



Community Profile: Arizona

Chicanos Por La Causa

Between 1990 and 2000, Arizona saw a 136 percent increase in its foreign-born population, and among the foreign-born population in the state in 2000, 72 percent were born in Latin America. With its farming regions that are home to year-round growing and harvesting of greens, cotton, pecans, melons and tomatoes and a booming construction industry, Arizona is drawing Hispanic immigrants who are increasingly finding it possible to establish their own roots in the state.

A strong infrastructure to support both new and more established Hispanic immigrants in Arizona has been built in part by Chicanos Por La Causa (CPLC), a 35-year-old community development corporation based in Phoenix but active throughout the state. CPLC's services, which span education, health, housing, and economic and cultural development, aim to address comprehensively the needs of a diverse and, in some respects, difficult-to-reach immigrant population. Max Gonzales, CPLC's vice president of Community Affairs, said that among the communities it serves, "There is some commonality—as far as safety, health, and employment needs—but we are trying to understand the specific interests of a number of subgroups within the immigrant population." CPLC helps more established immigrants take part in asset-building activities such as homeownership and business development. Last year alone, 500 families were able to become homeowners, and 3,500 individuals took part in business "seminario," workshops about business planning, access to capital, and management that are conducted in Spanish.

For newly arriving immigrants, CPLC offers assistance in accessing more fundamental education and health-related services. CPLC's Head Start program, which targets migrant and seasonal farmworker families, represents one of these doorways through which newer arrivals to the state can access CPLC's integrated network of programs and services. The program offers full-day, full-year care and education for children aged six weeks to five years old, and "provides a safe and secure place for kids to go, contributes to later success in schools, and offers avenues for intervention and prevention of a variety of health and safety issues," said program director Laura Walker. In addition, the program prioritizes parental involvement. Referrals are provided for job training and computer literacy classes, English as a Second Language

and GED High School Equivalency classes, financial and legal counseling, housing assistance, and a variety of other services.

Annually CPLC's Head Start program is able to reach nearly 700 children and their families. However, Walker estimates that this figure represents only 19 percent of eligible children—and only 1 percent of eligible infants. With the need for bilingual staff and intensive outreach methods, reaching all families in need is difficult, and budgetary constraints limit the number of children they are able to enroll. Despite limitations, though, Walker views this program as a vital element in creating stable communities. In addition, she noted that partnerships with schools and hospitals have been critical in augmenting their ability to serve clients.

Gonzales noted that partnerships with Spanish and English media outlets, as well as with nontraditional partners such as the local energy company, have also broadened CPLC's ability to reach out to community members. In addition, CLPC has evolved in response to community interests—in some cases merging or acquiring other non-profit organizations, in other cases creating or expanding programs and services to address emerging needs.

Both Gonzales and Walker emphasized the scope of benefits that can stem from supporting a segment of the population that continues to grow. "The economic benefits of increasing the availability of early development and health programs for immigrant families, for example, would be enormous," said Walker, citing the growing body of research showing the positive economic impacts of early childhood care.¹ While Gonzales indicated that some of Arizona's financial institutions and corporate entities have begun to tap into the substantial market opportunities presented by the immigrant community, he also said that "current political climate has contributed to some reluctance on the part of corporate and financial institutions to engage with immigrant communities, and there is room for increased commitment and support."

CPLC's own commitment to integrating economic and human development through a host of services and programs is a locally and nationally recognized community development model. As Gonzales said, "Regardless of how long people have been part of this community, we aim to help them achieve stability through education and services... We try to engage and empower families and kids to help them succeed."

COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

Endnotes

Crossing Borders, Creating Communities

- 1 Bureau of Labor Statistics (2006). "Foreign-born Workers: Labor Force Characteristics in 2005," *Bureau of Labor Statistics News*, April 14, 2006.
- 2 Naturalization increases with length inside the U.S. More than 80 percent of foreign-born who arrived before 1970 have become citizens; today, 40 percent of the foreign born living in the U.S. are naturalized. U.S. Census Bureau data.
- 3 The foreign-born population includes legal immigrants who come here on permanent and temporary visas for work, study, and family reunification, naturalized citizens, as well as undocumented immigrants.
- 4 Office of Immigration Statistics, Department of Homeland Security (2006). *Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: January 2005*; Jeffrey S. Passel, Randy Capps, and Michael Fix (2004). *Undocumented Immigrants: Facts and Figures*. The Urban Institute: Washington, D.C.. (Estimates that 9.3 million undocumented in 2002, with an annual growth rate of about 500,000.); Jeffrey S. Passel, *The Size and Characteristics of the Unauthorized Migrant Population in the U.S.: Estimates Based on the March 2005 Current Population Survey*. Pew Hispanic Center: Washington, DC, March 7, 2006, p. 11. (Analysis of the March 2005 Current Population Survey shows that there were 11.1 million unauthorized migrants in the United States a year ago. Based on analysis of other data sources that offer indications of the pace of growth in the foreign-born population, the Center developed an estimate of 11.5 to 12 million for the unauthorized population as of March 2006.)
- 5 Schmidley, A. Dianne, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, Series P23-206, *Profile of the Foreign-Born Population in the United States: 2000*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 2001.
- 6 Singer, Audrey (2004). *The Rise of New Immigrant Gateways*. The Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy: Washington, D.C.
- 7 Fernandez, Catherine (2003). *Community Development in Dynamic Neighborhoods: Synchronizing Services and Strategies with Immigrant Communities*, Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation and the Joint Center for Housing Studies.
- 8 Singer, Audrey (2004). *The Rise of New Immigrant Gateways*. The Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy: Washington, D.C.
- 9 Capps, Randy and Jeffrey S. Passel (2003). *The New Neighbors: A Users' Guide to Data on Immigrants in U.S. Communities*. The Urban Institute: Washington, D.C.
- 10 DeNavas-Walt, Carmen, Bernadette D. Proctor, and Cheryl Hill Lee, U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, P60-231, *Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2005*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC, 2006.
- 11 Pew Hispanic Center (2006), "The State of American Public Opinion on Immigration in Spring 2006: A Review of Major Surveys." Pew Hispanic Center: Washington, D.C.
- 12 Smith, James P. and Barry Edmonston, eds. (1997). *The New Americans: Economic, Demographic, and Fiscal Effects of Immigration*. The National Academy Press: Washington, D.C. In another influential survey of the literature, economists Rachel Friedberg and Jennifer Hunt concluded that a 10 percent increase in the immigrant population entails at most a 1 percent decrease in wages, and no evidence of economically significant reductions in native employment. See Rachel M. Friedberg and Jennifer Hunt (1995). "The Impact of Immigrants on Host Country Wages, Employment and Growth," *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 9(2): 23-44.
- 13 Borjas, George J. 1999. *Heaven's Door*. Princeton University Press: Princeton, NJ.
- 14 Borjas, George J. 2003. "The Labor Demand Curve Is Downward Sloping: Reexamining the Impact of Immigration on the Labor Market." *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Nov. 1335-1374.
- 15 McCarthy, Kevin F. and Georges Vernez. 1998. *Immigration in a Changing Economy: California's Experience—Questions and Answers*. RAND: Santa Monica.
- 16 For example, David Card, "Immigrant Inflows, Native Outflows, and the Local Labor Market Impacts of Higher Immigration," *Journal of Labor Economics* 19, 2001, p. 22-64; David Card, "Is the New Immigration Really So Bad?" NBER Working Paper No. 11547.
- 17 Card, David (1990). "The Impact of the Mariel Boatlift on the Miami Labor Market," *Industrial and Labor Relations Review*. 43: 245-257.
- 18 This annual salary translates into an hourly wage of approximately \$10.90, less than the housing wage for all but 9 states (Wyoming, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, North Dakota, Arkansas, and West Virginia). Danilo Pelletiere, Keith Wardrip, and Sheila Crowley (2005). *Out of Reach 2005*. National Low Income Housing Coalition: Washington, D.C.
- 19 Bolin, Tim (2006). "The Economic and Fiscal Impacts of Immigration," Institute of Industrial Relations Paper 0001. University of California, Berkeley.
- 20 *Economic Report of the President 2005*, U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, D.C.
- 21 To provide just one example, nearly 33 percent of low-income native citizens used Medicaid in 2001, compared with only 13.2 percent of low-income noncitizens. Use of public benefits by legal immigrant families with children who earn less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level fell sharply after the implementation of the 1996 welfare reform act. See Michael Fix and Jeffrey Passel, *The Scope and Impact of Welfare Reform's Immigrant Provisions*, Urban Institute: Washington, D.C., January 2002; John Holahan and Marie Wang, *The Decline in Medicaid Use by Noncitizens since Welfare Reform*, Urban Institute: Washington, D.C., May 2003.
- 22 Bolin, Tim (2006). "The Economic and Fiscal Impacts of Immigration," Institute of Industrial Relations Paper 0001. University of California, Berkeley.
- 23 Smith, James P. and Barry Edmonston, eds. (1997). *The New Americans: Economic, Demographic, and Fiscal Effects of Immigration*. The National Academy Press: Washington, D.C.
- 24 Holzer, Harry J. (2006). *Does Immigration Help or Hurt Less-Educated Americans?* Testimony before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, April 25, 2006.
- 25 Singer, Audrey (2004). *The Rise of New Immigrant Gateways*. The Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy: Washington, D.C.

