

National Coalition for Immigrant Women's Rights

2009 Policy Priorities

The *National Coalition for Immigrant Women's Rights* (NCIWR) is comprised of over 40 grassroots and national advocacy organizations working together to defend and promote equality for all immigrant women and their families living and working in the United States.

We respectfully urge the 111th Congress to consider the following policy recommendations that promote fair and non-discriminatory comprehensive immigration reform that advances reproductive and economic justice for immigrant women and their families, and puts a stop on cruel and inhumane raids and detention that tears families apart.

NCIWR strongly believes that an equitable immigration policy for all immigrants, especially women and families, must:

- **Provide a Just Path to Permanent Residency and Citizenship** that allows immigrant women to obtain work permits, to travel internationally, access higher education and federal financial aid and ensures access to jobs with equitable wages and benefits. Immigrant women must have viable options that will permit them to be full contributors in the U.S. workforce and societal landscape including equitable access to health care coverage.
- **Remove the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine mandate** implemented by the U.S. Office of Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Urge the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to remove the HPV vaccine as a required vaccination for immigrant women and girls.
- **Support family-centered immigration policies** that promote family unity and do not separate families through raids, detention centers and immigration backlogs. Such policies must also eliminate discrimination in immigration law against permanent partners and address the particular needs and concerns of immigrant women from the point of entry to detention and deportation.
- **Restore equity in access to public benefits** for immigrant women and their families.

The *National Coalition for Immigrant Women's Rights* believes that a fair, just and humane immigration policy will benefit all of us who live and work in the United States.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or would like further information: Jenny L. Jourdain (jenny@latinainstitute.org; 202/393.8580) or Priscilla Huang (phuang@napawf.org; 301/270.4440)

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