

BAY AREA SERVICES TO UNACCOMPANIED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN



Fall 2015

A Regional Response to Provide for
Unaccompanied Immigrant Children in the San
Francisco Bay Area



Association of Bay Area Governments
Item 11, Report

Acknowledgements

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Guide to using this document

This document is intended for immigrant-serving professionals in the Bay Area and key decision-makers that could influence immigration-related services in the nine Bay Area counties (Alameda County, Contra Costa County, Marin County, Napa County, San Francisco City and County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, Solano County, and Sonoma County).

The purpose of this document is to give a comprehensive overview of services available to unaccompanied immigrant children and immigrant women with children that have settled in the Bay Area, with an overview of federal and state services, and a closer look at services in local Bay Area counties. At the Bay Area level, we identify key service providers, challenges they have faced in serving these populations, and examples of how these organizations have worked to address these gaps. We conclude with recommendations on how to approach these challenges moving forward.

KEY TERMS

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

The *Department of Homeland Security* (formerly Immigration and Naturalization Services, or INS) consists of several sub-departments, including Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. For simplicity, each of these is referred to under the umbrella term of *Department of Homeland Security*.

Immigrant Women with Children (IWC)

Although the term has many variants, the report uses the term *immigrant women with children* to maintain neutrality concerning the women's age and to clarify that we are specifically discussing immigrant women.

Immigration Courts in San Francisco

Although it is formally known as “the San Francisco Immigration Court,” it is referred to as the *Immigration Courts in San Francisco* to emphasize that these federal courts are not simply limited to cases in San Francisco; rather, they take cases from the entire region of Northern California.

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR)

The *Office of Refugee Resettlement* (an Agency under the Department of Health and Human Services) is in charge of coordinating the care and placement of unaccompanied immigrant children who are in federal custody.

“Pre-Release” Services and “Post-Release” Services

The term *pre-release services* refers to services that unaccompanied immigrant children and immigrant women with children receive while they are still under federal custody. *Post-release services* are sometimes referred to as services that the federal government provides to unaccompanied immigrant children that have been released from custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement. However, we apply the term “post-release” services for any service that unaccompanied immigrant children receive upon release from federal shelters.

Short-term Detention Facilities vs. Long-term Shelter Care

In passing through the immigration system, unaccompanied immigrant children and immigrant women with children are housed in detention facilities that have generated much attention, and these facilities – which vary based on individual cases – are often confused or conflated. For simplicity, we devote greater attention to *long-term shelter care* under the

Office of Refugee Resettlement and only briefly discuss *short-term detention facilities* under the Department of Homeland Security. For more information on the process, see the Vera Institute's "The Flow of Unaccompanied Children through the Immigration System: A Resource for Practitioners, Policy Makers, and Researchers."¹

Social Services

For the purposes of this report, the term *social services* broadly encompass any direct, public service that unaccompanied immigrant children or immigrant women with children receive, insofar as they are *not* legal services.

Sponsor

One of the Office of Refugee Resettlement's principal responsibilities is to release unaccompanied immigrant children to an approved *sponsor* while they await immigration proceedings, a process known as reunification. Sponsors are either a parent, legal guardian, family member, or trusted family friends.

Unaccompanied Immigrant Child (UC)

We use the term *unaccompanied immigrant child* to clarify that the children under discussion are immigrants ("unaccompanied minors" is used in other settings to describe children with unrelated characteristics). As most of our data are from federal agencies, we characterize unaccompanied immigrant children using the federal definition under the Homeland Security Act, which states that an "unaccompanied alien child" is a child who has no lawful immigration status, is under 18 years of age, and has no parent or legal guardian in the country available to provide care and physical custody. Beyond data, we apply a more flexible definition based on how it is referenced by professionals.

Legal Terms

The following are legal terms used to describe the status of UCs (discussed in further detail in Appendix III):

Affirmative Asylum: When an individual makes an asylum application while physically present in the US and not subject to removal proceedings.

Defensive Asylum: When asylum is requested as a defense against removal from the US.

Full Scope Removal Defense: When an attorney provides services to a client within the full scope of relief the client could be eligible for under immigration law.

Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS): Children who are present in the United States without legal status and who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected and are unable to be reunited with a parent can get a green card as a Special Immigrant Juvenile. State courts are required to make a determination of SIJS status which makes the UC eligible to petition for a green card through the federal government.

U-Visas: The U nonimmigrant status (U visa) is set aside for victims of certain crimes who have suffered mental or physical abuse and are helpful to law enforcement or government officials in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity (*Definition from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services*).

T-Visas: The T Nonimmigrant Status (T visa) is a set aside for those who are or have been victims of human trafficking, protects victims of human trafficking and allows victims to remain in the United States to assist in an investigation or prosecution of human trafficking (*Definition from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services*).

VAWA: Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and renewed in 2013, the act created several visa categories for which UCs are eligible.

Executive Summary

In 2014, the number of Unaccompanied Immigrant Children (UCs) and Immigrant Women with Children (IWCs) arriving to the U.S.-Mexico border spiked, constraining federal agencies and drawing national attention. Securing legal status for these children, many whom are seeking refuge from violence and gang pressures in Central America, has proven difficult. While the courts sort of their immigration issues, these children and a growing number of young women with children, are settling in the Bay Area, arriving with complex needs that require concerted coordination of legal and social services.

In light of this need, ABAG executive board members directed the agency to undertake research on this topic. In partnership with Catholic Charities of Santa Clara, ABAG hired an intern and, in the summer of 2015, undertook extensive research to produce this report, which details the landscape of services available to unaccompanied immigrant children and immigrant women with children in the nine counties of the Bay Area region.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

California's Response

California is one of the most common destinations for UCs and IWCs seeking to reunite with parents or relatives which suggests that UCs are settling in California for the longer term, seeking to integrate into local communities while their immigration case is being heard. Although the state has responded to the immediate service needs of these new residents – for instance, by providing additional funding to impacted schools and additional legal resources for the courts – long-term considerations remain to be addressed.

Overview of Bay Area Services

UC Arrivals to the Bay Area

As of the writing of this report (August 2015), the Bay Area is the second largest region of settlement for UCs arriving in California, with 1,842 unaccompanied immigrant children released to sponsors by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) and 2,868 UCs filing their case before the immigration court in San Francisco. UCs in the Bay Area mostly live in larger, urban counties with a smaller but sizeable population in rural counties located in the North Bay, reflecting broader trends in migration to the Bay Area. The report found that the Bay Area is a welcoming place for immigrant children in that virtually every county has some means to coordinate services for these children. The Bay Area's embrace of newcomers, especially over the last 30 years, has generated a sympathetic environment for undocumented children and paved the way for providing supportive services.

Availability of Legal and Social Services

Immigrant-serving organizations are more prevalent in San Francisco and sparser in the North Bay (Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Solano). Survey responses indicate that legal services have a broader and more evenly distributed geographic reach of services across the region, whereas social services limit their services to their respective geographic area. Survey data also indicates that social services are used a greater range of people than legal services that are specifically tailored to certain population groups. In addition, we found that social service organizations offer services to a greater number of UCs when compared to legal services. However, legal service providers spend a greater number of hours on average serving UCs as compared to their social service counterparts. ORR contracts out to local agencies in the surrounding Bay Area region that oversee their placement with nearby sponsors. By extension, several specific organizations in the Bay Area collaborate to provide social work or case management to UCs under ORR custody.

Impact of UC Arrivals on Legal and Social Services

The unprecedented growth of UCs in 2014 caused a serious constraint on the immigration courts of San Francisco. In response, legal organizations mobilized and strengthened their network of services with funding support from the State of California and the City of San Francisco. Of the various legal options available to UCs, ABAG's survey found that SIJS and U-Visa/T-Visas are the most frequently offered.

Social service organizations generally provide a broader range of services when compared to legal service organizations. The majority of responding organizations have been in existence for more than 20 years, and have offered services to UCs and IWCs for more than five years. A significant number of the social service organizations surveyed receive referrals from legal service providers, and many also specified that they do not exclusively offer services to UCs. Interviews indicate that social service providers have needed to offer services to a higher number of UCs since the surge of 2014. Although there have been efforts to mobilize social service collaboratives around UC issues, the regional network of services are not as consolidated as that of legal services.

Altogether, we found that funding for services for UCs tended to be geographically concentrated in San Francisco with available services being primarily legal in nature. In addition our research finds that while federal and state government offer resources to provide services to UCs, these funds do not cover the total cost incurred by local governments in providing legal and social services to these children.

County Level

Beyond the regional consultation and collaboratives that have formed around the UC issue, individual cities and counties have responded and formed local coalitions that meet and have related conversations. Appendix VI provides a list of collaboratives and networks that are discussed in the report. Altogether, counties have offered their own particular network of services, whether these are a multitude of service organizations in the East Bay, the network of legal services and social services in San Francisco, faith-based organizations in the North Bay, and local government officials coordinating programs in Santa Clara. We provide more detailed lists of organizations that have serviced UCs in some capacity within these counties.

Gaps and Recommendations

Through engagement with legal and social service providers, we generated a list of both gaps and recommendations in addressing the UC issue moving forward. Under gaps, we discuss both the challenges that UCs face both prior and during their arrival, and we also discuss institutional hurdles that complicate service provision for UCs in the Bay Area.

Challenges discussed include:

- Funding Issues
- Sponsor tensions
- Housing Needs
- Legal Services
- Coordination between legal and social services
- UC's experience with the courts
- Health needs
- Local and organizational political context

Through interviews and discussions with immigrant-serving professionals, the report's recommendations fall broadly into two categories, namely, inter-agency communication and collaboration, and targeted expansion of resources. We offer possible suggestions and scenarios that were provided by stakeholders to highlight opportunities to bring these objectives into effect.

Desired Outcomes

Without a doubt, the Bay Area is one of the most welcoming places for unaccompanied immigrant children in the United States. The laws of the State of California, especially SB 873 which provides funding for legal counsel for unaccompanied immigrant children, have been a tremendous step in the right direction. Local governments have also been doing their fair share to welcome these children with significant investments made by jurisdictions throughout the Bay Area to address their legal and social service needs. While many local resources have provided crucial short term support to unaccompanied immigrant children, there remains significant need for ongoing funding support for long-term services. Funding crucial services such as mental health services and sponsor support will ultimately ensure that these children who have already been welcomed into many of our communities can transition into fully integrated contributing residents of the Bay Area, their new home.

I. Background

In March of 2015, members of ABAG’s Legislation and Government Organization Committee directed ABAG staff to examine the issue of unaccompanied immigrant children and immigrant women with children in context of the Bay Area. To this end, ABAG partnered with Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County and engaged closely with local immigration professionals to produce the following report on legal and social services for these populations in the Bay Area.

METHODOLOGY

Over the course of eleven weeks, ABAG applied the following research and feedback:

1. **Literature review** and research on secondary sources (over seventy secondary sources).
2. **Interviews** with twenty-six key immigration professionals in the Bay Area, from eighteen immigrant-serving organizations. Breakdown of each individual’s *primary* expertise:

Arts/culture (1)	Education (1)	Social Services (4)
Catholic Charities (1)	Federal (2)	County (1)
City (2)	Legal Services (8)	Health (2)
Independent consulting (1)	Philanthropy (2)	

3. **Two surveys** released from July 4, 2015 to August 7, 2015. Appendix I shows a complete list of organizations interviewed and surveyed for the report.
 - *Legal Service Survey* - responses from 30 organizations.
 - *Social Service Survey* - responses from 31 organizations.
4. Held a **Regional Forum** on July 24, 2015 where we received input from immigrant-serving professionals throughout the Bay Area on preliminary findings of the report. Over 100 social and legal service organizations were in attendance.

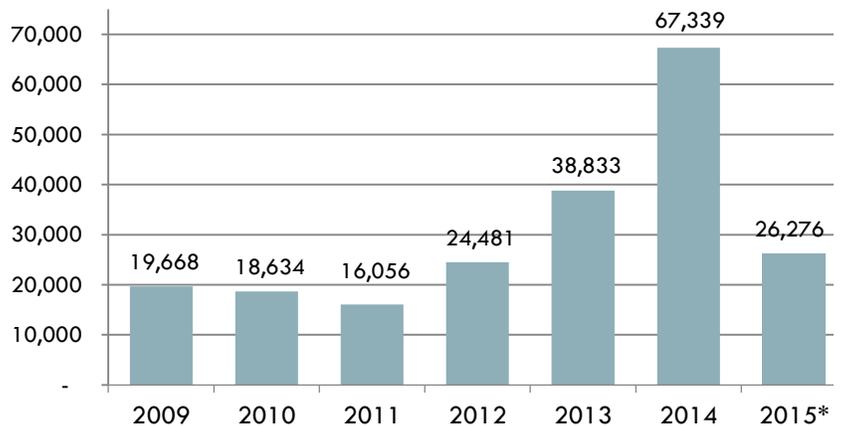
NATIONAL CONTEXT

Though unaccompanied immigrant children (UC) and immigrant women with children (IWC) have been arriving to the U.S. border for decades, the number of unaccompanied immigrant children spiked at an unprecedented level in 2014 garnering national attention. Controversy particularly surfaced over conditions of temporary shelters operated by the federal government, and debates concerning the U.S.’ role in protecting these populations continue. Appendix II offers information on the push and pull factors that brought these new immigrants to the United States.

