DePaul
Migration
Collaborative
DMC
Advocating for Justice, Educating for the Future

Newsletter

WHO WE ARE: The DePaul Migration Collaborative engages scholars, practitioners, students and alumni to find solutions to society's most pressing problems in the areas of migration, mobility and human rights.

Website: DePaul Migration Collaborative | College of Law | DePaul University - Chicago, IL

Events

DMC Events

New events will be announced soon.

Non-DMC Events

11/23 @ 12 pm CT Inteligencia artificial y migraciones: desafíos, oportunidades y derechos humanos en la era digital

Spanish with English Interpretation
Registration: HERE

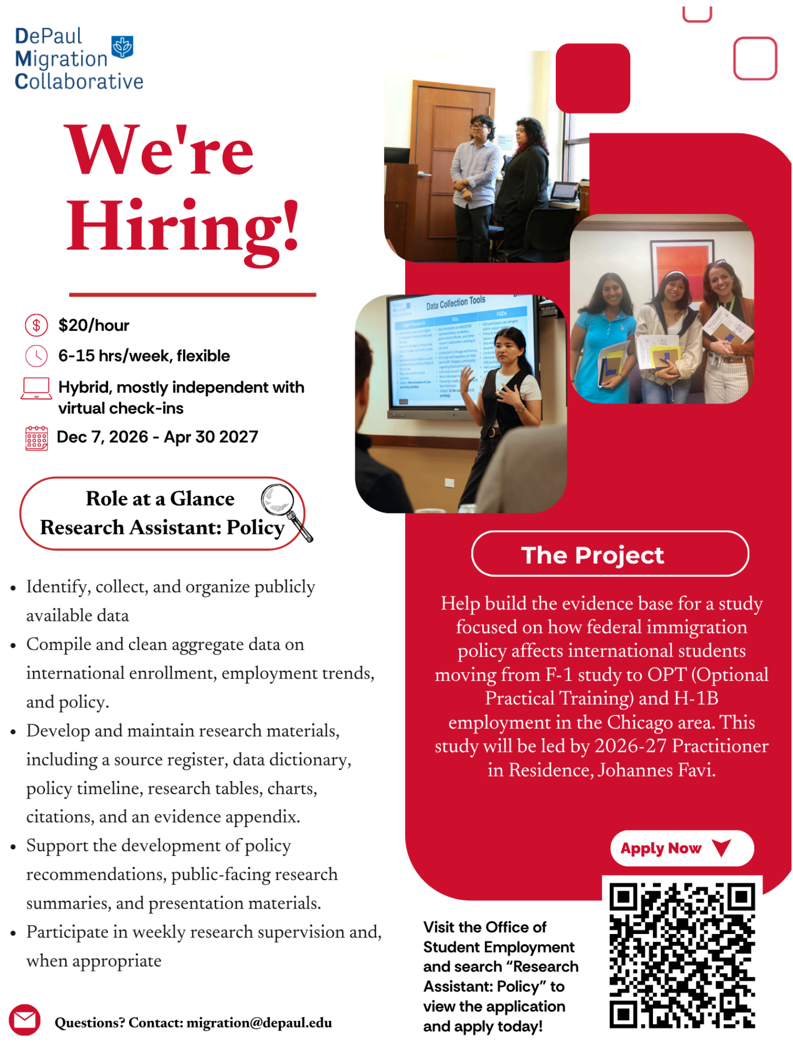
12/9 @12 pm New Congress, Same ICE: Why We Must Continue Fighting for Immigrant Justice w/ NIJC (National Immigrant Justice Center)
Registration: HERE

News

Seeking Research Assistant: New Student Opportunity Available!

The DePaul Migration Collaborative is hiring for the role of "Research Assistant: Policy" to work on the newest DMC project *Immigration Policy Disruption and Recovery in IL*. Through this role, the student will conduct research with Project Lead Johannes Favi on how immigration policy shapes international students' journeys from F-1 → OPT → H-1B here in Chicago.

Visit the Office of Student Employment and search "Research Assistant: Policy", to view the application and apply today!



DePaul
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We're Hiring!

- $20/hour
- 6-15 hrs/week, flexible
- Hybrid, mostly independent with virtual check-ins
- Dec 7, 2026 - Apr 30 2027

Role at a Glance
Research Assistant: Policy

- Identify, collect, and organize publicly available data
- Compile and clean aggregate data on international enrollment, employment trends, and policy.
- Develop and maintain research materials, including a source register, data dictionary, policy timeline, research tables, charts, citations, and an evidence appendix.
- Support the development of policy recommendations, public-facing research summaries, and presentation materials.
- Participate in weekly research supervision and, when appropriate

Questions? Contact: migration@depaul.edu

The Project

Help build the evidence base for a study focused on how federal immigration policy affects international students moving from F-1 study to OPT (Optional Practical Training) and H-1B employment in the Chicago area. This study will be led by 2026-27 Practitioner in Residence, Johannes Favi.

