

DePaul Migration Collaborative

Advocating for Justice, Educating for the Future

DMC

Monthly 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.

Events

Events

5/27 @ 4:20 pm From Hardship to Leadership: Cultivating Community Amongst Chicago's New Arrivals (Zoom Only)

RSVP: [HERE](#)

6/9 @ 12:00pm CIAS in Practice (In-Person Only: Lunch Included)

Note: This training is open to immigration attorneys, clinicians, social workers and allied practitioners

RSVP: [HERE](#)

6/3 & 6/16 @ Noon Solutions Lab Application Virtual Information Session

RSVP: [HERE](#)

6/2 & 6/24 @ Noon Practitioner in Residence Application Virtual Information Session

RSVP: [HERE](#)

DePaul Migration Collaborative

From Hardship to Leadership: Cultivating Community Amongst Chicago's New Arrivals

Join us for a compelling talk exploring how newly arrived migrants in Chicago are transforming hardship into leadership through collective care and community building. Drawing on research with *Mujeres Vecinas*, a nonprofit serving new arrivals, this presentation highlights the powerful role of citizen-led support systems in fostering resilience.

Through firsthand accounts, the talk traces how migrants navigating the city's shelter system found refuge from material assistance through *Mujeres Vecinas*—they discovered a space rooted in respect, where individuals are treated as valued participants rather than passive recipients. An empowerment spotlight a cycle of reciprocity, with many quickly stepping into volunteer roles to support others on similar journeys.

Ultimately, this talk reveals how these efforts cultivate a "chosen family," offering both practical guidance and emotional support while challenging harmful narratives about migration.

Dr. Mónica Reyes
Assistant Professor of Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse and DMC 2025-2026 Solutions Lab Grant Recipient

MAY 27, 2026
4:20PM - 5:20PM

RSVP Here via the QR Code

Questions: migration@depaul.edu

News

Call for Applications: Practitioner in Residence and Solutions Lab



Applications open today, May 22nd for the DePaul Migration Collaborative's Practitioner in Residence and Solutions Lab programs. Whether you are advancing community-engaged research, developing practical responses to migration challenges, or building partnerships that create meaningful impact, these opportunities support work at the intersection of migration, mobility, and human rights.

The Practitioner in Residence program supports advocates and practitioners working on forced migration, immigration, and human rights, while Solutions Lab supports faculty-led interdisciplinary research projects developed in partnership with community organizations. Join a network of scholars, practitioners, and community leaders working toward innovative and community-centered solutions.

Practitioner in Residence Application: [Practitioner in Residence 2026-27 | Dynamic Forms](#)

Note: Please create a dynamic forms account then re-click the link to access the application.

Solutions Lab Application: [DMC Solutions Lab Research Grant Program Application | Dynamic Forms](#)

Note: Please log-in with your DePaul account.

Community organizations interested in partnering with DePaul faculty on a collaborative research or applied project are encouraged to connect with the DePaul Migration Collaborative directly regarding the Solutions Lab Research Grant Program. Organizations with a research need, programmatic challenge, communications initiative, evaluation project, storytelling effort, or other idea that could benefit from partnership with faculty and students are invited to reach out to explore potential project ideas and faculty matches prior to the application deadline.

In the midst of launching these applications, we will be hosting 4 info sessions. These info sessions are designed to answer questions you may have about the application, receive feedback on your ideas, and for some projects support in identifying partnerships. Below are the dates and times of each info session.

Information Sessions

6/3 & 6/16 @ Noon Solutions Lab Application Virtual Information Session

RSVP: [HERE](#)

6/2 & 6/24 @ Noon Practitioner in Residence Application Virtual Information Session

RSVP: [HERE](#)



CIAS Toolkit Hands-On Practical Workshop- RSVP Now!

Join us for *CIAS (Contextual Influence in Acculturative Stress) in Practice*, an in-person applied practice session led by DePaul Migration Collaborative Practitioner in Residence Dr. Venera Bekteshi. Designed for immigration attorneys, social workers, clinicians, and allied practitioners, this session introduces practical CIAS-informed tools for asylum interviewing, documentation, and cross-disciplinary coordination. CIAS

Participants will explore strategies for navigating delayed disclosure, interpreter and dialect challenges, interdisciplinary coordination, and approaches to managing trauma-informed practice. Through guided discussion and real-world scenarios, attendees will engage with CIAS informed tools designed to support more responsive and effective asylum seeker interviewing and documentation for cases.

Featured speakers include Dr. Venera Bekteshi, Dr. Maria Ferrera, and Sioban Albiol.

This event is worth 1.5 CLE Credits.

This event is worth 2.5 CEU Credits.

This is an in-person only event and lunch will be provided.