Defining characteristics:

→ Starting in fiscal year 2013, UC apprehensions grew at an alarming rate that constrained federal agencies. The number of UCs jumped in 2014 (see Figure 1), when the total number of UCs increased by almost 30,000, or three times higher than the number in 2009.²

Figure 1. UCs Apprehended on the U.S.-Mexico border Fiscal year 2009 to Fiscal year 2015



*2015 figures still being recorded, total for entire fiscal year not shown
Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, statistics page

→ **The issue primarily concerns children and families from countries in Central America.** Historically, the greatest share of UCs was from Mexico, but by 2014, the number of Central American UCs surpassed the number of UCs from Mexico. As a result, the share of UCs by country of origin gradually became even by 2014 (see Figure 2). Moreover, UCs that remain and seek services in the U.S. are primarily from Central America: due federal legislation, children from Mexico are almost always sent back to their home county no more than a day or two after being apprehended by DHS. Altogether, **51,705** UCs arrived to the U.S. from Central America in fiscal year 2014.³

Figure 2. Percentage of UCs by Country of Origin, Fiscal year 2009 to Fiscal year 2014

County of Origin	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
El Salvador	6.2%	10.3%	8.7%	13.5%	15.4%	22.3%
Guatemala	5.7%	8.1%	9.7%	15.7%	20.8%	24.7%
Honduras	4.9%	5.5%	6.1%	12.2%	17.4%	29.3%
Mexico	81.9%	73.7%	73.3%	57.1%	44.4%	23.7%
Other	1.3%	2.5%	2.2%	1.5%		

Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, statistics page
See Appendix II for the actual figures of UC arrivals by country of origin.

→ **Though most UCs seek refuge in the U.S., they are not immediately eligible for humanitarian relief.** Apprehensions of UCs and IWCs are unique in that they typically present themselves to the first U.S. agent that they encounter, seeking protection on humanitarian grounds.⁴ As these individuals move through the U.S. immigration system, they traverse an unclear space between receiving protection on legal grounds on the one hand, and experiencing barriers due to their lack of legal status on the other hand. Appendix III details the legal options that are available to UCs and IWCs.

→ **Although these populations overlap, UCs and IWCs confront different processes and have different needs.** Upon being apprehended on the border, UCs and IWCs undergo different experiences with the federal government, as a result of internal restructuring by the Human Services Agency and class action law suits⁵. For instance, UCs are housed by DHS in a short-term detention facility for at most 72 hours before being transferred to long-term shelter under ORR. On the other hand, the majority of IWCs are processed and immediately sent to secured facilities, and do not interact with ORR. In this report we give further treatment to UCs, but we provide more detail on IWCs in Appendix IV.

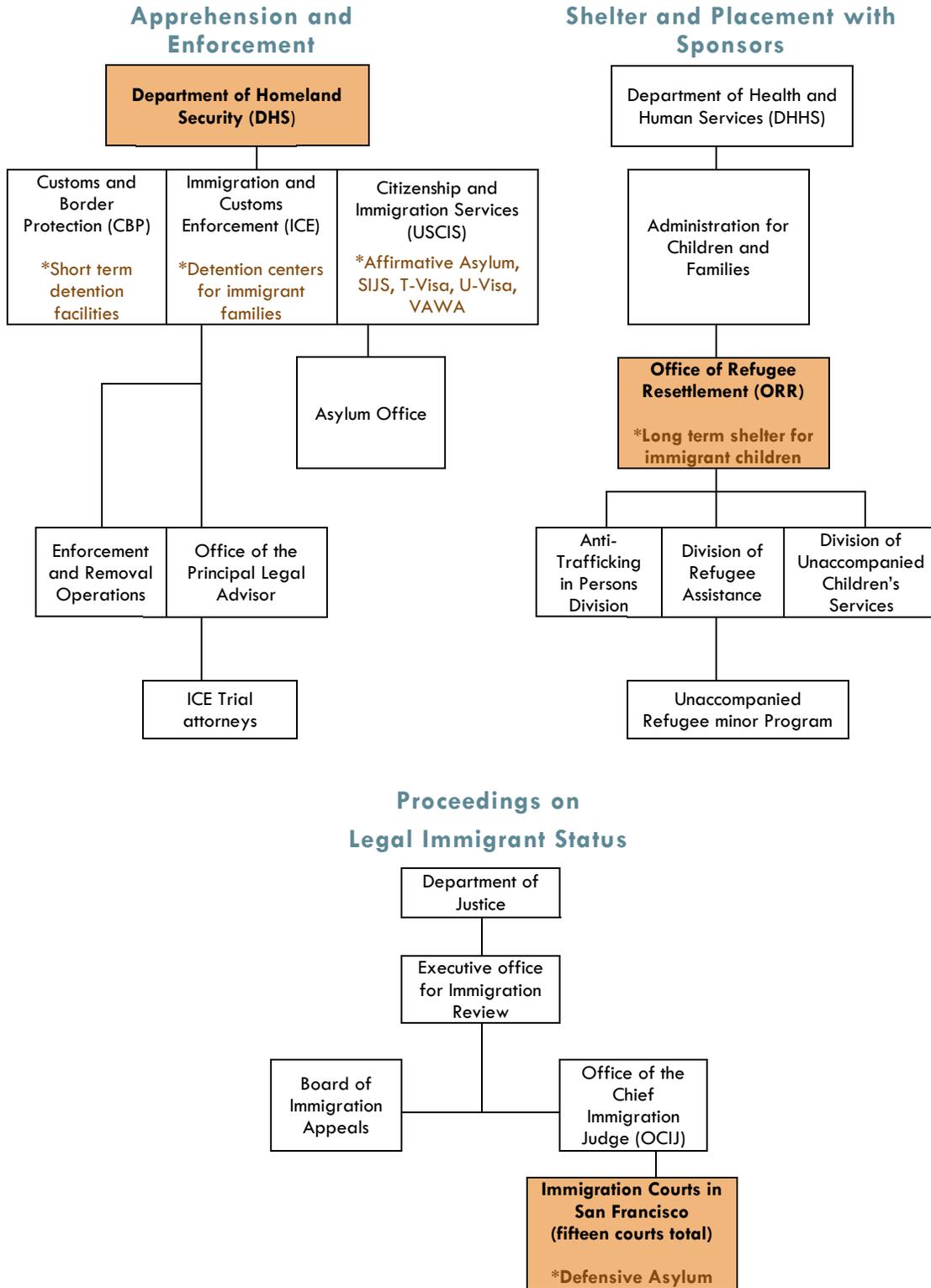
Federal Agencies under consideration:

→ **The Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Refugee Resettlement** - These two agencies were chartered to provide services to immigrant children after passage of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (HSA), which transferred all enforcement to DHS - who oversees apprehensions on the border and citizenship claims - and created ORR to oversee the care, placement, and release of UCs.

→ **Federal Immigration Courts in San Francisco** - Although state courts have limited involvement, immigration law is chiefly within the scope of the federal government. Both UCs and IWCs are required to attend immigration proceedings at the federal immigration court nearest to them. In the Bay Area, these federal immigration courts are housed in San Francisco, and these courts take cases from the entire region of northern California, including the central valley.

Altogether, the federal government takes on the role of processing and sheltering UCs and IWCs and engaging them in legal proceedings according to their citizenship status. Figure 3 highlights the offices that are the focus of this report, in context of the overall structure of these federal agencies.

Figure 3. Federal Agencies that Interact with UCs and their Distinct Functions



Note: shaded areas indicate the offices that are the concern of this report. Text in brown indicate the forms of detention and immigration relief that fall under each respective office. For more details on legal options, see Appendix III.

*Adapted from the Vera Institute's "The Flow of Unaccompanied Children through the Immigration System: A Resource for Practitioners, Policy Makers, and Researchers."

II. The California Response

As the U.S. state with the highest share of immigrants in the overall population,⁶ California has traditionally attracted migrants from all over the world who arrive with a vast range of socioeconomic experiences. This trend is reflected in both the rate of UC arrivals to California and the level of support that the state has offered to this population, as shown below.

WELCOMING UNACCOMPANIED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN

California is one of the most common destinations for UCs and IWCs seeking to reunite with parents or relatives.

Even though the largest numbers of UCs arrived to the border sectors of Texas in 2014,⁷ ORR data indicates that a significant number of UCs are ultimately released by ORR to family members or other adults serving as sponsors. In 2014 for instance, California was one of the three states with the highest number of UCs released to sponsors by ORR, and by 2015, California became the state with the highest number of UCs released to sponsors by ORR (see Figure 4).⁸ *This suggests that UCs are settling in California for the longer term, seeking to integrate into local communities while their immigration cases are being heard.*

Figure 4. States with the highest number of UCs released to sponsors, Fiscal Year 2014 to Fiscal Year 2015

2014		2015*	
1. Texas	7,409	1. California	2,282
2. New York	5,955	2. Texas	2,072
3. California	5,831	3. Florida	1,606

Source: Office of Refugee Resettlement, as of August 2015

**2015 figures still being recorded, total for entire fiscal year not shown*

California provides a relatively friendly legal environment for UCs. California responded to the immediate service needs of these new residents, particularly devoting attention to its schools and courts. In 2014, Mayor Eric Garcetti of Los Angeles partnered with mayors of several large cities throughout the country to sign a letter welcoming UCs in solidarity with Welcome America, a national network that helps nonprofit and government partners support locally-driven efforts to create more immigrant-friendly environments.⁹ California is especially noteworthy for being the first state to enact a law (SB 873) dedicating funds to non-profit organizations representing UCs in immigration proceedings.¹⁰

Senate Bill 873: Accounting for Challenges to Legal Representation

Among states that have experienced an influx of UCs, California has focused on filling gaps in federally-provided services and clarifying ambiguities concerning the role of state courts. Accessing legal services is a major challenge for UCs and IWCs and has been frequently cited as a serious gap in federal services. Unlike cases involving U.S. citizens, the federal government is not required to provide legal counsel to respondents in immigration proceedings. The Department of Justice has taken steps to account for this gap, such as appropriating \$9 million for legal services¹¹ and creating “Justice AmeriCorps,” a grant program that enrolls lawyers and paralegals as AmeriCorps members to provide legal representation to UCs.¹² As gaps continued to persist however, the State of California passed in 2014 Senate Bill 873, which allocates \$3 million to the Department of Social Services (CDSS) to contract with qualified nonprofit organizations offering legal services to UCs.¹³

In addition to providing funds for legal representation, SB 873 clarified and affirmed the role of state courts in cases where a child applies for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS). SIJS is unique within immigration law in that children must have findings from a state court before they can even apply for SIJS with the federal government. (See Appendix III

for further details on SIJS). By firmly establishing that California Superior Courts have jurisdiction to make findings for SIJS, SB 873 improves UC's opportunities to acquire SIJS status.

New State legislation pertaining to Undocumented Immigrants (2015-16 regular session):

The following is a list of legislation adopted in California pertaining to undocumented immigrants at the 2015-16 legislative session. These bills are shown here as a way to illustrate California's relatively friendly political climate towards immigrants relative to other parts of the country:

- **SB 4 (Lara)** - Healthcare coverage for undocumented people.
- **SB 600 (Pan)** – Expands civil rights protections for undocumented immigrants by making it unlawful for businesses to discriminate against them.
- **SB 674 (DeLeon)** - Ensures all immigrant victims of crimes are offered assistance applying for special federal visas.
- **AB 60 (Gonzalez)** - Protects undocumented immigrants from attorneys who demand payments for services related to pending legislation.
- **AB 622 (Hernandez)** - Strengthens state Labor Code protections for all workers by limiting misuse of E-Verify, a federal program designed to prevent the undocumented from gaining employment.
- **AB 899 (Levine)** - Protects immigrant children's records from unauthorized disclosure to federal immigration authorities. Clarifies confidentiality protections for youth in dependency and delinquency proceedings.
- **AB 900 (Levine)** - Aligns state law with federal law, allowing the maximum number of youth to receive humanitarian relief through special visas. In particular, extends the jurisdiction of probate courts to appoint guardians for youth ages 18-20 in connection with a petition requesting findings for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status.
- **AB 1343 (Thurmond)** – Criminal procedure: defense counsel: Requires defense counsel to provide accurate advice of the potential immigration consequences of a proposed disposition and attempt to defend against those consequences. Requires the prosecution and defense counsel to contemplate immigration consequences in the plea negotiation process.
- **AB 1352 (Eggman)** - Deferred entry of judgment: withdrawal of plea. Requires the court to allow a defendant to withdraw his or her guilty in order to avoid specified adverse consequences if certain conditions are met, like court ordered programs.

