

Memorandum

To: Aryeh Neier, Ann Beeson, Raquiba LaBrie
From: Maria Teresa Rojas
Date: April 29, 2009
Subject: **Grant Recommendations for the 2009 Immigration Reform Campaign**

This memorandum outlines a package of grant recommendations totaling \$7.7 million that are designed to capitalize on the current opportunity for immigration reform that the new administration and Congress present. This is the first set of grants to be made out of the special \$15 million allocation that George Soros approved last fall for the 2009-2011 immigration reform effort that is known as the Four Pillars Campaign. These grants complement the goals and strategies of the Seize the Day Initiative and the work of several of the U.S. Programs funds. The funding will provide timely resources to allow these organizations to take advantage of this historic moment and shape a transformative national agenda for confronting inequality.

With an infusion of funds from OSI and other partner foundations in the fall of 2008, several national and local organizations began to coordinate the new immigration reform campaign around four major areas: (1) public policy and research, (2) strategic communications, (3) field and alliance building, and (4) civic engagement. In the ensuing months, they engaged diverse constituencies across the nation and began to build a foundation of community, faith, labor, and business leaders to develop and execute the campaign. This spring, they will publicly launch the *Reform Immigration for America Campaign*, which builds on the work to date and that will be the culmination of this coordinated planning process.

The Prospects for Reform

The reports in early April that President Obama intends to move immigration reform this year evoked a flurry of responses and activity on both sides of the debate. The Obama administration has consistently talked about starting movement on immigration reform in the first year; while this does not mean necessarily passing a bill in 2009, it does mean that efforts by immigrant advocates and allies have to be accelerated.

A significant development is the recent announcement that the two largest labor unions in the U.S. joined forces to push for comprehensive immigration reform—a major breakthrough and an important sign that President Obama's reform agenda will have the power to move forward. The President plans to speak publicly about the issue in May and says he'll convene working groups over the summer. Rahm Emanuel is now a backer of immigration reform; Speaker Pelosi, Senator Reid and Senator Schumer have also signaled their support.

Given the country's bleak economic condition, however, there is wide consensus that before immigration reform can be considered the economic stimulus package must be well into its implementation phase. Two other essential factors needed are an assessment of the impact of the economic crisis on the immigration debate and joining forces with low-wage and African

American constituencies on an agenda that is good for all Americans. Regardless of the actual timing of new legislation, the immigrant rights field and their growing alliances have never been in a stronger position to achieve immigration reform.

Incremental Recent Victories

The **National Immigration Forum** reports the following examples of recent successes that hinged on the ability of organizations to develop and execute collective strategies and actions. Each success has strengthened the Four Pillars Campaign infrastructure and has provided important early opportunities to evaluate their effectiveness when the critical time comes during the next few months:

1. Since the marches of 2006, millions of immigrants have become citizens. On the heels of major non-partisan registration efforts by **National Council of La Raza, We Are America Alliance** and many others, millions of new voters in immigrant communities across the nation made their voices heard.
2. After a 13-year battle, advocates secured the inclusion of legal immigrant children in the State Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) legislation. This victory was a result of proactive messaging, organizing, and legislative work by the **National Immigration Law Center** and **National Council of La Raza**.
3. E-verify provisions were eliminated from the stimulus package primarily due to the impact analysis and advocacy efforts of groups such as **National Immigration Law Center**.
4. Forced to respond to fact-based reports of racism and hate mongering by the *New York Times* and other mainstream media outlets, anti-immigrant groups such as the Center for Immigration Studies, Federation for American Immigration Reform, and NumbersUSA were forced to spend considerable time and resources defending their work. The work to fight back these groups has been spearheaded by the **Center for American Progress, America's Voice, Center for New Community**, Southern Poverty Law Center, and **National Council of La Raza**.
5. Organizing of the faith community has grown in scale and depth. Immigrant rights groups have joined with Congressman Luis Gutierrez to support his Families United tour to Latino evangelical churches across the country. Furthermore, over the course of the President's Day congressional recess, more than 130 pro-immigration reform prayer vigils were organized across the country. This effort was led by the **Interfaith Immigrant Coalition** and community leadership organized by Congressman Gutierrez.
6. A broad coalition, including various African American groups, defeated an English-only ballot measure in Tennessee.
7. Immigrant advocates have already impacted the public positions of Senators and members of Congress on the issue of immigration, the most notable being Senators Merkley of Oregon and Gillibrand of New York who either took office as strong immigrant supporters or are well down the path of changing their position (as is the case with Gillibrand).

Building up the Four Pillars

The Four Pillars planning process has been focused on building the alliances, policy principles, messaging, and narrative necessary to position the field for the launch of the public campaign.

With OSI funding last fall totaling \$1.4 million to help erect some of the pillars, anchor grantees engaged hundreds of community organizations across the nation in a well-coordinated planning process. The campaign has made significant progress toward building broad consensus around the core policy principles that will guide the political, field, and legislative advocacy and organizing.