RSVP: [HERE](#)

CIAS in Practice
Applied Tool for Asylum Interviewing, Documentation, and Cross-Disciplinary Coordination

Join us for an in-person applied CIAS practice session led by DMC Practitioner in Residence Dr. Venera Bekteshi. Designed for immigration attorneys, social workers, clinicians, and allied practitioners, this session introduces four practical CIAS informed tools for asylum interviewing, documentation, and cross-disciplinary coordination. These tools include strategies for delayed disclosure, managing interpreter dialect concerns, interdisciplinary coordination practice, and CIAS informed reflection tools to identify follow-up needs and manage second hand trauma. Participants will explore how these four CIAS informed practice areas can be used in real asylum interviewing and documentation interviews through guided scenarios and facilitated discussion. Participants will also be invited to share best practices to support continued toolkit development.

Lunch Included
CLE: 1.5 Credits

Full event registration includes:

- Practical CIAS informed tools for delayed disclosure, managing interpreter dialect concerns, interdisciplinary coordination practice, and CIAS informed reflection tools to identify follow-up needs and manage second hand trauma.
- Real-world scenarios and guided discussion to explore how these four CIAS informed practice areas can be used in real asylum interviewing and documentation interviews.
- Facilitated discussion and reflection to share best practices to support continued toolkit development.

What Practitioners Will Gain

- Delayed Disclosure & Trauma Informed Practice**
Discover how practitioners can manage delayed disclosure, share stories, document facts, or provide limited details.
- Interpreter Dialect & Meaning Concerns**
Explore how language, dialect, culture meaning, and interpretation can shape what is heard, documented, or misinterpreted.
- Interdisciplinary Coordination & Risk Clarify**
Clarify how attorneys, clinicians, social workers, and allied practitioners can coordinate while respecting professional boundaries.
- CIAS Informed Session Reflection & Post-Session Planning**
Consider how practitioners can detect difficult moments, identify follow-up needs, document with care, and manage exposure to traumatic material.

1 East Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604, 11th Floor, Room 11042 (North Lobby)

June 9th, 2026 12:00 to 1:30 pm

RSVP via QR Code

Questions: migration@depaul.edu

Broken By Design, Where Hope and Action Met

This year's bi-annual symposium *Broken by Design* consisted of urgent conversations, critical reflection, and collective imagining for the future of rights and protections for immigrants and refugees. Engaging topics such as community organizing and impacts, TPS, labor, university responsibility, data, resettlement, art, and the rule of law, each session provided guests with a necessary moment to connect, learn, and build. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this energizing gathering of students, advocates, attorneys, organizers, scholars, and community members who filled this space with hope, honesty, and care.

We are grateful to have witnessed the connections happen in real time: conversations carried out long after speeches ended, new collaborations taking shape over coffee, and rooms filled with people who are committed to building something with their community. These connections are a reminder that we are not alone in this desire for a better future, and it will happen as long as we build it together.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who made the symposium such a meaningful experience. More photos, reflections, and full event roundups will be coming soon!



Photo 1, 3, & 4 by Jonathan Michael Castillo
Photo 2, 5, 6, & 7 by Sebastian Alarcon

In Case You Missed It

Resources and Calls to Action

Resources

[IL IMMIGRATION INFO](#) | [Know Your Rights](#)

[Immigration Resources](#) | [DePaul Migration Collaborative](#) | [Centers, Institutes & Initiatives](#) | [Academics](#) | [College of Law](#) | [DePaul University, Chicago](#)

[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

Calls to Action

[Volunteer](#) — [IL IMMIGRATION INFO](#)

[How to Help MIBFC](#) — [Midwest Immigration Bond Fund](#)

Share [Know Your Rights](#) Information with family, friends, and community members.

Migration News

Without Paywalls

[What we know about how the U.S. government uses spyware](#) - NPR

[Trump order pushes banks to check customers' citizenship status](#) | AP News

[Trump administration onboards largest-ever class of new immigration judges in bid to speed up deportation cases](#) - CBS News

["We saw terrible things": Mali refugees tell of atrocities amid attacks](#) | Armed Groups News | AJ Jazeera

[Migrants in hiding as Mauritania pushbacks drastically cut Europe arrivals](#) | Migration | AJ Jazeera

[DACA immigrants approach midlife, stuck in temporary limbo](#) - NPR

[Can Illinois hold the feds accountable for immigration crackdown? : Consider This from NPR](#) - NPR

[Has the abrupt cutoff of foreign aid had an impact on violence? - NPR](#)

[Teen says judge's order for her release from immigration detention had her family screaming with joy](#) | NBC NEWS

With Paywalls

[The End of Refugee Resettlement](#) | The New Yorker

[ICE Arrests Violated Order Requiring Warrants in D.C.](#) | Judge Rules - The New York Times

Contact Us: migration@depaul.edu

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