10/10/2025 at 5:00 PM EST.
- Finalists receive questionnaire prompt
- Awardees notified and invited to RSVP
- Deadline to RSVP for event **10/31/2025**
- Awardees honored at the Philadelphia Welcoming Awards ceremony



Closing Thoughts and Questions

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