The driver of the campaign is the Management Team, which consists of organizations playing cross-pillar leadership roles. The Management Team is chaired by the **National Immigration Forum** (the Forum). The grant recommended in this package includes funds to support that role. Other members of the Management Team include **America's Voice Education Fund**, the **Immigration Policy Center**, **Center for Community Change**, **National Council of La Raza**, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), and the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles.

Policy Pillar

The Policy Pillar contributes technical expertise, legislative analysis, and advocacy materials, and works to ensure that the principles of immigration reform endorsed by the campaign are represented in the legislative debate. The Policy Pillar is co-chaired by the **Forum** and the **Immigration Policy Center**. Key partners in the policy effort include the **Asian American Justice Center**, American Immigration Lawyers Association, **National Council of La Raza**, **Center for American Progress**, **Economic Policy Institute**, **Immigration Works Foundation**, **Rights Working Group**, and the **Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund**. Grant recommendations for policy and research work by most of these groups, but not to support lobbying, are included in this package.

Future Immigration and Economic Issues

The need to develop new thinking and a consensus around future immigration has become even more critical since the failure of reform efforts in 2007. Any solution must be comprehensive in its recognition of the challenges facing *all* low-wage workers. Access to original research on the impact of immigration on the economy, and the economic benefits of legalization, is critical to the campaign's efforts to counter the growing influence of the oft-cited anti-immigration researchers. Grants to the **Migration Policy Institute** and the **Economic Policy Institute** will provide much needed research and analysis in this regard.

Through its Labor Markets Initiative, the **Migration Policy Institute** seeks to provide timely and accessible, evidence-based analysis by revisiting some of the most contested issues surrounding immigration's economic impact, including its effect on low-skilled workers. With OSI support, MPI will produce detailed policy recommendations on how the United States should rethink its immigration policy in the context of the current economic turmoil and future long-term trends taking into account growing income inequality, concerns about US competitiveness, uncertain demand for migrants at all skill levels, and demographic and technological changes.

An idea that is gaining popularity for dealing with future flows of immigrants is the creation of an independent Standing Commission on Immigration and Labor Markets. Its function would be

to make regular recommendations to Congress for adjusting admissions levels based on labor market needs, unemployment patterns, and changing economic and demographic trends. This idea was first proposed by the Migration Policy Institute a few years ago with support from OSI. Now, the Economic Policy Institute and former Labor Secretary Ray Marshall have joined forces to develop and publicize a new framework for immigration issues that incorporates this concept and that all or nearly all unions will accept.

The **Economic Policy Institute** brings to this new effort a critical link to the U.S. labor movement, the building trades, and the service sector unions. Through the grant recommended here, EPI will propose fresh approaches to the development of policies that are responsive to the economy's needs through research that will explore the impact of the recession on the construction industry and immigrants, study the disparities in the setting of prevailing wages for temporary labor and the effect this has on the wages of all workers, and examine international models that base employment-related immigration on objective measures of labor shortages. EPI's work to reform temporary worker programs would go a long way in removing one of the labor movement's biggest objections to the 2007 McCain-Kennedy proposal and comprehensive immigration reform as a whole.

Also, the **Leadership Conference on Civil Rights** began working last year with the **National Council of La Raza** and the **Asian American Justice Center** to address the issue of future employment flows from the perspectives of African American and other minority interests, as well as from organized labor. OSI funding recommended here to these three organizations, in addition to **Immigration Works Foundation** and the **Immigration Policy Center**, will support efforts to bring together immigrant advocates, labor, business, and other stakeholders to develop ideas and concepts for a system that will provide a workable future flow mechanism for employment-based immigration that lessens the incentive for undocumented immigration and provides support for existing American workers. They will also continue to work on practical solutions to family reunification and integration of immigrants into the fabric of American society. The **Center for American Progress** will join these groups on these efforts with funding from Carnegie Corporation to bring the progressive movement into the new immigration debate.

Legalization

The challenge regarding legalization is advancing a program that covers the greatest number of people possible with eligibility requirements that are rigorous and achievable. Among other elements, the program must be affordable, with a cost structure that encourages rather than deters applications. A comprehensive legalization program should also encompass two other discrete components—AgJobs, for agricultural workers, and the DREAM Act, for students brought to this country as young children (no OSI funds will be earmarked to lobby for passage of the DREAM Act). Finally, in order to successfully implement any legalization program, DHS will need proper funding for accommodating millions of new applications into its existing workload. Outreach and education about program eligibility and well-prepared applications, will be critical to smooth implementation of the program. This work will also fall largely upon community-based organizations that will need funding to appropriately expand to meet demand. Grant recommendations here include policy development support for the organizations working on this issue—the **Forum**, the **Immigration Policy Center**, and the **National Immigration Law**

Center. A subsequent set of recommendations will include support for the Asian American Justice Center, National Council of La Raza, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC), which has been a leader on the implementation work.

