SEPTEMBER 2026 CASP NEWSLETTER



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Dear Friend of CASP,

The immigration landscape continues to change frequently. In June, we saw a number of Supreme Court decisions that negatively impacted immigrants, including one that allowed the administration to continue to prevent admission of asylum seekers along the southern border.

Another upsetting regulatory change is proposed by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This change would allow USCIS to transfer asylum cases for those with affirmative asylum applications to immigration court without a USCIS hearing. Public comment on this issue can be submitted until 9/28/2026 at this website: https://www.regulations.gov/docket/USCIS-2026-0199.

In addition, the administration recently ordered the revocation of temporary visas for those who apply for asylum after entering the U.S. This does not affect the ability to apply for asylum.

In happier news, the courts have ordered USCIS to restart asylum adjudications that had been paused.

Closer to home, the Community Immigration Lawyering Initiative has successfully launched. CASP is partnering with this Vermont Asylum Assistance Program (VAAP) and the Vermont Legal Aid initiative to expand access to immigration legal assistance in Southern Vermont. One-time consultations with an immigration attorney are available by appointment on the first Tuesday of each month. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please reach out to CASP at 802-689-1160 or at info@caspvt.org.

Since our last newsletter, CASP has welcomed another new asylum-seeker client who relocated to Vermont from another state. CASP is only able to do this important work with your support. This type of community support ensures that our vital services supporting asylum seekers continue—and grow—as we welcome new clients to Southern Vermont.

In appreciation, CASP is hosting a community event to celebrate our 10th anniversary on Friday, 11/13/2026, at 4:30 PM at Retreat Farm in Brattleboro. Please look for more information about the event and CASP's 10th anniversary in upcoming emails and on our instagram **@casp.vt.**

With appreciation,

Sharon Hall-Smith
CASP Executive Director



Community
Asylum
Seekers
Project



10 YEARS OF WELCOME

CASP has been the place of welcome for Asylum Seekers in Southern Vermont for the past decade.

Join us to celebrate our work and the people whose journey inspires us.

11/13/26, 4:30 PM

Retreat Farm | 45 Farmhouse Sq, Brattleboro, VT 05301

JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM

CASP's mission is to cultivate a supportive community for those seeking asylum in the U.S., while providing for basic needs and accompanying asylum seekers on their journey towards building a life in this country. Our work relies heavily on community volunteers. We invite you to join our volunteer team!

Volunteers are the heart of our work. From providing rides and language support to assisting with housing and job placement, volunteers play a vital role in helping asylum seekers adjust to their new lives and communities, including hosting clients in their homes. We also need volunteers to support our office functions, such as social media postings, and fundraising. To indicate interest in volunteering, please contact us at volunteering@caspvt.org or through the CASP website: https://caspvt.org/get-involved/volunteer/.



Community Partner Event

On Sunday, September 13, at 4 PM, the Brattleboro Labor Film Festival is screening two films depicting the lives of immigrant dairy workers in Vermont. *La Liga* opens the set, showing how sport fosters community among immigrant workers in Vermont, as well as spotlighting the workers' struggle for economic justice. It is followed by *Hide,* which takes viewers inside the lives of several migrant workers from Latin America who sustain Vermont's dairy farms and organize for their human rights.

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion with Migrant Justice. They will be joined by a representative from AFT-VT's Bargaining for the Common Good, and Mac Christopher, co-director of *La Liga* and a Guilford resident. The panel will be moderated by John Field of Putney, who was active in getting the No Más Polimigra resolution passed at Putney's Town Meeting and in planning the public forum with the sheriff.

ADMISSION IS BY DONATION AND WILL BENEFIT MIGRANT JUSTICE.

SCREENINGS WILL TAKE PLACE AT **THE LATCHIS THEATRE, 50 MAIN ST., BRATTLEBORO**



ICE REPORTING

There has been some ICE activity in nearby areas of Vermont and New Hampshire in recent weeks.

If you have reason to believe that ICE is present in the community, you can report it via this online form: http://tinyurl.com/ICEinBratt.

You can also report it to the Vermont Asylum Assistance Project (VAAP): https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=LLZtElkH_UeKdQ1_V62dREq_YgIP6qVMiTmrTCQp7tBUNDNJUzRUT0VNSTk4M0tGV09LU0xRWDBUNyQlQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl

If you witness what appears to be an active ICE detention in progress, you can call the Migrant Justice statewide hotline, 802-540-8370. Migrant Justice will contact a local team of people trained to verify ICE activity.

If activity is verified, it will be posted on the following website: https://4thbranch.us/. The website is being updated daily to indicate if there is any verified ICE activity in the Brattleboro area.

Please check the website before sharing information about the possibility of unverified ICE activity broadly in the community to avoid creating unnecessary trauma to impacted community members.

VERMONT ASYLUM ASSISTANCE PROJECT



NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR NEWS ON IMMIGRATION ISSUES



If you are looking for additional information about immigration issues at the national level, please check out the following resources:

- **AILA- American Immigration Lawyers Association**- https://www.aila.org/
- **AIC- American Immigration Council**- https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/
- **NILC- National Immigration Law Center**- https://www.nilc.org/
- **ASAP- Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project**- https://asaptogether.org/
- **Church World Service (CWS)- Daily State of Play**- https://cwsglobal.org/blog/daily-state-of-play