



BALTIMORE IMMIGRATION SUMMIT

2023 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

WORKING TOWARDS
EQUITY: STRENGTH AND
TRANSFORMATION IN
IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Friday, June 2nd, 2023

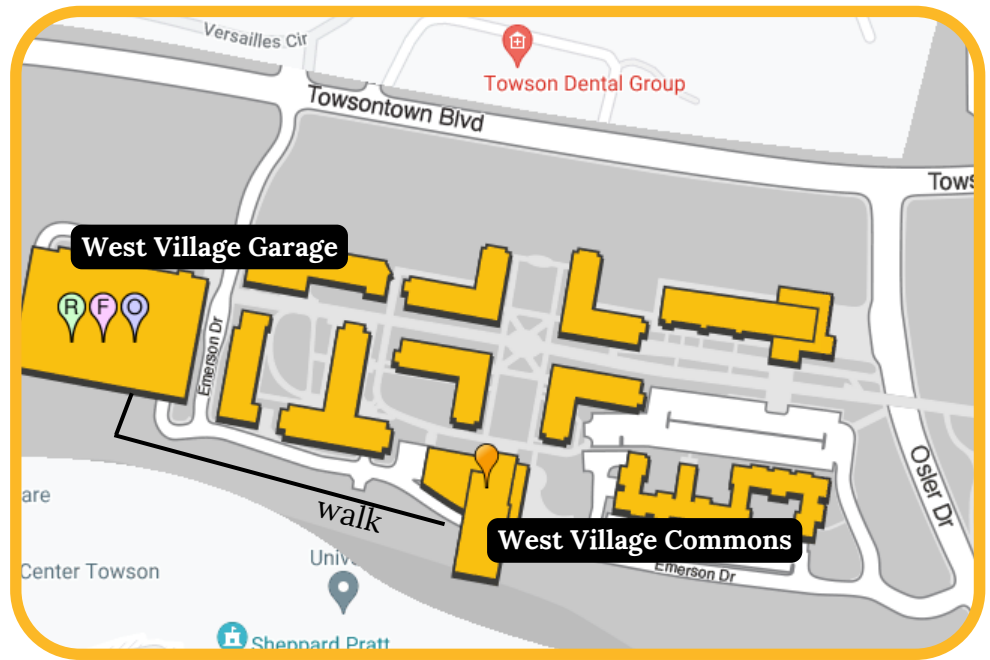
Towson West Village Commons

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MAP OF BUILDING

Map of Building Exterior and Parking Garage



Third Floor

- Breakout Session Rooms 304 - 307
- Lactation Room

Fourth Floor

- Ballrooms A & B
- Please make sure to come to the fourth floor for check-in, opening remarks, lunch, and closing remarks.

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

8:00 - 8:30 AM Breakfast and Check-in | Ballrooms A & B

8:30 - 8:50 AM Opening Remarks | Ballrooms A & B

Catalina Rodriguez-Lima, Baltimore City Director of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA)

Jolene Risch, Risch Memorial Endowment Fund

9:00 - 9:50 AM Breakout Session #1

Room 304	Unique Needs and Opportunities Facing America's Immigrant Population
Room 305	How Legal and Social Services Advocates Can Work Together to Empower Immigrant Survivors of Crime
Room 306	From Turbans to Dunkin' to Google: Addressing Asian Stereotypes and Advancing Equity
Room 307	Refugee Youth Project: Supporting Transitions through After-School Programming
Ballroom C	Understanding Baltimore County's New American Community
Ballrooms A & B	The Power of Networking and Interagency Collaboration

10:00 - 10:50 AM Breakout Session #2

Room 304	Not Just Translation: Language Access in Humanities Programming
Room 305	Survivor Based Relief (U, T, and VAWA)
Room 306	Lost at Home: The Shifting Perceptions of Immigrant Identity and Bias within Systemic & Social Structures
Room 307	Supporting Equitable Implementation of State, Local Policies and Programs Affecting Immigrant Latinx
Ballroom C	Resettlement in Baltimore
Ballrooms A & B	How to Create Successful Connections: Starting Prevention Education with Immigrant Population

PROGRAM OF EVENTS CONT.