Enforcement

How enforcement issues are handled in the reform debate remains a significant challenge for the Four Pillars campaign. The grant to the **Four Freedoms Fund** includes funds to develop and coordinate legislative and administrative enforcement advocacy, as well a field response to ongoing enforcement activities. With the enforcement landscape changing as DHS shifts its focus to businesses and executives instead of workers, the **Migration Policy Institute, Rights Working Group, National Immigration Law Center**, and the **National Immigrant Justice Center** are focusing their efforts on DHS and executive branch administrative and policy reforms efforts. Secretary Napolitano has delayed a series of proposed raids and announced it will step up enforcement activities along the border to crack down on Mexican drug cartels. Furthermore, congressional inquiries about the effectiveness of 287g programs and the resulting racial profiling of immigrants is something we are exploring further in conjunction with the National Security and Human Rights Campaign.

- *E-Verify:* The **National Immigration Law Center** is playing a leadership role on the need to include anti-discrimination protections, increased database accuracy, due process, and privacy protections in any employment eligibility verification system. They are currently working with labor to develop the details of a more workable proposal. The **Migration Policy Institute** will also examine new approaches to employment verification systems that could reasonably be developed as solutions that address the issues of false positives, employer compliance complexities, and the absence of reliable identifiers.
- *Border Enforcement:* Last year, OSI supported the Forum to capitalize on the strong collaborative work being done on the U.S.-Mexico border, which led to the creation of a Border Enforcement Working Group based in Washington, D.C. The **Forum** is the only national organization focusing on border enforcement policy, working closely with border communities through the **Border Network for Human Rights** and the **Border Action Network**. The Forum will continue this work under this grant. In turn, the grant to the Border Network for Human Rights will expand its work to all border communities from Brownsville, TX to San Diego, CA, and bring the ideas, vision, and policy alternatives emerging from border communities to the national policy stage.
- *Detention and Due Process:* **Rights Working Group** continues to play a lead role on issues of enforcement and due process within the Four Pillars campaign, drafting the campaign's policy positions on enforcement and detention concerns. RWG also participates in the Field pillar and the Communications pillar to ensure that all of the different components of the campaign are incorporating the due process and enforcement messages it developed last year, especially in light of the economic crisis. Its work focuses on educating administration officials about the need for enforceable standards and mechanisms of accountability concerning raids, detention conditions, and due process assurances. RWG is also a grantee of the National Security and Human Rights Campaign and this grant is recommended in coordination with that campaign.

Field Pillar

The Field Pillar develops and executes field strategy that drives new work as well as amplifying field efforts that serve to create a center of power to move events and constituencies in support of immigration reform. It is led by the **Center for Community Change**, with major involvement by the **Forum**, **National Council of La Raza**, SEIU, and immigrant state-wide organizations. Functions include energizing the base, driving coverage in large media markets, and creating campaign capacity in areas where organizations are absent or under-resourced.

Immigrant Base Capacity Building

OSI funds through the **Center for Community Change**, the **National Council of La Raza**, and **Four Freedoms Fund** will support the major immigrant state-wide organizations that have capacity and track records for playing leadership roles across multiple pillars or within key geographic areas. They will also work to strengthen immigrant organizations based in key parts of the country where the immigrant population is growing but the immigrant rights infrastructure is weak or inconsistent. These will be add-on funds dedicated to building campaign capacity within the local organizations they represent or support. The goal is to bolster the capacity of the immigrant rights organizations at the state and local levels to take on campaign work across all pillars at a time when those groups are feeling the most the effects of the economic downturn.

Alliance Building

OSI funds to a number of key organizations are aimed at building alliances beyond the immigrant rights field, particularly with African Americans, multi-racial organizations, and national (largely white) progressive groups. The **Center for Community Change** is taking on the bulk of the alliance building work, and in particular is engaging organizations such as ProgressNow, Campaign for America's Future, and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Through this grant CCC will also engage national African American organizations such as the NAACP and Color of Change in the immigration debate. Furthermore, as part of the Seize the Day Initiative, we are supporting a number of grassroots multi-issue networks that work on immigration reform. Common to all these grants is to goal of increasing capacity to allow organizations outside of DC to amplify their impact and participate in DC policy tables.

- *Low-wage Workers and African American Organizations:* In addition to the Center for Community Change's work in this area, a major component of the grant to the Forum is the engagement of low-wage worker constituencies to develop policy and public points of consensus in support of reform efforts. To achieve this, the Forum is increasing its staffing capacity to support intensive coordination with allies in the African American and organized labor communities. The grant is also structured to provide support through highly detailed contracts to multi-issue national networks—**PICO**, **Gamaliel** and **Democracia USA**. The Forum will ensure the field actions of these organizations align with the campaign and move forward the overall legislative strategy. These are some of the fastest growing organizations in the country with deepening roots in low wage, African American and immigrant communities. These groups are key grantees of the Democracy and Power Fund and the grant recommendations here are being made in consultation with the Fund's staff.

PICO and Gamaliel bring enormous power to the campaign. **PICO** has 53 affiliated federations working in 150 communities in 17 states, and their coalitions include congregations from 40 denominations and faiths. PICO has a large interfaith immigrant base through affiliates in California, and Alabama that have recently engaged in the immigration reform debate. New efforts will focus on Colorado, Louisiana, Florida, and Massachusetts.