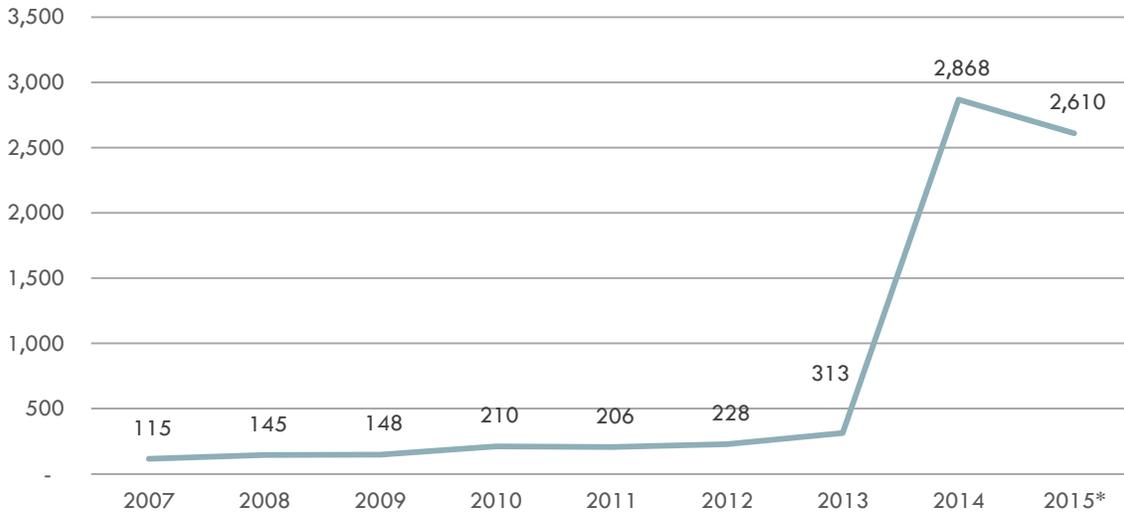
III. Overview of Bay Area Services

UNACCOMPANIED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN IN THE BAY AREA

Like the broader state of California, the Bay Area has attracted a substantial number of UCs to the region. Next to Los Angeles, the Bay Area is the second largest region of settlement for UCs arriving to California.¹⁴ In the period between January 1, 2014 and May 31, 2015, ORR recorded a total of 1,842 UCs released to sponsors in the Bay Area.¹⁵

Many immigrant-serving legal service agencies have taken UC cases from beyond the Bay Area as the Immigration Courts of San Francisco are responsible for all immigration-related cases in Northern California. The Bar Association of San Francisco notes that UCs placed in big cities often end up moving to the Central Valley or other rural areas with their relatives, and estimates that nearly one in five UCs appearing in the immigration courts of San Francisco live in the Central Valley.¹⁶ ORR counts at least 700 of these rural UCs, but they record figures only for counties home to more than 50 UCs.¹⁷ Altogether, the Immigration Courts in San Francisco recorded a total of 2,868 juvenile cases filed in 2014, a staggering 816% increase in cases relative to the 313 case filings in 2013 (see Figure 5).¹⁸

Figure 5. Number of Juvenile Cases Filed in the San Francisco Immigration Court, fiscal year 2007 to fiscal year 2015



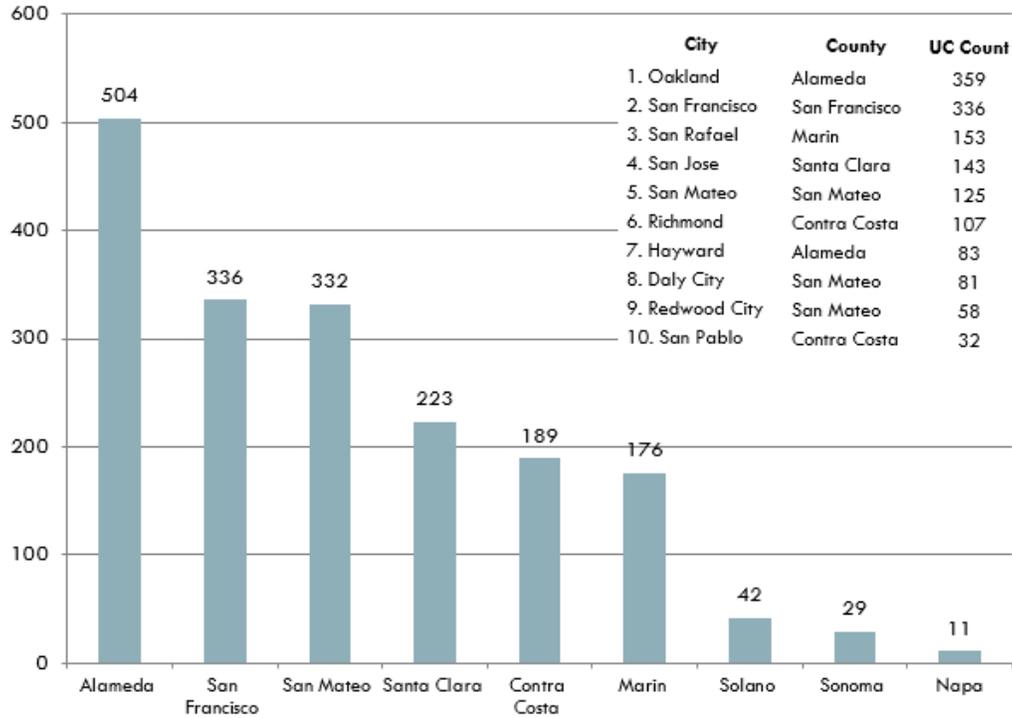
**2015 figures still being recorded, total for entire fiscal year not shown
 Caseload numbers for the San Francisco Immigration Court obtained from Syracuse University's Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) Immigration Project, as of August 2015*

UC settlement in the Bay Area is generally split between a higher concentration of UCs in larger, urban counties and a lower number of UCs in rural counties located in the North Bay. Altogether, Alameda County received the greatest number of UCs with 200 more children than San Francisco – the county with the second highest share of UCs (See Figure 6). On the other hand, the North Bay counties of Marin, Solano, Sonoma, and Napa received a smaller share of UCs, although San Rafael (located in Marin County) is one of the cities that received the greatest share of UCs in the region. These urban and rural regions encounter their own unique sets of issues, addressed later in the report.

The areas of settlement for UCs likely reflect recent broader trends in migration to the Bay Area. Due to the reunification process, the location where UCs are placed ultimately depends on where their sponsors live. As such, the regional distribution of UCs (as highlighted in Figure 6) also reflect the concentration of sponsor populations throughout

the region, most of whom are parents or relatives of these children. Indeed, the counties with the highest share of UCs also have a greater share of foreign born immigrants – between 31 percent foreign born (Alameda) and 38 percent foreign born (Santa Clara).¹⁹

Figure 6. UCs Released to Sponsor by County



Source: ORR Data on UCs released to sponsors between Jan. 2014 and May 2015

ORR SHELTERS AND PRE-RELEASE SERVICES

ORR contracts out to local agencies in the surrounding Bay Area region that oversee their placement with nearby sponsors. Due to confidentiality requirements, there is limited information on ORR shelters in the region and their conditions. Varying news sources indicate that ORR can range from state-licensed, federal taxpayer-funded companies, to for-profit organizations that operate shelters, foster care, group homes and residential treatment centers.²⁰ From both interviews and online sources we know of the presence of shelters in Solano and Contra Costa counties. Generally, ORR Shelter Services include food, shelter, schooling, recreation, medical services, group therapy, individual counseling, religious services, and family reunification.²¹ The average of stay in the program in FY 2014 was 29 days.²²

By extension, several specific organizations in the Bay Area collaborate to provide social work or case management to UCs under ORR custody. For instance, faith-based organizations through the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service have worked as umbrella organizations overseeing smaller community-based and residential care. Legal service organizations such as Legal Services for Children provide various legal services to children, such as Know Your Rights orientations. The federal government additionally partners with the Immigration Center for Women and Children (ICWC) to oversee “Legal Orientation Program for Custodians (LOPC) of Unaccompanied Alien Children,” which provide trainings and orientations to sponsors as they prepare to welcome newly arrived children. Their orientations inform sponsors of their responsibilities in ensuring the child’s appearance at all immigration proceedings, as well as protecting the child from mistreatment, exploitation, and trafficking.²³

AVAILABILITY OF POST-RELEASE SERVICES (LEGAL AND SOCIAL)

Generally, we found that the Bay Area is a welcoming place for immigrant children and that virtually every county is trying to do something to coordinate services for these children. In particular, the Bay Area’s historical role embracing newcomers (i.e. through the Sanctuary Movement of the 1980s) has generated a sympathetic environment for undocumented children and paved the way for supportive services. Moreover, the unprecedented growth of UCs in 2014 substantially impacted the provision of services in the Bay Area, though legal and social services have responded in different ways. We offer a list of regional collaboratives and initiatives surrounding this topic in Appendix VI.

Regional Distribution of Immigrant-Serving Organizations

Our analysis of services throughout the Bay Area services points toward a particularly strong presence of organizations in San Francisco and a lower concentration of immigrant-serving organizations in the northern parts of the Bay Area (Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano). To capture the range of services offered to UCs in the Bay Area, we turned to research, interviews, and various resource guides for practitioners and crafted a list of organizations that express an interest or history of providing services to UCs. To date, our list includes a total of 113 organizations that have been broadly categorized as legal service providers, social service providers, and philanthropic organizations (see Appendix VII for full list). The summary in Figure 7 highlights the number of services in each category and breaks them down by the counties in which their offices are located. Though we recognize that this does not fully capture the full breadth of services offered to UCs in the Bay Area, this list offers some insights on the distribution of services in the Bay Area – particularly the strong concentration of services in San Francisco.

Figure 7. Current Tally of Bay Area Organizations Explicitly Offering service to UCs or seeking to improve services to UCs

County	Legal Services	Philanthropy	Social Services	Total
San Francisco	20	4	22	46
Alameda	10	1	12	23
Santa Clara	7	2	13	22
San Mateo	3	1	3	7
Napa	1	1	3	5
Sonoma	1	1	2	4
Marin	1	1	1	3
Contra Costa		1	1	2
Solano			1	1
Total	43	12	58	113

Source: ABAG analysis of Bay Area Organizations.

**This only demonstrates the location of organizations, not the areas served. Does not show organizations that are housed in multiple locations (See Appendix VII for the full list).*

Although this tally above offers a picture of where organizations are located, it does not depict where these organizations provide their services. To examine this further, we distributed two surveys to legal and social service providers and gathered responses from 30 organizations that provide legal services and 31 organizations that provide social services (see Appendix I for a full list of these organizations). For the sake of comparison, Figure 8 depicts a summary of where these organizations are located.

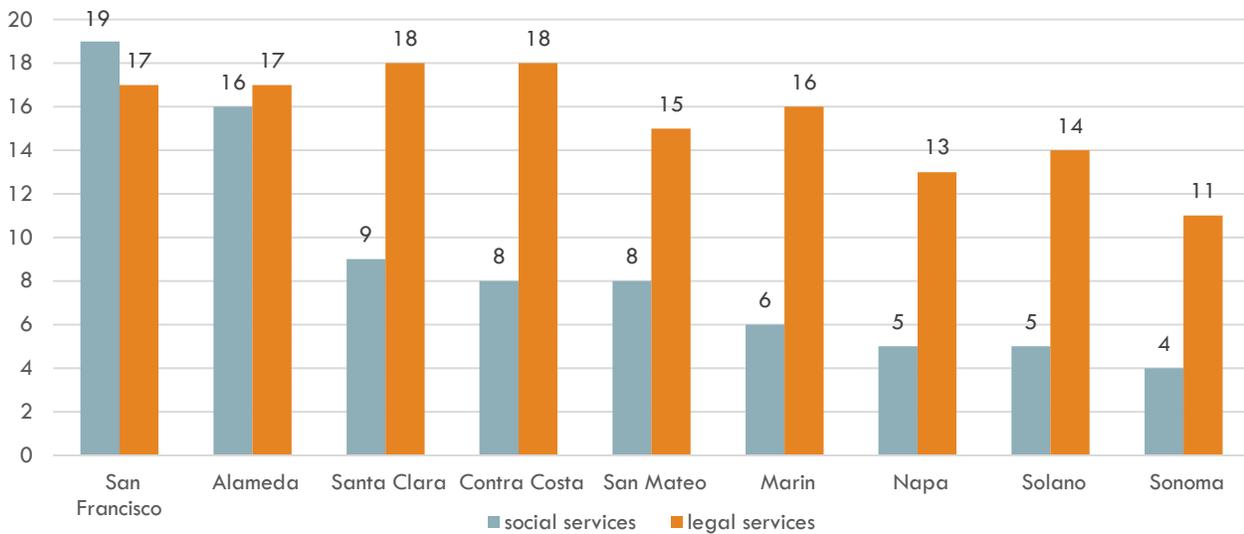
Figure 8. Location of Organizations Responding to ABAG Survey

County	Legal services	Social Services	Total
San Francisco	14	12	26
Alameda	8	11	19
Santa Clara	4	4	8
San Mateo	2	2	4
Contra Costa	1		1
Marin	1		1
Other – Davis	1		1
Total organizations:	31	29	60

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 30 Legal service providers; 31 social service providers

Responses indicate that legal services have a broader and more evenly distributed reach of services across the region, whereas social service organizations generally limit their services to their respective geographic areas (see Figure 9). Among the sample, there is a saturation of services for UCs in urban areas compared to the rural parts of the Bay Area. Based on these results, UCs throughout the region face a similar level of access to legal services, but UCs in more urbanized parts have a greater range of social services that they could turn to for support.