Financial Access for Immigrants

- 1 This article is adapted from *Financial Access for Immigrants: Lessons from Diverse Perspectives*, by Anna Paulson, Audrey Singer, Robin Newberger and Jeremy Smith, published by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and The Brookings Institution, May 2006, available at http://www.brookings.edu/metro/pubs/20060504_financialaccess.pdf
- 2 Suro, Roberto, Sergio Bendixen, B. Lindsay Lowell, and Dulce C. Benavides, "Billions in Motion: Latino Immigrants, Remittances and Banking," The Pew Hispanic Center and The Multilateral Investment Fund, November 2002, available at www.iadb.org/mif/v2/files/PewHispanicCenter.pdf.
- 3 Meyers, Deborah, "Migrant Remittances to Latin America: Reviewing the Literature," Inter-American Dialogue and The Tomás Rivera Policy Institute, May 1998, available at www.iadialog.org/publications/meyers.html.
- 4 Hilgert, Marianne A., Jeanne M. Hogarth, Sibyl Howell, Edwin J. Lucio, Juan Sanchez, Wayne Smith, Elizabeth McQuerry, Ana Cruz Taura, and Jessica LeVeon Farr, "Banking on Remittances: Increasing Market Efficiencies for Consumers and Financial Institutions," paper prepared for April 15, 2005 Federal Reserve System Community Affairs Research Conference, available at www.chicagofed.org/cedric/files/2005_conf_paper_session3_hogarth.pdf.
- 5 Suro, Roberto, Sergio Bendixen, B. Lindsay Lowell, and Dulce C. Benavides, "Billions in Motion: Latino Immigrants, Remittances and Banking," The Pew Hispanic Center and The Multilateral Investment Fund, November 2002, available at www.iadb.org/mif/v2/files/PewHispanicCenter.pdf.
- 6 Moser, Lauren, and Esther Park, "Best Practices in Immigrant Lending," prepared for the American Bankers Association, Shorebank Advisory Services, May 25, 2004, available at www.aba.com/NR/rdonlyres/1FAE5B14-C034-4FF7-8566-9664F0BDEDEC/35994/ImmigrantMarketLendingPaperMay2004.pdf.
- 7 Ibid.
- 8 The ITIN is a nine-digit tax processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to individuals who do not qualify for a Social Security number but earn income in the United States.
- 9 Orozco, Manuel, "The Remittance Marketplace: Prices, Policy and Financial Institutions," Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown, June 2004, available at <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/28.pdf>.
- 10 Remittance market draws major players: Banks, cards, credit unions enter the fray, by Carolyn Said, Staff Writer, *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 16, 2006.
- 11 *Current Population Survey*, 2005 March Supplement.
- 12 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research. "The Importance of Demographic Trends to Housing," in *U.S. Housing Market Conditions*, May 2003.
- 13 ACORN website 7/20/06 <http://www.acorn.org/index.php?id=2082&L=1>
- 14 *Current Population Survey*, 2005 March Supplement.