Similarly, **Gamaliel** represents 45 affiliates in 17 states whose first national issue was immigration reform. Gamaliel has an impressive track record of organizing faith communities for immigration reform throughout the Midwest. They have successfully connected white, African American, Latino, and Muslim communities to advocate for immigration reform. Efforts will be directed to Georgia, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, and Missouri.

Lastly, **Democracia USA**, best known for its door-to-door organizing and engagement of local leadership in Latino communities, will be asked to apply similar organizing techniques in support of immigration reform in states where the campaign does not have a presence or is under-represented. The focus will be on Florida, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Indiana, Michigan, Rhode Island, and other states as needed.

To further the work in this area, the **Forum**, the **Center for Community Change** and the **Leadership Conference on Civil Rights** recently convened a meeting to flesh out potential policy and organizing solutions that address job competition between native born workers and immigrant workers. The grant recommendation in this package for the Leadership Conference will further efforts to prevent immigration reform from being used as a wedge between immigrants and the African American community. LCCR will dedicate a full-time staff person within its policy department to work on immigration issues and act as the linchpin connecting communications and field staff on broader outreach around the country.

The grant will also allow LCCR to provide financial support through sub-grants and/or honoraria to local organizations in up to 10 states where immigration will likely be heavily debated, to develop a cadre of spokespersons with credibility within the African American community who could be deployed as needed to address concerns within their communities about immigration. These spokespersons may include anywhere from a minister, to the state conference president of the NAACP, a local Urban League leader, or the executive director of a local service organization. They will be trained to engage with the media mainly through black radio, but other venues such as the gathering of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation will be utilized as well. LCCR has been conducting public opinion research on the views of the African American community toward immigration. Appropriate messaging is being developed for use in states where LCCR has worked with the African American community in the past and where policymakers' views on immigration have been in flux. These include states in the South, Midwest, Southwest, and California.

The grant to the **Public Interest Projects/Four Freedoms Fund** includes a significant portion of fund to identify and re-grant to a dozen local African American organizations that are the most engaged in immigration reform work and aligned with the national Four Pillars campaign. Some

local organizations might include the local branches of the NAACP in Maryland and the Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights. Potential funding to other branches of the NAACP will be explored in coordination with conversations taking place in other parts of U.S. Programs.

Other grants that support this area of work include the **Black Alliance for Just Immigration** (BAJI) and the **New Orleans Workers' Center for Racial Justice**. BAJI is a nascent advocacy group comprised of African American and black immigrants from Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. BAJI provides a progressive analysis and framework on immigration that emphasizes the impact of racism and economic globalization on African American and immigrant communities. Using this framework to forge alliances between these groups, BAJI offers the opportunity for OSI to support another layer of African Americans who are prepared to actively support human rights.

The **New Orleans Workers' Center** is organizing day laborers and guest workers in the Gulf Coast to make their voices heard in the development of reform policies at the national level. This grant will enable the Center to link those local voices to the national effort. The Center's policy initiatives will focus on pressing for changes to temporary visa provisions that violate human rights. The Strategic Opportunities Fund will consider adding fund to the grant to the Center as part of the funding it has been doing in the Gulf region.

All the organizations supported in this section are working to transform the relations between immigrants and the African American community and low-wage native workers into ties that bind them into a powerful social movement beyond immigration reform—a goal aligned with the mission of the Equality and Opportunity Fund, the Democracy and Power Fund, and the Seize the Day Initiative.

- *Elected Officials and Law Enforcement:* The grant to the **Forum** also includes funds to support the organizing of local elected officials and law enforcement to speak publicly in support of immigration reform. A grant recommendation for **America's Voice Education Fund** in Docket II in July will include support to reach out to police chiefs and other law enforcement personnel and experts to lift their voices and make the case for a national immigration policy that aids local crime-fighting and stops undermining community policing. This could be the key to changing the debate from one in which the usual constituencies line up in favor of reform and a surprising new ally steps in and shakes up the conventional wisdom about the law and order nature of the debate.
- *Business Community:* Employers are among the Americans with the biggest stake in immigration reform. However, this important constituency, with such a vested interest in change, did not have a powerful voice in the 2007 debate. The **Immigration Works Foundation** is changing the way employers talk about immigration, generating a more effective, appealing business message. Immigration Works Foundation will equip business leaders with the tools (better messaging, media training, and timely research) to make their stories heard and raise public awareness of the economic need, even in a downturn, for a stable, reliable, legal immigrant work force.