11:00 - 11:50 AM Breakout Session #3

Room 304	Latine/o Leadership and Urban Habitat Restoration in Baltimore City
Room 305	Expanding Availability of Legal Consults through Non-Profit Collaborations
Room 306	Skilled Immigrants: Workforce Challenges and Innovative Solutions for Integration
Room 307	Advancing the Heart Health of immigrants in the United States: The Baltimore Case
Ballroom C	What is the Next Step?

12:00 - 1:30 PM Lunch, Dignitary Remarks, & Keynote| Ballrooms A & B

Baltimore City Mayor Brandon Scott

Baltimore County Executive Johnny Olszewski, Jr.

Towson University Acting President Melanie Perreault

The Herbert H. and Irma B. Risch Memorial

Keynote Address

Krish O'Mara Vignarajah, President and CEO of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

1:30 - 2:20 PM Breakout Session #4

Room 304	Mentoring Immigrant Youth
Room 305	The Baltimore New American Access Coalition: Strides Towards Equitable Access to Public Benefits
Room 306	Surviving Limbo: Supporting Clients' Mental Health Throughout the Asylum Process
Room 307	Afghan Parolees' Legal Needs & Services
Ballroom C	Bridging Barriers during a Pandemic

PROGRAM OF EVENTS CONT.

2:30 - 3:30 PM Breakout Session #5

Room 304	One Human + Many Crossroads + Community + An Empowered Future
Room 305	Immigration and Local Policy: Working with Nonprofits and Local and State Governments
Room 306	Building Up Baltimore Through Refugee Economic Inclusion
Room 307	Promoting Culturally Appropriate Language Services to Address the Mental Healthcare Needs of Immigrant Populations
Ballroom C	HEAL Refugee Health & Asylum Collaborative: Building Bridges to Improve Care for Asylum Seekers in Baltimore
Ballrooms A & B	The Color of Migration: Racial Inequity in U.S. Immigration Law

3:30 - 4:00 PM Closing Remarks, Student Performance, & Door Prizes| Ballrooms A & B

Pasión Student Dance Troupe Performance

Elizabeth Clifford, Towson University

Guiliana Valencia-Banks, Baltimore County Immigrant Affairs

Door Prizes Raffle

BREAKOUT SESSION 1 DETAILS

Room 304	Unique Needs and Opportunities Facing America's Immigrant Population Ayman Nassar, Islamic Leadership Institute of America (ILIA) Jhoselyn Rodriguez, Coaching Salud Holistica (CSH) Nasima Ali, Maryland Afghan Family Support Committee (MAFSC)
Room 305	How Legal and Social Services Advocates Can Work Together to Empower Immigrant Survivors of Crime Feamma Reyes, Tahirih Justice Center Daniella Prieshoff, Tahirih Justice Center
Room 306	Form Turbans to Dunkin to Google: Addressing Asian Stereotypes and Advancing Equity Bhim B K, PDRC International Pat Shannon Jones, Immigration Outreach Service Center (IOSC) Olufemi Akanni, Baltimore City Police Department Mansoor Shams, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Kobi Khong, Johns Hopkins University
Room 307	Refugee Youth Project: Supporting Transitions through After-School Programming Noah Grant, Baltimore City Community College Alanna Hays, Baltimore City Community College Daniel Solomon, Baltimore City Public Schools
Ballroom C	Understanding Baltimore County's New American Community Giuliana Valencia-Banks, Baltimore County Immigrant Affairs Outreach Coordinator Ramona Brown-Carter, Baltimore County Office of Diversity Equity & Inclusion/ Human Relations Commission
Ballrooms A & B	The Power of Networking and Interagency Collaboration Glenda Sierra-Schulz, Southeast CDC Mayra Loera, Esperanza Center Maria Martinez, Latino Economic Development Center LeAnna Harrison, CASA de Maryland