Figure 9. Counties where respondents' services are offered

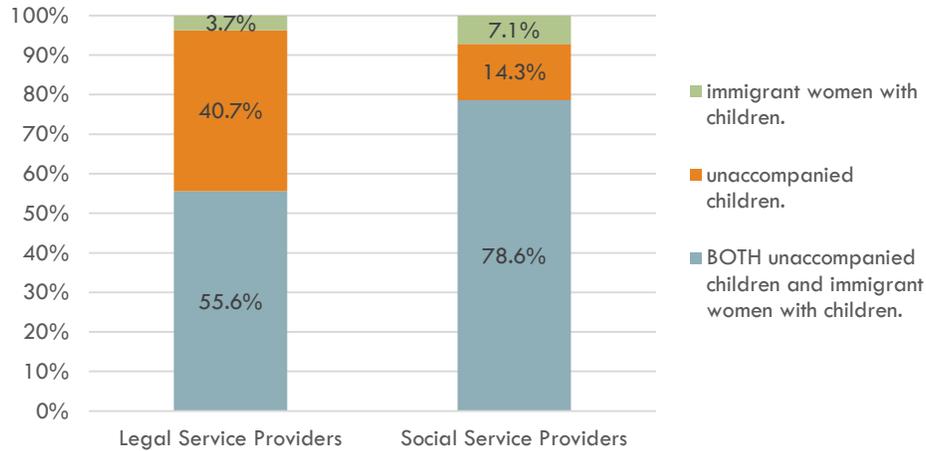


Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 31 Legal service providers; 29 social service providers

Populations Served

Survey data indicate that social service organizations work with diverse populations, whereas legal service organizations are tailored to specific populations. The surveys also point toward differences in the populations targeted by legal and social service providers. The majority of social service providers provide services to both UCs and IWCs, whereas legal service organizations are almost evenly split between serving UCs and IWCs (see Figure 10). Few organizations offer services exclusively to IWCs.

Figure 10. Percent of Respondents offering Services to UCs, AWCs, or both



Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 27 Legal service providers; 28 social service providers

In addition, we found that social service organizations on average offer services to a greater number of UCs when compared to legal services (see Figure 11). However, legal service providers spend a greater number of hours on average working directly with UCs as compared to their social service counterparts.

Figure 11. Summary of Number of UCs served by Survey Respondents

	Legal service providers		Social Service providers	
	Range	Average	Range	Average
UCs served in a given week	1 to 20	6	1 to 100	10
UCs served in a fiscal year	2 to 80	65	2 to many hundreds	75
Hours providing services to UCs in a given week	3 to 170	45	3 to many hundreds	40

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 18 Legal service providers; 16 social service providers

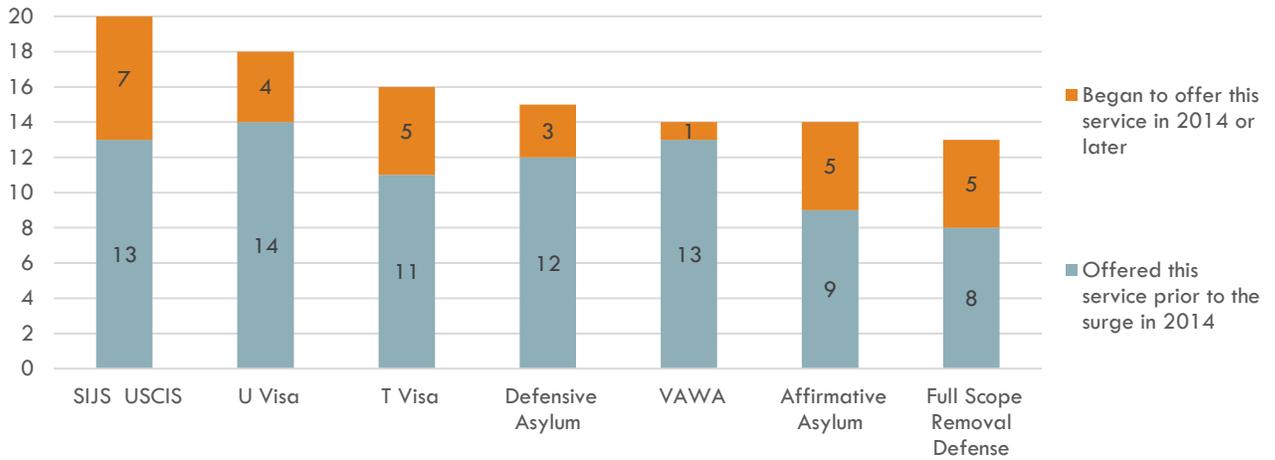
IMPACT OF UC ARRIVALS ON LEGAL SERVICES

The unprecedented growth of UCs in 2014 caused a serious constraint on the immigration courts of San Francisco, which was repeatedly cited in research and interviews as chronically under-staffed and under-funded.²⁴ It also doubled the work on pro bono lawyers and advocates whom were already constrained. Thus in an attempt to alleviate strains on the court, the Department of Justice established immigration court dockets for migrant children and families that arrived in 2014 – referred to as “surge dockets” or “rocket dockets” – and required that judges prioritize these cases under an expedited adjudication process. Since this order, children and families are given approximately 21 days from the time that they are released from DHS custody to appear before an immigration judge (an individual would have 4-6 months in typical immigration proceedings). We discuss the challenges associated with the surge in Section V.

In response to these new constraints, legal organizations mobilized and strengthened their network of services with funding support from the State of California and the City of San Francisco. For instance, the Bar Association of San Francisco strengthened recruitment efforts among private attorneys to staff their Attorney of the Day Program, which offers pro bono counsel to individuals on these surge dockets. In addition, the Bay Association established the San Francisco Immigrant Legal Defense collaborative, a network of organizations throughout the Bay Area dedicated to strengthening legal services to UCs.

Of the various legal options available to UCs, SIJS and U-Visa/T-Visas are the most frequently offered by respondents to the legal services survey. In addition, survey responses indicate that services around SIJS experienced the most growth since the surge of 2014 (see Figure 12). Incidentally, Legal Services for Children oversees a regional coalition around SIJS, and this task force has successfully advocated for reduced administrative hurdles in applying for SIJS (for instance, instantiating fee waivers).²⁵

Figure 12. Services Offered by respondents to Legal Service Survey



Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 21 Legal service providers

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Survey responses offer insights into the characteristics of social services in the Bay Area, which incorporate a broader range of services as compared to legal services. As mentioned earlier social service providers tend to be more geographically constrained than legal service providers. In addition, social service providers tend to impact a larger number of unaccompanied immigrant children, but they may not devote as much time to UCs specifically. Survey responses additionally indicate that the majority of organizations are in the non-profit sector and address health, mental health, and school services (see Figure 13).

Figure 13. Types of Social Service Organizations Surveyed and Practice Areas

Type of Organization		Area of Practice	
Non-Profit	52%	Health	18%
Government	24%	Mental Health	14%
Education	17%	School/education	14%
Health	3%	Policy and/or Advocacy	11%
International	3%	Legal	11%
		Other	11%
		Child Welfare	8%
		Juvenile/Criminal Justice	6%
		Occupational Social work/EAP	4%
		Community Development/Housing	3%

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 29 social service providers

In addition, the majority of responding organizations have been in existence for more than 20 years, and have offered services to UCs and IWCs for more than five years (see Figure 14). This marks a difference from legal services, some of whom only began to offer their services after the growth of the surge docket.

Figure 14. Social Service Providers: Experience Serving these Populations

How long has your organization been in existence?		How long has your organization serviced this population?		
Years in existence	Count	Duration	UC	IWC
0-5 years	1	0-1 years	4	4
10-15 years	1	1-2 years	4	4
15-20 years	3	4-5 years	1	1
20 years +	22	5+ years	11	9
5-10 years	2	Not applicable	3	3
Total	29	Grand Total	23	22

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations

A large portion of organizations surveyed receive referrals from legal service providers, and many also specified that they do not exclusively offer services to UCs. Social service agencies provide a variety of screening methods for the populations of UCs that they serve. Generally, these fall into the category of interviews, assessments, referrals, intake forms, program criteria, and psycho-social evaluations. Few social service organizations charge clients for services (see Figure 15).

Figure 15. Social Service Provision – Charges and Referrals

	Do you need a referral to get these clients?		Do you charge clients for services?	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
UC	10	11	1	18
IWC	9	10	2	14

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 29 social service providers

IMPACT OF UC ARRIVALS ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Interviews indicate that social service providers witnessed a larger number of UCs seeking their services since the surge of 2014. The surge dockets also impacted social service providers. First, lawyers often need input from mental health experts to assess UCs for certain forms of relief. Second, the surge docket added pressure to relocate UCs with sponsors at a quicker rate, and ensuing conflicts with sponsors have generated a greater need for social services while also creating barriers to accessing services. We discuss these challenges further in section V.

Although there have been efforts to mobilize social service collaboratives around UC issues, the regional network of services are not as consolidated as that of legal services. This could be due to several reasons. Immigration proceedings are centered on the immigration court, so investment in services in the immigration court prove to have greater spillover effects for the region. On the other hand, social services do not revolve around a centralized location, and as Figure 9 indicates, social services tend to restrict services provision to their geographic area. As a result so there is less of an incentive to collaborate regionally. Moreover, although social service organizations serve a greater number of UCs, the organizations are more diverse than legal service providers in their areas of practice and in the populations that they serve. Nevertheless, we have identified local city and county social service collaborations in section V.

School District Response

The growth of UC populations in schools has positioned school districts as a prominent social service provider and a strong connector for other legal and social service providers. Because U.S. law requires all children to attend schools regardless of their immigration status,²⁶ school districts with a high proportion of UCs are tasked with providing adequate assistance to aid UCs in their transition into the U.S. education system. Several pre-existing programs are designed to assist immigrant children:²⁷

- Services for educationally disadvantaged children (Title I, Part A)
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA);
- English language acquisition programs (Title III);
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
- Migrant education programs (Title I, Part C).

In addition to these programs, the California Department of Education administers \$3.5 million in federal funding to assist schools that have had exceptional growth in their immigrant population in recent years. The funds may be used for improving instruction, providing tutoring and intensified instruction, and conducting community participation programs.²⁸ San Francisco and Alameda have received these funds, in addition to philanthropic grants, and have developed a position that exclusively focuses on unaccompanied immigrant children. We received indications during interviews that Hayward Unified is also in the process of hiring a UC coordinator.

FUNDING

Altogether, we found that funding for UCs has been the most concentrated in San Francisco and in the realm of legal services, and that mobilization of legal and social services throughout the Bay Area reflects this focus. Cities and counties have additionally devoted funds to addressing the UC issue, whether through legal services, shelters, mental health and counseling, health, or research. However, two particularly important sources of funding have been funding for legal services from the state of California and from the city and county of San Francisco. Since the immigration court in San Francisco encompasses all UC cases throughout Northern California, the fund that were devoted to programs such as Attorney of the Day have had positive spillover effects for UCs throughout the region. Responses to the legal service survey reflect this trend, as the local funding was listed as the most common source of funding for legal organizations (see Figure 16).

Figure 16. Count of Funding Sources for Legal Service Organizations Responding to Survey

Source	Count
Local funding	20
State funding through SB 873	9
Donations and/or foundations	5
State court appointments	3
EJW Americorps fellowship	2
Other cited sources include: local diocese, national funding, federal (Title 3), the local county, grants, Membership dues, and HIP	

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations

* Count of organizations represented: 31 legal service providers

While this report finds that federal and state governments offer resources to provide services to UCs, these funds do not cover the costs incurred by the local counties of the Bay Area. Interviews indicate that funding is surfacing where there is a strong, organized coalition with a clear vision (as in the case of legal collaboratives) or in places where there are sizeable gaps in services. For instance, in Napa, International Institute of the Bay Area is working to implement a program that allows local community based organizations (such as Puertas Abiertas) to become accredited by the Board of Immigration appeals and provide legal support to UCs in the region. Funding support for legal services have had a great impact, but there certainly are gaps that still need addressing, as is discussed in the forthcoming section.