- *Faith Community:* The faith community has a critical role to play in influencing the immigration debate at both the national and local levels. The grant to the **Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society** will continue to support the work OSI seeded in 2007 for the **Interfaith Immigration Coalition** to organize faith leaders to bring moral voice to immigration reform. As mentioned above, national interfaith networks with large congregations like PICO and Gamaliel will provide inroads to local faith communities across the nation. Docket II in July will consider grant recommendations for Faith in Public Life and the work of the United Methodists (Bill Mefford) and Church World Service (Jen Smyer). They were behind the faith vigils in March and are running on fumes. OSI has supported in the past the Justice for Immigrants campaign of the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops and will consider a renewal in the next docket. A good sized grant to these groups would help greatly to lift their game and the campaign's faith efforts.
- *Muslim, Arab and South Asian Communities:* One of the elements of the grant for the **Center for Community Change** includes increasing the participation of South Asian immigrant organizations in the campaign. Docket II in July will also include grant recommendations for networks that represent these communities such as the South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT) and the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS). Both of these will be developed in collaboration with the National Security and Human Rights Campaign.
- *Gay Movement:* To strengthen the ties between the gay movement and immigrant communities, learn from the experiences of both, the grant to **Four Freedoms Fund** includes funds to engage partnerships with the LGBTQ and Jewish advocacy communities, which have extensive experience in fighting hate crimes. To further elevate LGBTQ issues within the immigration policy debate, grants will be recommended in the next docket in collaboration with the LGBTQ portfolio of the Equality and Opportunity Fund. OSI can have a leadership position in bringing these two sectors together within this campaign. One recommendation is to **Immigration Equality** but other organizations will be considered.

Communications Pillar

The Communications Pillar is coordinating the Campaign's strategic communications strategy in alignment with policy and field strategies. The Communications Pillar is working through mainstream and ethnic television, radio, online and print media. This pillar is led by **America's Voice** and **Immigration Policy Center**. Key partners include the **Center for American Progress**, **Four Freedoms Fund** communications staff, and **Opportunity Agenda**.

Economics: To evaluate the impact of the economic crisis on the immigration debate, polling and focus groups are underway by numerous organizations, including America's Voice, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and Opportunity Agenda. A grant recommendation for **America's Voice** later in the year will be for training advocates at the national, state and local levels on this messaging.

Anti-Hate Table: Organizations such as the **Center for New Community**, **National Council of La Raza** and **Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund** continue to play critical roles in the campaign's efforts to counter the rhetoric of nativist organizations. OSI made grants

to these organizations last fall to get that work underway and renewals to continue this work will be recommended later in the year.

Building off efforts in Suffolk County to fight anti-immigrant demagogues, advocates are also working to identify two or three additional locations in the U.S. where research can be done on what is happening on the ground in terms of hate crimes and linking the results to the communications and advocacy efforts of the Four Pillars campaign. A project involving the Southern Policy Law Center, Center for America Progress, and the groups mentioned above will place investigators on the ground to work with local allies to document hate crimes, law enforcement and political reaction. The findings will be highlighted in each location via a combined communications, legal and grassroots organizing strategy. The goal is to increase public awareness of the destructive effects of the lack of progressive immigration reform. The grant to **Four Freedoms Fund** will support this replication model to address anti-immigrant hate in two or three other cities or counties.

Blog and Online Advocacy: Even though a significant portion of public opinion is supportive of immigration reform, anti-immigrant forces dominate the blogosphere and maintain the competitive edge in their ability to swamp the phones, faxes and emails of lawmakers and reporters. The blogosphere has become an increasingly sophisticated space and efforts to engage it must be organized and strategic. OSI support for the **Center for Community Change**'s field blog operation and the **Four Freedoms Fund** blog initiative will help tip the scales in this area.

These grants aim to rally progressive bloggers to cover the pro-immigration stories and transmit their messages, leverage the increased blog coverage to build support among the blog readers for comprehensive immigration reform, and build online activism and blog communications capacity in the movement's field organizations. The **Center for Community Change** will provide ongoing training and support for communications and e-advocacy staff at field organizations and will manage a network of local blogs. The **Four Freedoms Fund** will focus on a field blog and e-advocacy capacity building effort for groups outside of CCC's network. America's Voice is being supported for its blog and online organizing work by The Kaplan Fund.

Ethnic Media: A grant to **New America Media** is intended to broaden and deepen communications links between the ethnic media sector and immigrant rights groups—both national and grassroots—that are part of the Four Pillars campaign. The funding will allow NAM to hire a coordinator in Washington, DC, to work directly with the national policy organizations, and project women immigrant voices onto the national radar by nurturing women immigrant journalists in the ethnic media sector. NAM hopes to see an increased public awareness of women immigrants and an increased visibility of immigrant women in ethnic media coverage. NAM is also a grantee of the Transparency and Integrity Fund and is being made in consultation with its staff. This grant is being combined with another project grant being developed through the Seize the Day Initiative and will be presented in that docket.

Women: **Women's eNews**, a daily, global, independent news service, will raise the public profile of immigrant women in the United States through a series of news articles and the production of related media. The effort will focus on specific national and state public

policies shaping the lives of immigrant women, successful efforts to increase their health and civic participation. The news stories will be distributed through its popular e-newsletter and website, with additional postings far beyond by partner news organizations. In addition, Women's eNews will create presentations on women and immigration for reporters and editorial writers in major commercial news media outlets, public broadcasting and alternative media, designed to help news producers and media gatekeepers understand the issues that immigrant women are experiencing. This grant recommendation, along with the grant to New America Media, is also part of initial efforts to develop the women's portfolio of the Equality and Opportunity Fund.