BREAKOUT SESSION 2 DETAILS

Room 304	Not Just Translation: Language Access in Humanities Programming Alexandra Cenatus, Maryland Humanities Aditya Desai, Maryland Humanities Robert Forloney, Maryland Humanities Lia Atanat, Maryland History Day Outreach & Professional Development
Room 305	Survivor Based Relief (U, T, and VAWA) Suzanne Bailey, MEDOVI Project Elena Martinez, MEDOVI Project Monica Mananzan, CAIR Coalition Paul Chandler, Catholic Charities Sarah Selim Milad, Just Neighbors, Maryland & DC
Room 306	Lost at Home: The Shifting Perceptions of Immigrant Identity and Bias within Systemic & Social Structures Alejandra Balcazar, Towson University Rhea Roper Nedd, Towson University
Room 307	Supporting Equitable Implementation of State, Local Policies and Programs Affecting Immigrant Latinx Tania Maria Caballerio, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Monica Guerrero Vazquez, Centro SOL, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Kristin Topel, Hopkins Community Connection Veronica Cool, Cool & Associates, LLC.
Ballroom C	Resettlement in Baltimore Jennifer Dean, International Rescue Committee (IRC) Esther Chin, IRC Muhsinat Kamar El-Deen, IRC
Ballrooms A & B	How to Create Successful Connections: Starting Prevention Education with Immigrant Population Gaby Asuad, Turn Around Angeles Evens, Turn Around

BREAKOUT SESSION 3 DETAILS

Room 304	Latine/o Leadership and Urban Habitat Restoration in Baltimore City Susie Creamer, Patterson Park Audubon Center Lucia Islas, Patterson Park Audubon Center Miriam Badillo, Patterson Park Audubon Center Jorge Abraham Lopez Trejo, Patterson Park Audubon Center
Room 305	Expanding Availability of Legal Consults through Non-Profit Collaborations Patti Chiriboga-Roby, Immigration Outreach Service Center (IOSC) Daniel Jacoby, Episcopal Refugee and Immigrant Center Alliance (ERICA) Pat Shannon Jones, Immigration Outreach Service Center (IOSC)
Room 306	Skilled Immigrants: Workforce Challenges and Innovative Solutions for Integration Joana Winningham, Maryland Department of Labor - Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning Davi Peterson, International Rescue Committee (IRC) Elizabeth Madjlesi, Upwardly Global
Room 307	Advancing the Heart Health of immigrants in the United States: The Baltimore Case Dr. Yvonne Commodore-Mensah, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing Dr. Binu Koraila, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing Dr. Bunmi Ogungbe, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing Sabrina Elias, Johns Hopkins School of Nursing
Ballroom C	What is the Next Step? Abdun Nafey Matin, ICNA Relief Meena Khalil, ICNA Relief Idrissou Adam, ICNA Relief Fazal Wahab Mumtaz, ICNA Relief

BREAKOUT SESSION 4 DETAILS

Room 304	Mentoring Immigrant Youth Erin Sullivan, Chesapeake Language Project Berke Attila, Chesapeake Language Project Abnel Estrada, Goucher College Judith Menjivar, Loyola University
Room 305	The Baltimore New American Access Coalition: Strides Towards Equitable Access to Public Benefits Alicia Feuillet, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA) Kate Jakuta, Southeast CDC Cindy Kolade, CASA de Maryland Chinonye Ajene, CASA de Maryland Anna Graff, Esperanza Center
Room 306	Surviving Limbo: Supporting Clients' Mental Health Throughout the Asylum Process Andrea Rackowski, Intercultural Counseling Connection Caitlin Tromiczak, Intercultural Counseling Connection Hannah Pursley, Asylee Women Enterprise Rachelle Douady
Room 307	Afghan Parolees' Legal Needs & Services Farhad Safi, IRC Mayabanza Sylana Bangudi, IRC Zainullah Satanik Zai, IRC
Ballroom C	Bridging Barriers during a Pandemic Gina Baez, Baltimore City Health Department Lucía Islas, Comité Latino de Baltimore Mariela Rodriguez, Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs Susana Barrios, Latino Racial Justice Circle, Disability Rights Maryland