IV. County Level Responses

Beyond the regional collaboratives that have formed around the UC issue, individual cities and counties have responded and formed local coalitions to serve UCs. They are listed alphabetically in this section.

ALAMEDA COUNTY

East Bay Collaborative

As the county with the largest number of UCs in the Bay Area, Alameda experienced its own particular set of constraints and challenges to providing services to UCs. For instance, Centro Legal (legal services) reports that the number UCs seeking services at its immigration clinics has tripled since January 2014.²⁹ As organizations from numerous sectors experienced constraints, they created an East Bay collaborative of legal and social service providers that include:

- Centro Legal de la Raza
- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant
- Catholic Charities of the East Bay
- La Clínica de la Raza
- Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana
- Other Oakland Community Based Organizations

This collaborative is unique in that it is not exclusive to legal or social services, but rather incorporates the various aspects of services needed for UCs, including shelter, schooling, legal services, mental health care, and health care. Together, they petitioned to receive and will be awarded \$1 million in funds from Alameda County, with \$577,231 to cover legal services and \$422,769 to cover mental health and housing services.³⁰

Social Services

Mental Health Services

A member of the East Bay Collaborative, Oakland organization La Clínica de la Raza (La Clínica) is one of the few organizations that offer bilingual mental health services to UCs. Between June and August 2014, approximately one in five new pediatric patients at La Clínica's Fruitvale Village health center were UCs. In addition, La Clínica's school-based health centers provide services to students at Fremont High School and Oakland International High School, where the highest concentrations of newly arrived and unaccompanied students are enrolled.

Another Organization that offers Spanish-based and culturally sensitive mental health services and interventions is La Familia Counseling Services. This organization specializes in trauma-focused and family oriented treatment to UC families in Alameda County, including Oakland and Hayward. In addition, they announced that they will employ a mobile unit with a Clinician, Parent Partner, and Youth Promotor who will serve in identified sites in Oakland.³¹

Other Alameda county strategies that provide access to health services for UCs include: HealthPAC, California Children's Services (CCS), and Point of Service enrollment.

Housing

Organizations throughout the East Bay are collaborating to step in and offer housing for families or UCs that are in need of shelter. For instance, four East Bay Congregations have vowed to revive the sanctuary movement in the East Bay, pledging their support for specific families and accompanying them through their asylum immigration process, and if necessary, to offer physical sanctuary and protection from deportation.³² Similarly, the Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana (PIPH) church in Oakland has set up a temporary housing facility that also includes meals.

Oakland Unified School District

The Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) has witnessed a dramatic increase of unaccompanied minors in classes. Approximately 75% are in high school, 10% in middle school, and 15% in elementary, though sources vary.³³ To assist these students in their transition, the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) received \$45,000 to pay for a position dedicated exclusively to UCs.³⁴ Currently, the UC staff in the school district provide a vast array of services to UCs. Taking on the role of a trusted adult, the coordinator assesses the children for trauma, flags them as UCs and determines their eligibility for free school supplies, discusses whether they are seeking legal help, places them in the appropriate English Language Learner courses (ELL), and makes further use of connections offered by the East Bay collaborative. Currently, the ELL programs at Oakland are moving to HUB model in their elementary, whereby ELLs are all housed in one school. These programs are found in Oakland international, Oakland High, and Fremont high. Each school site has an agency that provides health services that include a coalition of CBOs and Alameda County Behavioral health.

Funding and Political Support

As previously mentioned, the East Bay Collaborative has been awarded \$577,000 in legal aid from the City of Oakland and \$422,769 for mental health and housing services from Alameda County, totaling \$1,000,000. Similarly, the Alameda Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS) set up a fund for providers to help them build informed behavioral health services to UCs who meet medical necessity for mental health services.³⁵ Oakland is a very diverse city and has previously offered institutional support to undocumented immigrants, as evidenced by passage of Resolution 80584, calling for a moratorium on immigration raids and for the passage of fair and humane federal immigration laws; as well as declaring Oakland a refuge.³⁶

Figure 17. Preliminary List of Immigrants-Serving Organizations Located in Alameda

Legal Services		
Organization	City	Website
Carmen Reyes-Yosiff	Oakland	
Catholic Legal Immigration Network	Oakland	cliniclegal.org/
East Bay Community Law Center	Berkeley	ebclc.org/
Ijichi Perkins and Associates	Oakland	
Law Office of Angela M. Bean	Oakland	
Law Office of Helen Lawrence	Oakland	helenlawrencelaw.com/
Law Office of Peggy Bristol Wright	Oakland	www.bristolimmigrationlaw.com/
Law Office of Robert L. Lewis	Oakland	
Social Justice Collaborative	Oakland	socialjusticecollaborative.org
Philanthropy		
Organization	City	Website
The Law Office of Julianna Rivera	Oakland	
Firedoll Foundation	Walnut Creek	www.firedoll.org/
California Endowment	Oakland	www.calendow.org/

Social Services		
Organization	City	Website
Alameda County Health Care Services	San Leandro	www.acgov.org/health/
Alameda County Public Defender's Office		www.co.alameda.ca.us/defender/
Alameda County Public Health Department	San Leandro	www.acphd.org/
Alameda Unified School District	Alameda	www.alameda.k12.ca.us
Bay Area Immigration Services	Fremont	www.bayareaimmigrationservices.com/
Catholic Charities of the East Bay	Oakland	www.cceb.org/
Covenant House California	Oakland	covenanthousecalifornia.org/index-pg.php
East Bay Sanctuary Covenant	Berkeley	eastbaysanctuary.org/
Hayward Unified School District	Hayward	www.husd.k12.ca.us/
International Rescue Committee	Oakland	www.rescue.org/
La Familia Counseling Services	Hayward	lafamiliacounseling.org/
Oakland Unified School District, staff focused exclusively on UCs	Oakland	www.ousd.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=1

CONTRA COSTA

Under the time frame in which we undertook this project, we unfortunately found limited information on services that are offered in Contra Costa County. Survey results suggest that services in other East Bay counties such as Alameda are also offered in Contra Costa. Moreover, some of the services that were pronounced in this region also involved collaborations with children in the ORR shelter located in the county. Finally, sources show that the West Contra Costa district is working with Catholic Charities to enroll 64 UC students from Central America in adult education programs, some elementary schools and Kennedy and Richmond high schools. The high schools offer health and dental clinics, mental health counselors and connections with social services agencies and nonprofit groups.³⁷

Figure 18. Preliminary List of Immigrants-Serving Organizations Located in Contra Costa

Type of Service	Organization	Website	City
Philanthropy	Y&H Soda Foundation	www.yhsodaPhilanthropy.org/	Moraga
Social Services	Centro Latino Cuscatlan		El Cerrito

SAN FRANCISCO CITY AND COUNTY

The Immigration Courts of San Francisco set much of the framework for legal services throughout the Bay Area region, and are discussed in detail in sections III and V. In particular, the infusion of funds by the city of San Francisco (\$2 million over the course of two years) has created new positions and strengthened collaboratives in a manner that has had positive spillover effects for the entire region.

Beyond recent efforts, San Francisco houses prominent legal service providers, such as ICWC and Legal Services for Children, who have offered services to immigrant children for decades. These organizations have developed formal contracts with ORR and are also champions for the regional network of legal service providers. As such, these organizations have a unique role in the placement process for UCs as facilitators of partnerships. A positive practice that has emerged from this for instance, is the fact that ICWC is housed in the Women’s building, which is one of the few places in California to offer fingerprinting for these populations.

Social Services

San Francisco's traditional embrace of immigrants has also generated a supportive infrastructure of services for UCs and undocumented immigrants. For instance, San Francisco provides city IDs that allows residents, regardless of their immigration status, access to services. The city government also oversees the Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs, which worked to provide a local response to the growth of UCs in 2014.

Network of Service Providers with the Department of Public Health

San Francisco's Behavioral Health Services, Children Youth & Families System of Care have been coordinating a Behavioral Health Treatment Providers meeting to discuss service coordination to align and orient each other on services to these children. Through these meetings, contributing organizations have developed a "First Encounter Check List" for providers to screen for unaccompanied minors safety and psychosocial needs during their initial contacts so that providers can make linkages to other special services. They have also been working to link the San Francisco Unified School district's (SFUSD) Students Families & Community Support Services and Special Education to ensure that behavioral services are offered in schools to these children.

San Francisco Unified School District

Since 2013, the program has seen a steady increase in the number of unaccompanied children, and the school district has worked closely with the Mayor's Office, Board of Supervisors, and city departments as well as school partners in the community. Through collaboration and foundation support, a position was created in San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) specifically targeted to UCs.³⁸

The UC coordinator serves as an internal linkage between schools and the SFUSD wellness program. UCs are housed under the Newcomer system of support in the district, which offers transitional and academic support services under the school district's wellness program. Newcomer pathways is designed for schools with a sizeable ELL population and focuses on language support. Moreover, under the school wellness program, each school has a therapist, nurse, health outreach, full time wellness coordinator. Under this model, teachers and educational staff refer UCs to the wellness program and relevant social workers.

The UC coordinator also partners with CBOs to offer groups therapy support services, legal services, etc. Linking organizations include the Huckleberry Youth Program, Good Samaritan Services, Instituto Familiar de la Raza, Centro Legal, and CARECEN. By partnering with the San Francisco legal collaborative, the UC coordinator also developed a system verbal consent with family that allows the UC to directly link with legal and social services.

Funding and Political Support

UC arrivals have sparked support from leaders in various levels of government in San Francisco, ranging from the Mayor's office to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Most notably, Supervisor David Campos spearheaded a city appropriation for a two year grant of \$2.4 million for legal services that was passed by a unanimous vote by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.³⁹ As a result of this grant, the city funded 13 legal services organizations, 10 of which hired one full-time attorney to provide direct representation. One organization, CARECEN, is also the fiscal sponsor of the collaborative that surfaced from this funding.

Figure 19. Preliminary List of Immigrants-Serving Organizations Located in San Francisco

Legal Services	
Organization	Website
Ana Gonzales	
API Legal Outreach	www.apilegaloutreach.org/
Asian Americans Advancing Justice	www.advancingjustice-la.org/
Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (APILO)	www.apilegaloutreach.org/
Bar Association of San Francisco	www.sfbar.org/
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies	cgrs.uchastings.edu/
Cindy Liou Consulting & Law	
Helen Lawrence	
Immigrant Legal Resource Center	www.ilrc.org/
Jaime D. Mira	
Keker & Van Nest	www.kvn.com/
Law Office of Fellom & Solorio	
Law Offices of Katie Annand	
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights	www.lawyerscommittee.org/
OneJustice	www.one-justice.org/
Pangea	www.pangealegal.org/
People Organizing to Demand Environmental and Economic Justice (PODER)	www.podersf.org/
SF Immigrant Legal Defense Collaborative at BASF	blog.sfbar.org/2015/05/07/the-san-francisco-immigrant-legal-defense-collaborative-bay-area-public-interest-attorneys-collective-response-to-crisis/
University of California, San Francisco	www.ucsf.edu/
USF School of Law	www.usfca.edu/law/
Philanthropy	
Organization	Website
California Bar Foundation	www.calbarfoundation.org/
The San Francisco Foundation	sff.org/
Walter S Johnson Foundation	wsjf.org/
Zellerbach Foundation	zff.org/
Social Services	
Organization	Website
Casa Quezada	www.dscs.org/content/view/182/149/
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN SF)	carecensf.org/
Child Protective Services	www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/pg93.htm
CYF System of Care, Behavioral Health SVC, San Francisco Dept. of Public Health	www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oservices/mentalHlth/CBHS/default.asp
Dolores Street Community Service	www.dscs.org/
Educators for Fair Consideration	e4fc.org/
Huckleberry Youth Programs	www.huckleberryyouth.org/
Instituto Familiar De La Raza	ifrsf.org/
Legal Services for Children	www.lsc-sf.org/
Mission Neighborhood Health Center	www.mnhc.org
Office of Supervisor David Campos	www.sfbos.org/index.aspx?page=2117
Project Alero, Mission Neighborhood Health Center	

San Francisco Human Services Agency	www.sfhsa.org/
San Francisco Unified School District, staff focused exclusively on UCs	www.sfusd.edu/
San Francisco Women Against Rape	www.sfwar.org/
SF International High school	international-sfusd-ca.schoolloop.com/
SF Mayor's Office of Housing/Community Development	sf-moh.org/
Sonadores Invencibles	younginvincibles.org/about/
The Alero Project	www.mnhc.org/news/rising-to-give-a-helping-hand-the-alero-project/
The Women's Building	www.womensbuilding.org/twb/
University of San Francisco	www.usfca.edu/
University Of San Francisco School Of Nursing and Health Professions	

NORTH BAY: MARIN, NAPA, SONOMA, SOLANO

Similar to Contra Costa, we found limited information on services offered in the North Bay region, although research and interviews indicate that there are less services offered for UCs in this region. For instance, Napa Valley legal aid was formerly a prominent service provider in Napa, but in recent years they have decreased their services.