Conclusion

All signs point to the President being serious about moving immigration reform legislation this year and the need to be ready on all fronts regardless of the actual timetable. The reintroduction in the Senate of the DREAM Act, which would provide a path to citizenship to immigrant students bound for college or the military, was an important initial test for the text messaging system that the Center for Community Change created for the campaign. With about 900 cell phone numbers registered on the system, a fairly quick turnaround was able to generate over 1,100 calls. Also, the recent Bellingham raid in Washington State and the response from the field and national organizations demonstrated a highly effective level of local and national coordination to respond to breaking news. These events are being seen as barometers of readiness for the reform struggle ahead.

Addressing the needs of individuals and families caught up in the broken immigration system, while also addressing the needs of existing American workers and communities, is a challenge that requires the collective thinking of stakeholders that have traditionally examined immigration policies only through their respective lenses. With this package of grants, OSI is helping make that possible by focusing its funding on four priority areas:

- Bringing together research and policy groups from different fields to develop new thinking and solutions for the most contested immigration policy issues.
- Funding research, analysis and messaging of immigration's economic impact and its effect on low-skilled workers.
- Engaging key ally constituencies outside the immigrant rights movement—specifically African Americans, low-wage workers, local elected officials, law enforcement, faith community, gay movement, business, and women.
- Communications work focused on supporting anti-hate efforts and a blog and e-advocacy strategy.

Appendix I presents a snapshot of each grantee and the work they are focusing on under the OSI grants. The majority of the recommendations in this package are designed as two-year grants to allow organizations to be ready sooner rather than later, and to be able to shift or respond quickly as events and opportunities present themselves. These are specific add-on grants to build campaign capacity within these organizations and support campaign activities only. There is a clear understanding with each grantee that year-two funds will only be disbursed after close

evaluation of the state of affairs by next spring and after a mutual determination for the best use of the remaining funds.

This package is meant to be the first infusion of funds this year, with a smaller number of grants to be presented in subsequent dockets. The funding strategy represented in these grant recommendations furthers not only the goals of the Equality and Opportunity Fund but also of the Seize the Day Initiative, the Democracy and Power Fund, the National Security and Human Rights Campaign and the U.S. Programs as a whole. Our priorities are closely linked and complementary. Together we are advancing some of the most challenging issues, like immigration, increasing public participation in policy reform, and encouraging innovations in organizing.

APPENDIX I

Description of Grants Recommended

| | Name of Organization | Purpose of the Grant | Pillar |
|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | National Immigration Forum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To carryout overall Campaign management responsibilities • Co-chair the Policy Pillar with Immigration Policy Center • Organize local elected officials and law enforcement • Organize low-wage workers and African Americans • Lead the Border Enforcement Working Group in DC • Support alliance building through national interfaith networks PICO and Gamaliel, as well as Democracia USA | <p>Chair the Campaign Management Team with responsibilities across all pillars.</p> <p>Co-lead Policy Pillar with Immigration Policy Center</p> |
| 2 | Center for Community Change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead the Field Pillar • Build alliances with local African Americans, African and South Asian orgs.; national organizations such as NAACP and Color of Change; and national progressive groups • Build campaign capacity of immigrant grassroots groups • Develop policy recommendations that address competition among immigrants and native born workers (especially African American workers) • Conduct local grassroots blog and online strategy | <p>Lead the Field Pillar with cross-pillar work and leadership responsibilities on the management team</p> |
| 3 | Immigration Policy Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate all policy working groups • Develop policy recommendations on future flow mechanisms for employment-based immigration and family reunification • Convene roundtables on border, worksite, and local enforcement | <p>Co-lead Policy Pillar with the Forum and exercise leadership responsibilities on the management team and the Communications Pillar</p> |
| 4 | Migration Policy Institute | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy recommendations reflective of long term economic, demographic and technological changes • Research on the impact of immigration on low skilled workforce • Further develop concept of Standing Commission on Immigration and Labor Markets • Examine new approaches to employment verification system | <p>Policy Pillar – policy development and research</p> |

| | Name of Organization | Purpose of the Grant | Pillar |
|---|--|---|---|
| 5 | Economic Policy Institute | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy recommendations responsive to the economy's needs • Explore effects of the recession on immigrants and native workers • Analyze guest worker programs • Examine models of employment-related migration measures to determine migration levels • Link to the labor movement | Policy Pillar – policy development and research |
| 6 | Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To organize African American leadership in support of immigration reform • Staff person dedicated to immigration within its policy department • Provide financial support to local organizations in up to 10 states and train a cadre of local African American spokespersons to go on black radio and other media • Collaborate on development of policy recommendations that address low-wage workers and African American community interests | Policy Pillar and Field alliance building |
| 7 | National Immigration Law Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal and policy analysis on federal immigration proposals and policies affecting the rights of immigrants to publicly-funded benefits, higher education, labor protections • Ensure due process in detention and immigration enforcement | Lead Enforcement Working Group with participation in Policy Pillar |
| 8 | Immigration Works Foundation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and disseminate messaging for business sector • Provide media training to pro-immigration business spokespersons • Highlight the business perspective in the media • Assist with research on the economic benefits of a legal immigrant workforce • Participate in policy development for future flow immigration | Field Pillar – alliance building with policy development responsibilities for business sector |
| 9 | Public Interest Projects/Freedoms Fund | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build alliance with local African American organizations and provide direct funding through re-grants • Build campaign capacity of immigrant grassroots groups • Build e-advocacy capacity for the blogosphere and online organizing • Coordinate Enforcement Pillar work • Support replication of Long Island's research, communications and organizing work in 2 or 3 other cities | Support for Field and Communications Pillar and coordination of Enforcement Working Group |