Apply Now

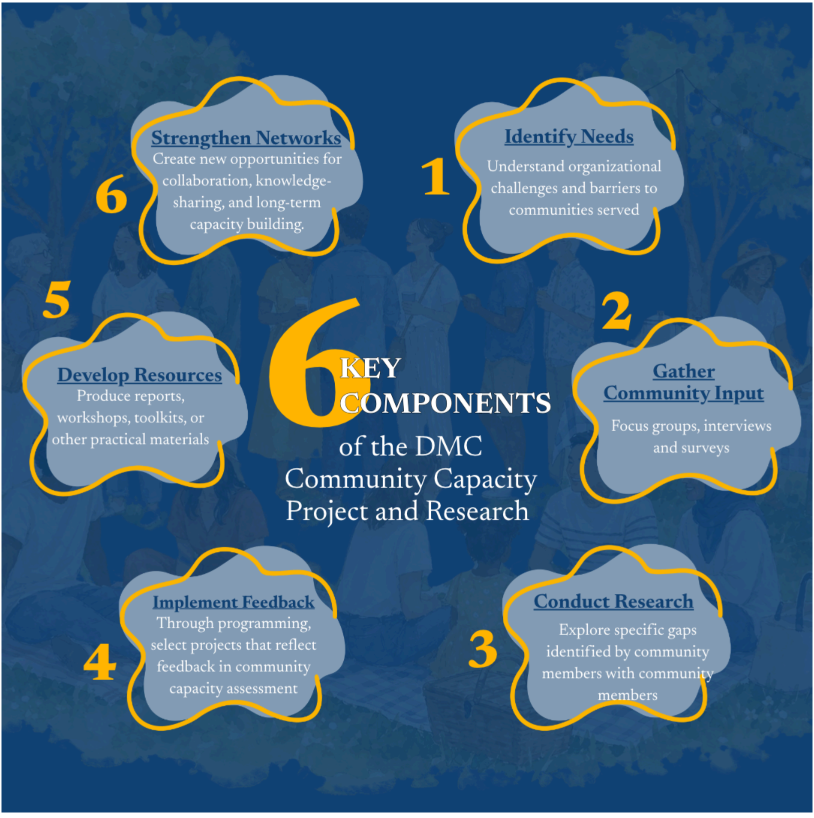
Visit the Office of Student Employment and search "Research Assistant: Policy" to view the application and apply today!

DMC Welcomes New Student Program Assistant to the team, Welcome Nandi!

Please join us in welcoming **Nandi Mintjens** to the DePaul Migration Collaborative team! Nandi is a graduate student at DePaul University pursuing her Master's degree in Public Policy. She brings a wealth of experience in social media management, immigration knowledge, policy analysis, and event planning.

We're thrilled to have her on the team and look forward to all the great work ahead. Welcome to the DMC, Nandi!

DMC Launches 2026-27 Community Capacity Project!



6 KEY COMPONENTS of the DMC Community Capacity Project and Research

1 **Identify Needs**
Understand organizational challenges and barriers to communities served

2 **Gather Community Input**
Focus groups, interviews and surveys

3 **Conduct Research**
Explore specific gaps identified by community members with community members

4 **Implement Feedback**
Through programming, select projects that reflect feedback in community capacity assessment

5 **Develop Resources**
Produce reports, workshops, toolkits, or other practical materials