Legal Services

Interviews indicate that, depending on the county, there are few to no legal service organizations. Interviewees from Napa indicate that services in the North Bay focus on citizenship services (such as acquiring legal permanent residency) rather than refugee services that offer forms of relief. Nevertheless there are some organizations that have responded to the surge docket, as for instance Sonoma County has offered funding to provide legal counsel to UCs. In addition a collaborative has been formed with the International Institute of the Bay Area to help social service organizations such as Puertas Abiertas to become accredited and provide legal services to UCs in the area. Moreover, the Bay Area Rural Justice Collaborative, facilitated by One Justice, brings regularly-scheduled free legal clinics to isolated communities in the Bay Area, including Napa County, the coast side of San Mateo County, and Southern Santa Clara County.

Social Services

Interviewees observe that a lot of the support in Napa is community based and by word of mouth, rather than formal initiatives, and that UCs and immigrants in the region especially converge around faith-based organizations. Most recently, the North Bay Organizing Project mobilized a county-wide partnership to assist unaccompanied immigrant children, along with twenty faith-based and community groups in the North Bay.⁴⁰

Shelter in Solano

As previously mentioned. There is an ORR shelter in Solano that is contracted with the Baptist Children and Family Services (BCFS) who operates a group home of unaccompanied refugee. The program is licensed by the State of California in the service of up to 24 males, ages 12 to 17. The average stay of each student is 45 days and there is one teacher and one interpreter that provide instruction to the students.

Funding and Political Support

Funding and support for UCs is mixed in the North Bay. Interviews indicate that funding is limited in the North Bay, particularly in Marin, and that the bulk of funding and services have surfaced in Napa. While, Sonoma County supervisors

unanimously approved a plan would help county attorneys to provide legal help to UCs facing deportation proceedings.⁴¹

Figure 20. Preliminary List of Immigrants-Serving Organizations Located in North Bay Counties

Legal Services			
Organization	City	County	Website
North Bay Legal Aid	San Rafael	Marin	lawyers.justia.com/legalservice/north-bay-legal-aid-9111
Legal Aid of Napa valley	Napa	Napa	legalaidnapa.org/
Vital Immigrant Defense and Advocacy Services	Santa Rosa	Sonoma	vidaslegal.org
Philanthropy			
Organization	City	County	Website
Marin Community Foundation	Novato	Marin	www.marincf.org/
Napa Valley Community Foundation	Napa	napa	www.napavalleycf.org/
Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees	Sebastapol	Sonoma	www.gcir.org/
Social Services			
Organization	City	County	Website
Canal Alliance	San Rafael	Marin	canalalliance.org/
On the Move Bay Area	Napa	Napa	www.onthemovebayarea.org/
Puertas Abiertas Community resource Center	Napa	Napa	puertasabiernasapa.org/
Up Valley Family Centers	Calistoga	Napa	upvalleyfamilycenters.org/
Catholic Social Service of Solano County	Vallejo	Solano	www.csssolano.org/
California Human Development	Santa Rosa	Sonoma	www.cahumandevlopment.org/
North Bay Organizing project	Graton	Sonoma	northbayop.org/

SAN MATEO

San Mateo County has a handful of key legal services providers such as Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto have been heavily involved in responding to the arrival of UCs. Legal experts also identify San Mateo as a unique model for identifying children as eligible for SIJS. Specifically, San Mateo relies on the foster youth’s county social worker to identify UCs as potentially eligible for SIJS, and then refers the child to a non-attorney liaison that fills out and submits the SIJS applications on behalf of the youth. County counsel then accompanies the youth to the interview with USCIS. In addition, the Consulate of Honduras, which is located in San Mateo, has also stepped in to offer legal and social services to UCs throughout the region. Finally, interviews indicate that advocates in San Mateo County sought to get funding to support UCs in the region but were unfortunately denied.

Figure 21. Preliminary List of Immigrants-Serving Organizations Located in San Mateo

Type of Service	Organization	City	Website
Legal Services	Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto	East Palo Alto	www.clsepa.org/
	Immigration Services of Mountain View	Mountain View	
	Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County		www.legalaidsmc.org/
Philanthropy	Silicon Valley Community Foundation	San Mateo	www.siliconvalleycf.org/
Social Services	Catholic Charities of San Mateo	San Mateo	catholiccharitiessf.org/
	Catholic Charities San Francisco	San Mateo	catholiccharitiessf.org/

SANTA CLARA

Santa Clara has been a prominent hub for UCs and has been a champion of local organizing to address broader immigration issues. For instance, though not directly related to UCs, the county has approved \$1.8 million to support administrative relief for undocumented immigrants. In response to the UC issue, the county has held meetings with local organizations to establish a county-wide collaborative response to the issue.

Social Services

In Santa Clara, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara is primary organization contracted by ORR to shelter UCs and provide them with services. The organization provides in-house legal and social services and has been widely involved with county meetings. A standout program in Santa Clara is the alternative UC host program run by the Bill Wilson center.⁴² The county established this volunteer program as an alternative to the sponsor reunification process, instead inviting members of the community to host UCs as sponsors. Rather than coinciding with a foster care model, the host program is meant to be similar to an exchange student model that places students in homes primarily for support, housing, and daily care.⁴³

Funding and Political Support

The arrival of UCs to San Jose has also generated political and funding support from Santa Clara. For instance, the city of San Jose has established an office of Immigrant Relations that works with immigrant community and service providers to promote the full inclusion of immigrant communities in Santa Clara. The Santa Clara Office of Human relations has also produced research on UCs arrivals that helped generate support from the county in approximately \$900,000 for social services to UCs.⁴⁴ Among social service providers, a collaborative has formed to discuss relationships between UCs and the foster care system. Politicians from the county such as Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-19) have travelled to the border to further examine the issue and similarly championed the development of the host program.⁴⁵

Figure 22. Preliminary List of Immigrants-Serving Organizations Located in Santa Clara

Legal Services		
Organization	City	County
Asian Americans for Community Involvement	San Jose	aaci.org/
California Strategies and Advocacy, LLC	San Jose	www.calstrat.com/
CET Immigration Program	San Jose	www.cetweb.org/immigration/
Cooley LLP	Palo Alto	www.cooley.com/index.aspx
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley	San Jose	www.lawfoundation.org/lacy.asp
Legal Advocates for Children & Youth	San Jose	www.lawPhilanthropy.org/lacy.asp
SIREN	San Jose	www.siren-bayarea.org/
Philanthropy		
Organization	City	County
Heising Simons Foundation	Los Altos	www.heisingssimons.org/
Social Services		
Organization	City	County
Bill Wilson Center	Santa Clara	www.billwilsoncenter.org/
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County	San Jose	www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/

Bay Area Services to Unaccompanied Immigrant Children

City of San Jose Mayor's Office	San Jose	www.sanjoseca.gov/
City of San Jose - Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services	San Jose	www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/
EMQ Families First	Campbell	emqff.org/
Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services	San Jose	www.sccgov.org/sites/mhd/Pages/default.aspx
Santa Clara County Counsel		
Santa Clara County Library District	Campbell	www.sccl.org/
Santa Clara County Office of Human Affairs	San Jose	
Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System, Mental Health	San Jose	www.sccgov.org/sites/mhd/Pages/default.aspx
Stanford University	Palo Alto	www.stanford.edu/
U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren	San Jose	lofgren.house.gov/
Unity Care	San Jose	www.unitycare.org/

V. Gaps and Recommendations

CITED CHALLENGES AND THE BAY AREA RESPONSE

Complex challenges faced by UCs influence all services

UCs arrive in the Bay Area having undergone traumatic experiences whose effects are long lasting. The past and current trauma these children experience require specialized services and a holistic response from service providers. As part of its survey social service providers, ABAG asked respondents to rank the challenges that UCs face by level of hardship. Given the severity and interconnectedness of various issues respondents gave almost equal weight to each of the factors they were asked about (See Figure 23). Thus, it became clear that the constellation of challenges that UCs face pose high levels of hardship when considered both individually for UCs and collectively as a demographic.

Figure 23. Hardships faced by UCs, as ranked by social service providers in survey

Type of hardship	1 (most difficult) (# of responses)	2 (# of responses)	3 (# of responses)	4 (# of responses)	5 (least difficult) (# of responses)	Total
Experience with the courts	10	3	3	1	1	18
Language problems	10	3	3	1	1	18
Cultural adaptation	10	3	3	1	1	18
Mental health needs	10	3	3	1	1	18
Health Needs	10	3	3	1	1	18
Housing needs	9	3	3	1	1	17
Outstanding debt	8	2	3	1	1	15
Tensions with sponsors and/or family	8	3	3	1	1	16

Source: ABAG legal and social service surveys to Bay Area immigrant-serving organizations
 Count of organizations represented: 29 social service providers

Unsurprisingly, the hardships that UCs endure also shape their experiences and relationships with legal and social service providers, making them more likely to be impacted by barriers to service provision and at higher risk for breaking away from support systems. Below are just some of the challenges that UCs encounter based on ABAG's interviews and research.

- **Trauma** – A large portion of UCs have been traumatized and harmed by gangs or authority figures due to being left without parental protection, and many have been targeted due to their refusal to support local gangs or militias. Some of them, including the youngest of the asylum seekers, have been sexually assaulted and almost all of the children and families have lived with death threats for much of their lives.
- **Cultural adaptation, Language problems** – Most UCs are very low-income and have little formal education. A large portion of these children only speak Mam Mayan, an indigenous language from Central America.
- **Outstanding debt** – School district coordinators for UCs noted that almost every UC has outstanding debt to human smugglers that have helped bring them to the U.S. This leads to tension with sponsors, as they are pressured to work to earn the money they owe.
- **Fraud** – UCs are vulnerable to exploitation from traffickers and/or exploitation from fraudulent lawyers.

- **At-risk for trauma and risk taking behavior** – Most UCs haven't seen their family in many years, which leaves children vulnerable to trauma and risk taking behavior after reuniting with sponsors. Interviews also indicated that tensions between gangs and/or immigrant communities can persist in new immigrant communities within the U.S.

Institutional Challenges

In addition to examining the challenges faced by UCs, ABAG sought to better understand the challenges or institutional hurdles that organizations face in offering services to UCs. Below is a list of ranked challenges in providing services to UCs from the 29 service providers that responded to ABAG's survey.

1. Funding sources overly restrict services or population that can be served
2. Too much demand
3. Lack of awareness about the services offered
4. Lack of culturally-sensitive services
5. Lack of adequate training to serve these specific populations
6. Mobility issues (personal and to/from appointments)
7. Lack of resources and/or status to qualify for services offered
8. Fear or distrust of social service organizations
9. Lack of cross-agency/department coordination
10. Too few staff
11. Political context (inter-agency and general)
12. Confidentiality requirements
13. Duplication of services

This report discusses the issues from this list in further detail below based on interviews and research.

Funding Issues

Funding is too narrowly defined. Various interviewees states that there is a need for services to IWCs, but little of the funding that has surfaced to support UCs could be used to support immigrant women with children who are equally vulnerable. Rather, most funding that surfaced since 2014 has gone to those who were placed on the surge docket, and does not include UCs who arrived prior to 2014 unless they have asylum cases.

Funding is short term. The temporary nature of funding is particularly challenging for organizations that may have started providing services to UCs after 2014. Interviewees suggested that such short term funds could lead to conflict between organizations instead of collaboration. Without continued funding, organizations are unable to plan for the longer term welfare of UCs once the immediate threat of deportation fades such providing mental health and education services.

Funding is concentrated. Most of the money that has been made for service provision to UCs has been concentrated in San Francisco causing organizations outside of the city to spend considerable time fundraising rather than providing services

Short term attention to the issue – A great deal of funding has been made available for UCs due to their surge in numbers and resultant media coverage, however providers are concerned that funding will fade along with media coverage.

Sponsor Tensions

UCs tend to be in unstable living situations. Many UC sponsors experience their own hardships due to poverty or lack of immigration status. There is no government financial support for sponsors even though sponsoring a UC requires substantial financial and time commitments. Challenges faced by sponsors include:⁴⁶

- *Sponsors are foster parents without financial support or services.* As de-facto foster parents sponsors face the added challenges of helping the children under their care navigate a complex legal environment, learn English, and integrate with their peers.
- *UCs placed with family members often have never met the adults with whom they are placed.* Children placed with family friends or acquaintances (27% of unaccompanied immigrant children) commonly have no relationship whatsoever with that adult and are at a particularly high risk of labor and sex trafficking.⁴⁷ There have been multiple reports of children placed with supposed acquaintances only to be sold to sex or labor traffickers within days of placement.
- *Sponsors are unmonitored.* While sponsors are required to sign an agreement stating they will care for the child placed with them, there is little, if any, monitoring of compliance with this agreement.
- *Sponsor agreements do not grant any kind of legal guardianship,* leaving the children with no one legally empowered to get them medical care, enroll them in school, or take other actions on their behalf that would require legal guardianship. There is also no guarantee that a sponsor will be proactive and supportive in helping the child receive services.
- *Children often arrive with debt from smugglers, which puts further strain on relationships with sponsors.* Interviewees mention that sponsors pressure children to work to pay for their stay. For instance, one account in particular described a girl who became uncomfortable after her aunt started kept accounts of how much she ate to know what she owed.