| | Name of Organization | Purpose of the Grant | Pillar |
|----|---|--|---|
| 10 | Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize faith leaders through the Interfaith Immigration Coalition (IIC) Conduct outreach to conservative faith leaders outside of the IIC | Field Pillar – alliance building with faith community |
| 11 | Black Alliance for Just Immigration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build alliances between African American and immigrant communities through education, training and advocacy Messaging through alternative and Black media | Field Pillar – alliance building with African Americans and black immigrants |
| 12 | New Orleans Workers Center for Racial Justice | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize day laborers and guest workers in Gulf Coast Link their concerns to the national immigration reform effort | Field and Policy Pillars – alliance building with day laborers and guest workers |
| 13 | Rights Working Group | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure development of standards and accountability concerning raids, detention conditions, and due process assurances Ensure that civil and human rights concerns regarding enforcement are captured in national policy | Lead Enforcement Working Group and participate in Policy and Communications Pillars |
| 14 | Border Network for Human Rights | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the US/Mexico Border and Immigration Taskforce to all border communities Link border perspectives to national policy efforts | Enforcement Working Group with participation in Policy and Field Pillars |
| 15 | New America Media ¹ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the communications capability of immigrant rights advocates Link national movement with ethnic media sector Increase visibility of immigrant women in ethnic media coverage | Communications Pillar and alliance building |
| 16 | Women’s eNews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop news stories that raise the public profile of immigrant women Focus news coverage on specific national and state public policies shaping the lives of immigrant women | Communications Pillar |

¹ This grant is being combined with another project grant to New America Media that is being developed as part of the Seize the Day Initiative and will be presented in that docket.

APPENDIX II

National Immigration Forum Write up

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Name of Organization</u> | National Immigration Forum |
| <u>Tax Status</u> | 501(c)(3) public charity |
| <u>Purpose of Grant</u> | To build and execute an immigration reform campaign across community, business, labor and faith stakeholders, specifically with local elected officials and low wage workers |
| <u>Previous OSI Support</u> | \$1,525,000 ELF (1996 through 2003) \$200,000 general support (2004-06) \$325,000 general support (2007-10) \$200,000 Four Pillars campaign kickoff (2008-09) \$257,151 transfer from NAOF (2008-1/09) |
| <u>Organization Budget</u> | \$2,357,960 |
| <u>Project Budget</u> | \$7,695,915 (campaign budget for two years) |
| <u>Source of Support</u> | Ford Foundation, Carnegie Corporation, Haas, Jr. Fund, Atlantic Philanthropies (pending), Bloomberg Foundation (pending), Four Freedoms Fund, Unbound Philanthropies, Knight Foundation |
| <u>Amount Requested</u> | \$2,500,000 |
| <u>Amount Recommended</u> | \$2,500,000 |
| <u>Term</u> | 2 years (May 1, 2009 through April 30, 2011) |

Description of Organization

The National Immigration Forum is one of the leading immigrant advocacy organizations in the nation. Since 1982, the Forum has pursued its mission of advocating for the value of immigrants and immigration to the nation. Under the leadership of its new executive director Ali Noorani, the Forum's vision is to create immigration policy that honors America's tradition as a nation of immigrants, realistically responds to the country's economic demands, celebrates family unity, and serves the hopes and aspirations of all of America's people. The Forum has a membership of 250 national and local groups that include ethnic, religious, civil rights, labor, direct service, and business organizations. It is well known for building unusual alliances, engaging in direct advocacy, and conducting effective media outreach.

Description of Program for Which Funding Is Sought

The National Immigration Forum is requesting support for the **overall campaign management** of the Four Pillars Campaign, and to build and execute the campaign across community, business, labor and faith stakeholders, specifically with local elected officials and low wage workers. This grant will support

the central campaign staff housed at the Forum, as well as the organization's **leadership efforts in the Field and Policy Pillars**. Funds will also support **enforcement activities** in administrative advocacy, and policy advocacy in the areas of detention, deportation and border policy.

The major components of this grant are as follows:

1. Central campaign staff will draft overall strategy for the Management Team to review and approve, facilitate the work of pillar leaders, drive forward pillar specific tasks, and ensure that campaign stakeholders are informed, coordinated and moving forward as necessary. Central campaign staff is on board and Executive Director Ali Noorani serves as chair of the Management Team, committing a substantial percentage of his time to the campaign.

