

## Outreach Staff Report

### July 10 – September 24, 2019

#### Outreach Update

- ✓ **20 outreach presentations, events, clinics, and meetings:** Outreach and Maxwell Street Legal Clinic staff activity reaching almost 400 people in-person with information on immigration, workers, and healthcare rights.
- ✓ **Outreach Highlights:** presented to monthly meetings of people on probation and parole; handed materials out to over 150 Spanish-speakers at the annual Festival Latino Health Fair, Guatemalan Mobile Consulate event, and Back-to-School rallies; spoke with over 80 college students at BCTC events; trained Louisville’s Neighborhood House staff on worker rights issues; met with staff and partners of Fayette Regional Juvenile Detention Center about targeting outreach to their youth and parents; spoke with over 30 adults at the Catholic Church in Somerset about workers’ rights, specifically for agricultural workers, healthcare access, and “Know Your Rights” for immigrants.
- ✓ **Radio:** McKenzie, Miranda, Beka, and intern Sheriffer Chisanga produced 6 new KY Equal Justice Radio episodes in English and Spanish for Lexington Community Radio (LCR). New episodes cover mental health in the workplace, working in the heat, Kentucky’s new law on pregnant workers, and social media use guidance for workers and job candidates.

#### Health Insurance Enrollment

- **Assisted 9 new individuals and families** since July 9, 2019, as well as previously established cases.
  - Mostly Medicaid and KCHIP enrollments/renewals, 4 complete healthcare.gov applications
  - 2 new applicants from **Natalie’s Sisters**, a day shelter for sexually exploited women
  - **5 immigrant applicants** from MSLC, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Bakhita Empowerment Initiative (trafficking victims and survivors), and other referrals

#### Healthcare Advocacy: Miranda

- ❖ Participated in monthly update meetings with the Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange.
- ❖ Alerted KHBE staff to technical and call handling issues:
  - A benefit application error in which the Emergency Medical Condition question caused the case to pend even though the applicant was applying for regular Medicaid rather than for emergency medical assistance
  - A benefit application results error in which results were pending without any request for additional information
  - DMS call center worker mishandling of a request for access to care for a dire need.
- ❖ Attended a meeting of the Consumer Rights & Patient Needs Technical Advisory Committee to Kentucky’s Medicaid Advisory Council

## Workers' Rights Team

- **6 claimants** attended a self-help clinic or met with us about a wage claim July-September
- Completed assistance with **2 demand letters**, others pending additional information

## Grants Work

- ✓ **On the Table Mini-grant:** With the help of local chef Dan Wu, Beka launched this grant project. We will be distributing the “Immigrants & Refugees Belong Here” signs this Saturday, September 28, in Lexington’s Woodland Park at 11:00 a.m. We’ll distribute the signs to local businesses to place in their windows. If you know of a business owner who may want a sign, please let us know! Volunteers for distributing signs can sign up here: <https://forms.gle/kDnhUTsEvgzHLern7>
- ✓ **Protecting Immigrant Families Grant:** MSLC, Miranda, and Allison have worked together to frame messaging around the public charge rule which was finalized in August and which discourages immigrants to enroll in public benefits. Few of our clients are directly affected by the policy change, but many are confused and scared by it. The PIF Campaign has funded us to do advocacy, outreach, coalition building, and story gathering around public charge and other new and proposed policies that harm or will potentially harm immigrant families.
  - Betsy addressed Limited English Proficiency concerns in KEJC’s public comments on the HHS and OCR’s Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Nondiscrimination in Health and Health Education Programs and Activities (Section 1557)
  - KEJC released a statement on our blog in response to the final public charge policy.
  - MSLC, Miranda, and Tyler have incorporated public charge myth-busting into our outreach materials and presentations.
  - Miranda gave an overview of the policy to legal aid staff at the Statewide Conference last week, and to the Migrant Network Coalition at their September meeting.
  - Miranda is connecting local service providers with the National Immigration Law Center to share stories of how they see this policy creating a chilling effect among immigrants in their community.
  - Miranda, Leah, and Nathalie will record new KY Equal Justice radio segments on the topic in October.



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