The surge docket complicated relationships with sponsors as child placement became emphasized over vetting.

Interviewees have mentioned that coordinating with Child Protective Services and/or the foster care system has been a challenge in mitigating for tensions with sponsors. Other sources of support for children struggling with sponsors include school systems and faith-based shelters.

Housing Needs

UCs face challenges with acquiring housing, especially UCs that live in high cost areas. To mitigate for the high costs of housing in places like San Francisco, many immigrant families will live in small apartments. Additionally, evictions can be an issue for many sponsors making UCs vulnerable to homelessness.

Many UCs are forced out of their sponsor's home or leave after experiencing abuse or exploitation. Interviewees mentioned that sponsors do not often receive additional support (kinship support) to care for UCs. Faith based organizations and churches are filling gaps in this area, as many sponsors look to local churches to help them housing. Another practice that has shown promise are alternative paths to sponsorship through housing from volunteers, as practiced in Santa Clara. In addition to churches, volunteer sponsors, selected only after careful vetting, have started to fill in the gaps in housing in Santa Clara County.

Legal Services

UCs do not have a right to government-funded legal counsel.⁴⁸ To exercise their right to counsel, UCs have the option of either hiring a legal representative and paying out of pocket or obtaining pro bono legal representation. As pro bono legal services for UCs are in short supply and few of these children have the resources to hire their own legal counsel, many have no choice but to go through the difficult and intimidating experience of appearing in immigration court without legal representation. Moreover, having a lawyer makes a significant difference in how immigration cases are decided. According to data from immigration court records for fiscal years 2012 to 2014, an average of 73% of children with legal representation were permitted by to stay in the U.S. On the other hand, only 15% of children without legal representation were allowed to stay in the U.S.⁴⁹ The obstacles that UCs and IWCs face in acquiring legal representation are frequently cited as a serious gap in the provision of federal services, and have generated concerns from organizations such as the ACLU and American Bar Association.⁵⁰ Even for those who can afford an attorney are likely to experience fraud.⁵¹

The surge dockets have generated challenges for UCs and service providers alike. The shortened time to prepare for hearings has made it harder for UCs to obtain counsel. Expediting case processing has increased the number of cases that attorneys take on at any given time with significantly less time per case (which have been shortened to months whereas prior to the docket such cases could take one to two years).

Coordination between Legal and Social services

Although legal and social services providers often rely on each other to handle UC cases, several interviewees mentioned that legal cases are complicated by difficulties in accessing social services. For instance, most Bay Area counties rely on social workers to identify immigrant youth who may be eligible for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) – an important precursor to permanent legal status – however, many child welfare offices are staffed by new and inexperienced social workers unfamiliar with SIJS due to high turnover rates. In addition, legal service providers often require the services of other experts such as mental health professionals who can corroborate a child’s story or trauma, diagnose any mental health conditions, and/or help explain any potential credibility issues that may arise from the trauma.

Organizations that provide needed psychosocial evaluations that could help UCs obtain legal status can require anywhere from 1-3 months advance notice for an evaluation. Additionally, volunteers with these programs may not have experience working with traumatized children, and children may not immediately trust the person conducting the evaluation. Thus, to the extent possible, attorneys need to work to share materials in advance of the evaluation that may be helpful to the expert.

Legal and social service organizations are often siloed and experience challenges in coordinating services. Interviewees mention that some major social service providers (i.e. schools) are uninformed about the available care that should be offered to UCs and/or programs that UCs are eligible for. As a result, UCs could be placed in programs that are neither culturally competent nor tailored to their particular needs. To mitigate for the the separate nature of legal and social services, a few larger organizations such as Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County and Legal Services for Children offer both legal and social services within the same organization, overseeing only internal referrals and coordination.

Interviewees also expressed a need for trauma-informed “wrap around services” – a clinical model that seeks to help individual cope with challenging circumstances. This particular form of service provision also seeks to tackle the multiple issues and systems that exacerbate certain challenges (i.e. lack of linguistically appropriate services for UCs, whether it be Spanish or the indigenous Mam Mayan language).

Other cited challenges

- **Access to health care and health needs** – include challenges in acquiring health insurance.
- **Political context** – involvement in the issue is sometimes politically motivated. In addition changes in the political landscape in the future can have an impact on how policies for UCs are fashioned.
- **Education** – many of these children have gaps in education and other issues that complicate the provision of proper educational resources.
- **Conflating UCs with other undocumented immigrants**
- **Limited funding in some counties makes it difficult to replicate model services that rely on robust funding.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

To better serve the thousands of unaccompanied immigrant children in the Bay Area, it is vital that the region’s service providers have the resources they require to ensure these children’s welfare both in the short and long term. Following extensive interviews, surveys, secondary research, and a forum of practitioners, ABAG has identified the following recommendations targeted to immigrant-serving organizations that fall broadly into two categories: Fostering inter-agency communication and collaboration and targeted expansion of resources.

Fostering Inter-Agency Communication and Collaboration

Recommendation	Local Examples
Database - Create a real-time, editable, database accessible to both social and legal service providers that includes information on services offered, staff language capacity, and the listed organization’s capacity to serve more UCs in general.	El Centro de la Raza in Oakland is working on creating a “living” referral database of legal and social service providers that could be expanded region-wide
Foster collaboration and coordination among providers through regional and countywide meetings and forums.	Legal Services for Children in San Francisco and ABAG in Oakland have held convenings of legal and social service providers to foster regional collaboration.
Acknowledge mental health and social service needs as vital for UCs and provide funding for crucial services including psychosocial evaluations and capacity building among providers.	Several Bay Area organizations including Legal Services for Children in San Francisco conduct a psychosocial evaluation of children as part of their intake process.
Promote coordination among legal service providers, especially those who go to probate court in the same city to avoid duplication of services.	The San Francisco Bar Association’s Attorney of the Day program which pairs pro-bono attorneys with children with pending cases could be emulated in other counties
Inter-county funding – Explore ways to extend funding might that be geographically restricted to residents of a given county to serve others that might come to that county for services	Many unaccompanied minors from the Central Valley come to the Bay Area for their court hearings yet are ineligible for many services.
Build community and foster social integration for children through planning social events and support groups in places where unaccompanied immigrant children are already congregating.	Churches throughout the Bay Area have proved to be a natural organizing ground for many recently arrived immigrants and logical places to hold functions.
Foster a culture of feedback where youth and immigrant-serving organizations can provide input to funders and policymakers to improve funding streams and better target programs.	While this remains an emerging model, organizations like Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR) helps connect philanthropy with immigrant-serving organizations.

Targeted Expansion of Resources

Recommendation	Local Examples
Build capacity of immigrant-serving organizations in rural and outlying areas by providing staff in such locations with training and access to resources.	Organizations like the Catholic Legal Immigration Network and the Immigration center for Women and Children regularly conduct “train the trainer” workshops, others like the Immigrant Legal Resource Center provide materials for workshops, and referrals to key services.
Encourage legal and social service providers to use a sliding scale of fees for services to UCs and IWCs	Pangea Legal Services and Immigration Center for Women and Children (ICWC) are examples of Bay Area organizations that provide legal services on a sliding scale fee system. The American Bar Association also maintains a web page that lists innovative programs to help people of modest meant obtain legal help. ⁵²
Support programs that provide UCs and IWCs with free or subsidized transportation to or from court hearings and who can have volunteers accompany clients to appointments.	<p>The State of California requires courts to provide a children’s waiting room in each courthouse for children whose parents or guardians are attending a court hearing.⁵³ Thus each county’s Superior Courts offer strategies for adopting waiting rooms. For instance, Kidango, a Fremont non-profit, operates children’s waiting rooms in Alameda courts. Alameda county also offers free shuttle services between the Bay Fair BART station and nearby bus stops to the juvenile courts in San Leandro.</p> <p>Faith-based organizations have taken strides to support children in their experiences with the courts. In Los Angeles, an Episcopal-based “acompañero” program pairs volunteer mentors with child refugees to help them negotiate the court system. In partnership with an ecumenical “Guardian Angels” project, the group trains clergy and lay volunteers to monitor immigration courtrooms for possible violations of children’s legal rights.</p> <p>Children-serving legal organizations such as Pangea also recruit volunteers to partner with refugee families and guide their adaptation to the U.S.</p>
Build human capital – train volunteers for discrete tasks that may otherwise require a social worker or legal counsel (i.e. processing paperwork, conducting intake interviews)	The Bar Association of San Francisco offers volunteer opportunities for legal workers, paralegals, law students, and Spanish and Mam-speaking interpreters to assist attorneys in providing Know Your Rights presentations, assisting with intakes, and serving as interpreters.
Encourage less experienced organizations to build their expertise working with unaccompanied youth by working closely with local organizations and shelters who have relationships and specialized knowledge working with this population.	<p>The growing collaboratives in the region (listed in Appendix VI) offer avenues to share practices between organizations with differing levels of experience.</p> <p>The SF Bar Association’s Attorney of the Day (AOD) program requires that new Pro Bono immigration attorneys observe and complete interviews with respondents under guidance of an experienced AOD panel attorney. Organizations such as CLINIC, KIND, and the Immigrant Legal Resource Center also provide trainings for first-time pro bono attorneys serving unaccompanied minors.</p>
Consider asking clients who have been served by the organization to help provide interpretation services having already undergone the process themselves	In partnership with organizational networks and community based organizations, CARECEN retains close ties with local Latino communities and trains parent leaders in building

	community and advocate on behalf of the community.
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Next Steps

As a Council of Governments, it is ABAG's role to research and bring to attention issues of major concern to its members. From this research it is clear that the Bay Area has admirably responded to the influx of unaccompanied immigrant children to the region. Jurisdictions and many immigrant-serving organizations have contributed significant financial and programmatic resources to ensure that these children have access to the services they need to succeed as new residents. However significant gaps in services remain that need to be addressed to help these children transition from newcomers to long-time neighbors. ABAG hopes that through this research, local governments and immigrant-serving organizations can tailor specific policies and programs to better serve these children within their own local context. The Bay Area has done tremendous work to become a national leader on this issue, undoubtedly the region will continue to lead by remaining as compassionate and welcoming to the most vulnerable as it has so amply demonstrated.

VI. Appendices

APPENDIX I. LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS INTERVIEWED AND SURVEYED

Organizations Interviewed

Bar Association of San Francisco
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
Catholic Legal Immigration Network
Culturestrike
Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and refugees
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Immigration Center for Women and Children
Inspiration Quest
Legal Services for Children
Oakland Unified School District
Office of Immigration Affairs, City of San Jose
Office of Refugee Resettlement - Office on Trafficking in Persons
San Francisco Foundation
San Francisco Mayor's office
San Francisco Unified School District
Santa Clara County Office of Human Affairs
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital
Puertas Abiertas

Legal Services Survey

API legal outreach
Bar Association of San Francisco
Canal Alliance
Catholic Charities CYO
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
Catholic Charities of the East Bay
Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies
Centro de Ayuda Legal para Inmigrantes
Centro Legal de la Raza
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
Consulate of Honduras
Dolores Street Community Services
East Bay Community Law Center
East Bay Sanctuary Covenant
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Jewish Family & Children's Services of the East Bay
Justice and Diversity Center
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Law Office of Helen Lawrence
Law Offices of Katie Annand