2. Field Pillar activities

- The Forum and the Center for Community Change (CCC) co-lead the field work, with CCC focusing on immigrant rights and multi-racial community organizations, while the Forum focuses mainly on faith, labor, and business. Field organizers for the Midwest and the Southwest will be responsible for coordinating local execution of national campaign strategies.
- OSI resources will also support the development of two *Constituency Tables* designed to organize *local elected officials* (including law enforcement) and *low wage workers* (in partnership with the Leadership Conference for Civil Rights and CCC to organize leadership in the African American community and develop interracial alliances). These two *Tables* have already been identified by local and national partners as being necessary and important to the success of the campaign.
- In addition, the Forum will structure detailed contracts with PICO, the Gamaliel Foundation and Democracia USA to develop and execute focused actions in communities across the country where organized efforts in support of immigration reform among low wage and African American communities may be lacking. The Forum will ensure the field actions of these organizations are resourced and align with the Campaign.

PICO brings to the campaign a large faith base through affiliates in California that have recently engaged in the immigration reform debate. PICO's emerging base in Alabama spoke favorably of working with immigrant communities in the state. New efforts will be focused in Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, and Massachusetts.

Gamaliel has an impressive track record of organizing faith communities throughout the Midwest for immigration reform. It has successfully connected white, African American, Latino and Muslim communities to advocate for immigration reform. New efforts will be directed to Georgia, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, and Missouri.

Democracia USA has organized Latino communities across the country through door-to-door engagement of local leadership. The focus will be on Florida, Pennsylvania, Kansas, Indiana, Michigan, Rhode Island, and other states as needed.

3. Campaign policy work and efforts on enforcement-related issues will be driven by the Forum's policy staff. The Policy Pillar is co-led by the Forum and the Immigration Policy Center.

- Staff will contribute technical expertise, legislative analysis, and advocacy materials to the campaign, and work to ensure that the principles of immigration reform endorsed by the campaign are represented in legislation.
- In addition to aggressively addressing due process, detention and enforcement issues with the Department of Homeland Security, OSI funds will support policy work and staffing of the Border Enforcement Working Group, a collaborative effort with the US-Mexico Task Force to tackle border policies which are an increasingly troublesome issue in the reform debate.

Rationale for Recommendation

The work of the National Immigration Forum under this grant will further the goals of EOF's Immigrant Rights portfolio in three areas: advancing sound immigration reform, stemming the erosion of the civil and human rights of immigrants, and building a multi-ethnic, multi-constituent movement linked to a broader national agenda for social justice. This grant is being made out of the Immigration Innovation Fund to further the Four Pillars Campaign overall and in particular the Policy and Field pillars.

OSI's eight-month planning grant last fall allowed the Forum to engage diverse constituencies across the nation and enabled it to build a solid foundation of community, faith, labor and business leaders who are ready to develop and execute an immigration reform strategy. The Forum is now poised to drive the campaign into full gear, providing overall coordination and orchestrating the various elements of the plan to ensure cohesive strategies across all four pillars. Continued support from OSI will allow the Forum to manage and lead the campaign as the plan moves into execution mode.

Its Field Pillar efforts, in conjunction with the Center for Community Change, capitalize on the unique relationships that each organization brings. This partnership tightens the link between field and legislative strategies so that tactics are integrated and overall campaign goals are met. The proposed constituency tables will strengthen the engagement of fundamentally important allies such as local elected officials, low-wage workers, and the African American community. Building relationships, alliances, common strategies and mutual self-interest among immigrant and low-wage worker constituencies across race will be a critical component to the success of the campaign and to persuading Americans that immigration reform is essential to the nation's economic recovery.

In addition, the Forum will be supporting key national networks that can work in locations where there is little or no existing immigration reform organizing capacity. PICO, Gamaliel and Democracia are three of the fastest growing organizations in the country with deepening roots in low-wage, African American and immigrant communities. Working in close coordination with these larger organizing networks will bring enormous power to the campaign. These groups are key grantees of the Democracy and Power Fund and the grant recommendations here are being made in consultation with the Fund's staff.

Finally, as co-leader of the Policy Pillar, along with the Immigration Policy Center, the Forum brings to the table its expertise in policy analysis and experience in developing, executing and evaluating legislative strategies. This grant will ensure that the Forum has the support to advance the extensive reform campaign, which aligns very well with OSI interests.

The total campaign budget for the Forum is \$4 million for one year. OSI's grant of \$2.5 million for two years will go a long way in helping the Forum meet that goal. Other foundations are making significant contributions as well, including the Ford Foundation and Carnegie Corporation among the largest. The OSI recommended grant is structured as a two-year grant to allow the Forum the ability to gear up for the long haul and to be able to shift or respond quickly as events and opportunities present themselves. The Forum's budget clearly distinguishes lobbying expenses from the non-lobbying expenses, the latter of which will not exceed the OSI grant. These funds are directed to campaign execution and there is a clear understanding that year-two funds will only be disbursed after close evaluation of the state of affairs by next spring and after a mutual determination for the best use of the remaining funds.