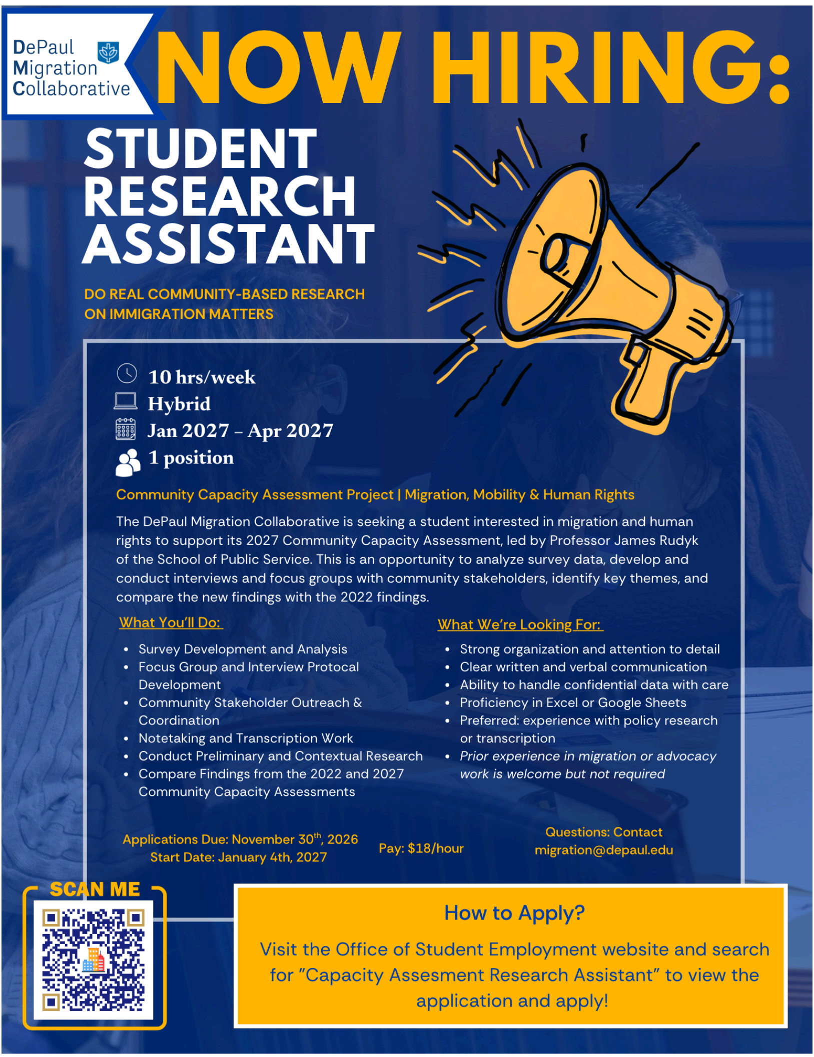
6 **Strengthen Networks**
Create new opportunities for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and long-term capacity building.

This community-informed research initiative is designed to identify and address challenges, needs and resource gaps experienced by organizations servicing forced migrant populations. This project engages with local practitioners and translates community feedback into actionable research, practical resources, and programming goals designed to strengthen migrant-services.

This year, the 2026-2027 DMC Community Capacity Project will use an intentional Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) approach to better understand the current strengths, experiences, and needs of organizations working with migrant communities. Through key informant interviews and focus groups, the Community Capacity Inventory will identify existing assets, innovative approaches, challenges, and opportunities across the network. The project builds on 2022 Capacity Inventory , and its findings will contextualize changes since 2022 and provide the DMC with a clearer picture of the community's current existing capacity and help inform future priorities, partnerships, and collaborations to best meet the needs of the migrant community. The project lead will be Professor James Rudyk. Professor Rudyk is Professor of Professional Practice in the School of Public Service at DePaul University.

Since 2017, James has taught courses focusing on the intersections of race, housing, public policy, and politics. His teaching and professional work are grounded in community-engaged learning, racial equity, and the role of community leadership in shaping public policy. Prior to joining DePaul, James spent more than fifteen years in nonprofit leadership and community organizing. James has served on numerous nonprofit boards, public advisory councils, and leadership cohorts including the City of Chicago's Equity Advisory Council, Chicago's Racial Equity Rapid Response Team, the UnidosUS Board of Directors, and Lurie Children's Hospital Magoon Institute's Community Advisory Council. In 2024, James established an independent nonprofit consulting practice. His consulting work focuses on strengthening nonprofit organizations, building organizational capacity, and advancing community-led approaches to neighborhood development and social change.

This project is currently hiring a student research assistant to work with Professor Rudyk. Students can apply via the Office of Student Employment.


DePaul Migration Collaborative

NOW HIRING:

STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANT

DO REAL COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH ON IMMIGRATION MATTERS

10 hrs/week
Hybrid
Jan 2027 – Apr 2027
1 position

Community Capacity Assessment Project | Migration, Mobility & Human Rights

The DePaul Migration Collaborative is seeking a student interested in migration and human rights to support its 2027 Community Capacity Assessment, led by Professor James Rudyk of the School of Public Service. This is an opportunity to analyze survey data, develop and conduct interviews and focus groups with community stakeholders, identify key themes, and compare the new findings with the 2022 findings.