BREAKOUT SESSION 5 DETAILS

Room 304	One Human + Many Crossroads + Community + An Empowered Future Ashley Rivera, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (MONSE) Merrick Moses Moise, MONSE Wendy Lee, MONSE
Room 305	Immigration and Local Policy: Working with Nonprofits and Local and State Governments Dr. Gabriela D. Lemus, Maryland Latinos Unidos (MLU) Madelin Martinez, MD Latino Legislative Caucus, MD State Legislature Laura Gutierrez, Community Services, City of Annapolis Carlos Orbe Jr., Maryland Latinos Unidos (MLU)
Room 306	Building Up Baltimore Through Refugee Economic Inclusion Molly H. Tidwell, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) Huda Muhammed, LIRS Rishan Habte, LIRS Mary Beth Wilkinson, LIRS
Room 307	Promoting Culturally Appropriate Language Services to Address the Mental Healthcare Needs of Immigrant Populations Ashley Black, Public Health Justice Center Rheanna Platt, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Sarah Polk, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Monica Guerrero Vazquez, Centro SOL, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Marzena Maksym, Centro SOL, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Ballroom C	HEAL Refugee Health & Asylum Collaborative: Building Bridges to Improve Care for Asylum Seekers in Baltimore Emilie Folsom, Esperanza Center, Catholic Charities of Baltimore Maisoon Ateem, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine David Wantate, Asylee Women Enterprise Nouf Bazaz, Loyola University Maryland, HEAL Refugee Health & Asylum Collaborative
Ballrooms A & B	The Color of Migration: Racial Inequity in U.S. Immigration Law Dominique Poirier, Just Neighbors Eric Lopez, CAIR Coalition Garry Bien Aime, Komite Ayiti Sophia Barilone, Esq., Komite Ayiti Sarah Selim Milad, Just Neighbors

SUMMIT HISTORY

The first Baltimore Immigration Summit was held in 2005, with a theme of "Envisioning Immigrant Baltimore" where community members gathered for the first time to share ideas about making Baltimore a better home for New Americans. This year, 2023, marks the 10th Baltimore Immigration Summit. This year's summit has more sessions than any year before. Our Planning Committee sees this as proof positive of how important welcoming New Americans is to Baltimoreans and continued effort to learn more about the programs meant to serve these communities.



This year, the Baltimore Immigration Summit's theme is "Working Towards Equity: Strength & Transformation in Immigrant Communities."

RISCH MEMORIAL KEYNOTE

Krish O'Mara Vignarajah **President and CEO of Lutheran Immigration and** **Refugee Service**



Krish O'Mara Vignarajah is the President and CEO of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS). She previously served in the Obama White House as Policy Director for First Lady Michelle Obama, leading the signature Let Girls Learn initiative, and at the State Department as Senior Advisor under Secretaries of State Hillary Clinton and

John Kerry. At the State Department, Krish coordinated development and implementation of multiple programs including those concerning refugees and migration, engagement with religious communities, the legal dimensions of U.S. foreign policy, and regional issues relating to Africa and the Middle East. Before joining the White House, Krish practiced law at Jenner & Block in Washington, DC, clerked for Chief Judge Michael Boudin on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and taught at Georgetown University as an adjunct. She holds a B.S. in Molecular Biology and an M.A. in Political Science from Yale College, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and an M.Phil in International Relations from Oxford University (Marshall Scholarship). Krish has been recognized as one of The Daily Record's Top 50 Influential Marylanders, Top 100 Women, and Most Admired CEOs, as well as a Woman to Watch by the Baltimore Sun.



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

The Baltimore Immigration Summit would not be possible without our tireless organizers and generous funders. We want to thank:

- **Towson University**, for their continuous support in making Baltimore a better home for New Americans and for hosting us in their space. We also want to specifically thank:
 - the College of Liberal Arts
 - Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice
 - Department of English
 - Department of Languages, Literatures, and Culture
 - Department of Family Studies and Community Development
 - BTU: Partnerships at Work for Greater Baltimore
- the **Baltimore City Mayor's Office** for their funding and organizing work from the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs.
- the **Baltimore County Government** for their funding and planning effort.
- the **Baltimore Jewish Council** for their funding and support.
- the **Herbert H. and Irma B. Risch Memorial Endowment Fund** for their funding and continuous effort to supporting immigrants in Baltimore.
 - The Herbert H. and Irma B. Risch Memorial Endowment Fund was created by Frank and Helen Risch to remember the Baltimore immigration experience of his parents and ensure the community continues to learn about the importance of immigration and the value of immigrants to American society. The endowment fund is held at The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore, and it is administered by the Risch family and the Baltimore Jewish Council.



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Baltimore Jewish Council
An agency of The Associated



MIMA
BALTIMORE CITY
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF
IMMIGRANT AFFAIRS

Finally, we want to say a warm thank you to our student volunteers and all the panelists for their effort in making today happen. Without their perseverance, we would not have this Summit.