BOX 2.1

Source: Kuehl, Steven W., "Conference Series: An Informed Discussion of Financial Access for Immigrants—Des Moines, Milwaukee, Detroit, Indianapolis, Springfield, Lisle, and Appleton," *Profitwise News and Views*, Special Edition, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, August 2005, available at www.chicagofed.org/community_development/files/pnv_aug2005.pdf.

BOX 2.2

Sources: Bruno, Andorra, and K. Larry Storrs, *Consular Identification Cards: Domestic and Foreign Policy Implications, the Mexican Case, and Related Legislation*, Congressional Research Service Report for Congress, The Library of Congress, March 31, 2005, available at www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL32094.pdf.

Kuehl, Steven W., "Conference Series: An Informed Discussion of Financial Access for Immigrants—Des Moines, Milwaukee, Detroit, Indianapolis, Springfield, Lisle, and Appleton," *Profitwise News and Views*, Special Edition, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, August 2005, available at www.chicagofed.org/community_development/files/pnv_aug2005.pdf.

BOX 2.3

Source: Federal Reserve Website of financial services fee schedule: www.frb-services.org/FeeSchedules/FedACH2005.html.

Community Development in Dynamic Neighborhoods

- 1 The full report, published by the Harvard Joint Center on Housing Studies and the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, is available online at <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu/showdoc.html?id=5049>
- 2 The terms "hot markets" and "soft markets" are defined by the National Congress for Community Economic Development to describe the different economic environments that CDOs work in.
- 3 Grogan, Paul S., and Tony Proscio (2000). *Comeback Cities: A Blueprint for Urban Neighborhood Revival*. Colorado: Westview Press.
- 4 Grogan and Proscio 2000, p. 5.
- 5 Interview with Kenneth D. Wade, chief executive officer, NeighborWorks America, June 2003.
- 6 Collins, Michael, and Nancy McArdle (2003). "Getting a Grip on Reality: Making the New 2000 Census Data Work for You." Workshop materials for Neighborhood Reinvestment Training Institute. Washington, DC: Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation. p. 41.
- 7 Interview with Martina Guilfoil, Executive Director, Inglewood NHS, July 2003.
- 8 Interview with Christi Baker, Chrysalis Consulting, July 2003.
- 9 Interview with Lori Gay, Executive Director, LA NHS, July 2003.
- 10 Fix, Michael, and Jeffrey S. Passel (2002). "Assessing Welfare Reform's Immigrant Provisions." In *Welfare Reform: The Next Act*, Alan Weil and Kenneth Finogold, Eds. Washington, D.C.: Urban Institute Press, pp. 179–203. Details at www.urban.org/pubs/welfare_reform/index.html.
- 11 Grogan and Proscio (2000), p. 72.

BOX 3.2

- 1 Interview with Lisa Hasegawa, Executive Director, National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development, August 2003.
- 2 Schoenholtz, Andrew, and Kristin Stanton (2001). *Reaching the Immigrant Market: Creating Homeownership Opportunities for New Americans*. Handbook written for the Fannie Mae Foundation and the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University.

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- 1 See, for example, the work on this subject by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis: www.minneapolisfed.org/research/studies/earlychild/