What You'll Do:

- Survey Development and Analysis
- Focus Group and Interview Protocal Development
- Community Stakeholder Outreach & Coordination
- Notetaking and Transcription Work
- Conduct Preliminary and Contextual Research
- Compare Findings from the 2022 and 2027 Community Capacity Assessments

What We're Looking For:

- Strong organization and attention to detail
- Clear written and verbal communication
- Ability to handle confidential data with care
- Proficiency in Excel or Google Sheets
- Preferred: experience with policy research or transcription
- *Prior experience in migration or advocacy work is welcome but not required*

Applications Due: November 30th, 2026
Start Date: January 4th, 2027

Pay: $18/hour

Questions: Contact migration@depaul.edu

SCAN ME

How to Apply?

Visit the Office of Student Employment website and search for "Capacity Assesment Research Assistant" to view the application and apply!

New Practitioner in Residence: Dylan O'Donoghue

Dylan O'Donoghue, PhD, is a community-engaged researcher whose work examines how vulnerability is produced and how people and communities respond. Her dissertation explored the labor exploitation of immigrant workers across the tech sector, focusing on how governance systems shape working conditions. As a Graduate Assistant at the Center for Urban Research and Education at Rutgers University–Camden, she studied urban development and community-institutional relationships and collaborated with community-based organizations and local government. Across her research and community-based projects, Dr. O'Donoghue seeks to support movement-building efforts, strengthen community advocacy, and inform policy change. She is also a former Fulbright and Boren Fellow in Taiwan, where she worked with the Yilan Migrant Fishermen's Union to advance migrant fishers' rights and improve their working conditions. In recognition of this work, she received a United Nations Youth Human Rights Award for a report documenting the union's members' living and working conditions.

Dr. O'Donoghue's PIR project aims to strengthen our understanding of municipal Language Access Programs (LAPs) and develop a toolkit to help cities and communities advocate for improved language access services through community engagement strategies. Although most cities have a charter or policy requiring language access services, less than half have formal structures for community feedback and participation in their LAPs. The project explores how meaningful community engagement can strengthen LAPs and how communities can develop advocacy networks to promote greater accountability and improvements in local language access services.

In Case You Missed It

Resources and Calls to Action

Resources
IL IMMIGRATION INFO | Know Your Rights

Immigration Resources | College of Law | DePaul University - Chicago, IL

Frequently Asked Questions Related to Immigration and Customs Enforcement Officers on DePaul University Property | Immigration | Services | Office of the General Counsel | DePaul University, Chicago

ReadyNow! -Emergency Alert System for Immigrant Families

IDHS: H.R.1 Noncitizen Medicaid Changes - Action Memo

Calls to Action
Get Involved — IL IMMIGRATION INFO

Accompaniment Volunteer Intake Form- Sanctuary Working Group

How to Help MIBFC — Midwest Immigration Bond Fund

Become a Volunteer - CommunityHealth

Share Know Your Rights Information with family, friends, and community members.

Migration News

Without Paywalls

US officials considering ad campaign to urge South African Afrikaners to emigrate | US immigration | The Guardian

Special Edition: The Journal on Migration and Human Security; Effects of the Second Trump Administration's Migration Related Policies

New International Student Enrollment at U.S. Universities Drops 15% Amid Trump's Immigration Crackdown- The Latin Times

Five EU states announce plans for immigration 'return hubs' in Rwanda | European Union | The Guardian

Friendsgiving Potluck In Pilsen To Raise Money For Immigrant Bond Fund- BlockClubChicago

USCIS Processing Delays in 2026: New Boundless Data

Canary Islands: 39 dead after migrant boat sinks off Senegal en route to Europe- BBC

Malaysia begins sending back Rohingya refugees despite safety warnings | Rohingya News | Al Jazeera

Supreme Court takes up case over Trump effort to suspend asylum access at southern border - CBS News

Voices: Immigration status shouldn't determine which children see a doctor-Salt Lake Tribune

Pregnant U.S. citizen pepper-sprayed, detained by ICE, lawyer says

I-Team: Who defends kids facing deportation? The feds have a new answer.

With Paywalls

Trump immigration moves deter foreign students - POLITICO

An 8-Year-Old Was Separated From Family and Taken by ICE at a Check-In - The New York Times

DACA
Law
Nonprofit
Activism
Asylum
Resettlement
Advocacy
DREAMERS
Refugees
Welfare
Health
Covid
Community
Opportunities
Restorative Justice
ELL
Immigration Reform
Education
Decolonial Thought
Trafficking
Housing
Poverty
Labor Exploitation

Contact Us: migration@depaul.edu

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Unsubscribe: https://forms.office.com/r/18MdDvGdqW