Legal Services Survey

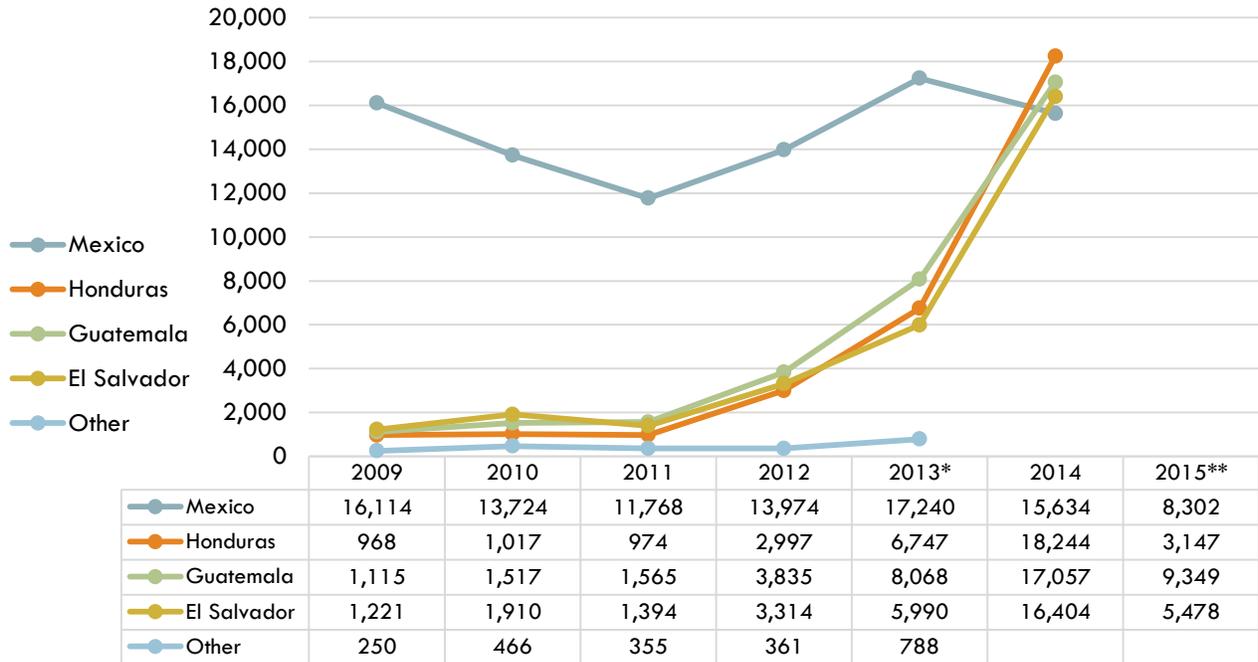
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights
Legal Advocates for Children & Youth
Legal Assistance for Seniors
Legal Services for Children
OneJustice
San Francisco Department of Human Services
Social Justice Collaborative
UC Davis School of Law Immigration Law Clinic
USF Immigration and Deportation Defense Clinic

Social Service survey

Alameda County Health Care Services
Alameda County Office of Education
Alameda County, Center for Healthy Schools and Communities
Asian Americans for Community Involvement
Catholic Charities CYO
Central American Resource Center of Northern California
Centro Latino Cuscatlan
Consulate of Honduras
Covenant House California East Bay
Dolores Street Community Services
East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy
Huckleberry House
Huckleberry Youth Programs
Human Services Agency SF County
International Rescue Committee
La Familia Counseling Services
Legal Services for Children
Mission Neighborhood Health Center / Project Alero
Oakland Unified School District
San Francisco Women Against Rape
Santa Clara County Department of Family and Children's Services
Santa Clara County Library District
SF Department of Public Health
SFUSD - Caminos
SFUSD Wellness Initiative
Social Services Agency, Department of Family and Children Services
Sonadores Invencibles
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital
The Women's Building

APPENDIX II. SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Figure 24. UCs apprehended during fiscal year 2014, by Country of Origin



*The category “other” stopped being recorded in 2013

**2015 still in progress, so not included in the time series lines

Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, statistics page

Figure 25. UC apprehensions by DHS, fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2015 by Border Control Sectors

Intersecting State	Sector	Fiscal Year 2014	Fiscal Year 2015
Arizona	Tucson Sector	6,942	4,516
California	El Centro Sector	485	444
	San Diego Sector	729	790
California and Arizona	Yuma Sector	295	599
Texas	Big Bend Sector	178	410
	Del Rio Sector	2,781	1,479
	Laredo Sector	3,128	1,778
	Rio Grande Sector	42,146	15,613
Texas and New Mexico	El Paso Sector	794	1,056
Southwest Border Total		46,858	22,869

*Estimates vary depending on the period. FY 14 and FY 15 figures represent CBP’s estimates through May.

**Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection Statistics page

Push and Pull factors

No agreement exists about the “push and pull” factors that underlie the recent spike in child arrivals to the border.^{54 55} Although audiences generally agree that country conditions, family reunification, work opportunities, poverty, and trafficking/exploitation are contributors, there are ongoing debates over the predominant reasons. Two major studies sought to identify these motives by directly surveying UCs (see Figure 1 for a comparison of results).⁵⁶ There have also

been arguments that recent reforms in U.S. Immigration Policy are a significant contributor; however, a statistical study by the Center for American Program shows that this is inconclusive.⁵⁷

Figure 26. Self-reported reasons for migration in 2014 studies

United Nations⁵⁸		Elizabeth Kennedy⁵⁹	
Sample: 404 children migrating from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Mexico		Sample: 315 children migrating from El Salvador.	
Reason	Frequency	Reason	Frequency
Family or Opportunity	329	Crime, gang threats, and violence	188
Violence in Society	192	Family Reunification	113
Abuse in home	85	Study	100
Deprivation	64	Work	84
Other	143	Poverty	17
		Abuse +	10
		Adventure	10

Note: both surveys used open -ended interviews and allowed multiple responses.

† Kennedy usually conducted interviews with parents present and believes the true rate is higher.

For an exhaustive list of detailed resources on UC arrivals on a national scale, see “Child Refugees and Migrants Coming to the United States” by Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (www.gcir.org/childrefugeesmigrants).

APPENDIX III. OVERVIEW OF LEGAL OPTIONS

Common forms of legal relief available to unaccompanied children:

Asylum

In general, there are two different types of asylum applications: affirmative applications and defensive applications. Individuals who are not in removal (or deportation) proceedings may submit an affirmative application to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. . If an individual is already in deportation proceedings – often after having been apprehended at a border - the asylum seeker must file a defensive application with the immigration judge who is adjudicating his or her removal proceedings. Under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, children classified as UCs may file an affirmative asylum application with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, despite the fact that they are in removal proceedings. This is a huge benefit that is only available to children who have been classified as UCs, or who otherwise fit the definition of an “unaccompanied alien child.”

Requirements: To qualify for asylum, a UC must meet the definition of a refugee outlined in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA): “any person who is outside any country of such person’s nationality and is unable or unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.”⁶⁰

For more information, consult the USCIS Asylum information page at: www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/refugees-asylum/asylum.

Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS)

SIJS allows certain undocumented children who have been abandoned, abused, or neglected by a parent to obtain lawful permanent residency. It is the only provision in substantive immigration law that incorporates the “*best interests of the child*” standard, a legal standard that seeks to ensure the protection and welfare of children.

Requirements: SIJS is unique within immigration law in that children must have findings from a state court before they can even apply for SIJS with the federal government. To qualify, the child must show that: 1) he or she has been declared dependent on a U.S. juvenile court or placed in the custody of an individual, entity, or agency or department of a state by a juvenile court,⁶¹ 2) the juvenile court has determined that reunification of the child with one or both parents is not viable due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or a similar basis under state law and 3) it has been determined through judicial or administrative proceedings that it would not be in the child’s best interest to be returned to his or her home country. Once the child has obtained an order from a state court fulfilling these requirements, he or she may petition U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for SIJS and adjustment of status to lawful permanent residency.

For more information, consult the USCIS SIJS information page at: www.uscis.gov/green-card/special-immigrant-juveniles/special-immigrant-juveniles-sij-status.

T-visas for trafficking victims

The T-Visa program was created to protect victims of severe forms of trafficking (both adults and children). It allows victims to remain in the United States and to assist in an investigation or prosecution of labor or sex trafficking.

Requirements: A victim must prepare and submit a petition for T nonimmigrant status, evidence that he or she meets the eligibility requirements, and a personal statement explaining how he or she was a victim of trafficking. After three years of continuous physical presence in the U.S., the T visa holder can apply to adjust his or her status to that of a lawful permanent resident. The T visa also allows holders to obtain work authorization in the United States.

U-visas for crime victims

The U visa is designed to protect victims of certain crimes who have suffered mental or physical abuse and are helpful to law enforcement or government officials in the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity. Congress created the U Visa as part of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act of 2000 after recognizing the need to protect victims and encourage them to come forward with information.

Requirements: A victim must prepare and submit a petition for U nonimmigrant status and have a certifying law enforcement agency fill out the form verifying that the victim has been, or will be, helpful in the investigation of the crime. Once USCIS approves a U visa application, the applicant receives “U nonimmigrant status,” allowing him or her to remain in the U.S. for up to four years while assisting law enforcement. After three years of continuous physical presence in the U.S., the U visa holder can apply to adjust his or her status to that of a lawful permanent resident. The U visa also allows holders to obtain work authorization in the United States.

For more information, consult the USCIS U-Visa page at: www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/victims-human-trafficking-other-crimes/victims-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status/victims-criminal-activity-u-nonimmigrant-status.

Immigrant Women With Children

Note: Adults are only eligible for a portion of the forms of relief mentioned above, namely, Asylum, U-Visas, and T-Visas.

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), passed by congress in 1994, creates special routes to immigration status for non-citizens that have been abused by a U.S. citizen spouse or parent. Through a self-petitioning process, the battered spouse/child may apply for immigration status without the knowledge or involvement of the abuser.

Requirements: Eligible applicants must file a VAWA petition with supporting documentation proving that they have experienced battery from a U.S. citizen and establish their relationship to the abuser. If the VAWA petition is approved, the immigrant is granted deferred action status in most cases and is eligible for certain public benefits, and will eventually be eligible to obtain lawful permanent residency.

For more information, consult the USCIS VAWA fact sheet at: www.uscis.gov/archive/archive-news/fact-sheet-uscis-issues-guidance-approved-violence-against-women-act-vawa-self-petitioners.

APPENDIX IV. IMMIGRANT WOMEN WITH CHILDREN AND THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

Unaccompanied immigrant children (UCs) and immigrant women with children (IWC) undergo different processes upon being detained by DHS officials on the border. Whereas children that are deemed UCs are transferred to long term shelter care under ORR under the Department of Health and Human Services, children with families are placed into custody under Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in family detention facilities (see Figure 3 for a comparison of departments). Federal judges have ruled that ICE is required to honor protections in the *Flores Settlement*, which holds that children must be housed in the least restrictive setting possible with access to medical care, exercise, and adequate education. However, numerous sources and interviews attest that the Bush and Obama administration have failed to heed to these protections in the case of ICE family detention centers.^{62 63}

Expansion of ICE Family Detention Centers

The U.S. had largely abandoned detention of immigrant families before 2014 maintaining only one residential shelter for immigrant families in Pennsylvania with capacity for 96 people. But in June 2014, the U.S. government dramatically expanded its detention of immigrant families, opening three new family detention facilities:⁶⁴

- Family detention facility in Artesia, New Mexico: 646-bed, make-shift family detention facility in Artesia, New Mexico (which ceased operation in December 2014)
- Family detention facility in Karnes County, Texas: with almost 600 beds, run by the GEO private prison company, opened in August 2014.
- Family detention facility in Dilley, Texas: holds several hundred mothers and children, but will ultimately has the capacity to hold 2400 people – making it the single largest immigration detention facility in the nation. Dilley is run and operated by Corrections Corporation of America, the largest private prison company in the United States.

The majority of the families detained in these facilities are Central American women and children who have fled extreme violence in their countries and are seeking political asylum. The ACLU cites that approximately 70 percent of the women and children in family detention demonstrate a credible fear of returning to their country of origin, thereby indicating significant possibility of establishing eligibility for asylum. Despite the fact that many of these women and children are eligible for release on bond or their own recognizance, the U.S. government imposed a blanket no-release policy for the express purpose of sending a deterrent message to other Central Americans who might be considering migrating to the U.S.

Recent Ruling in favor of Children

In December of 2014, the ACLU social justice organizations challenged the federal government’s “no-release policy” in federal court, seeking an injunction to stop the government from detaining these families for deterrence purposes. In February, a federal court in Washington DC ruled the approach unconstitutional, and officials stopped invoking deterrence as a factor in deciding whether to release mothers and children as they seek asylum in the United States. Yet many women and children remained stalled in detention centers with no end in sight, becoming severely depressed or anxious, and their distress echoed in their children, who became worried and sickly.⁶⁵

Most recently, in a decision announced in July 2015 by Judge Dolly M. Gee of Federal District Court for the Central District of California, the courts rejected the administration’s arguments for holding families and maintained that the detention centers in Texas fail to meet the *Flores* requirements.

Unique Needs

Travelling to the United States with a parent creates a unique set of challenges that, arguably, make it more difficult for *accompanied* children to have their needs met than unaccompanied children. Oftentimes immigrant women with children are relatively young themselves with most being in their late teens or early twenties and are travelling with toddlers and infants. These women with children face the many of the same challenges as unaccompanied minors who meet with a parent once they are in the US, but have access to far fewer legal options and other resources. For instance, if immigrant women with children seek asylum they are under the sole jurisdiction of the immigration courts, which tend to be more adversarial than Asylum Offices which are more commonly used in the case of unaccompanied minors. These women and children are also ineligible for a major legal remedy used to protect unaccompanied minors – Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS). Furthermore, most grant funding is targeted towards unaccompanied immigrant children which means these women and their children have less ability to cope with their pressing legal and social service needs.

APPENDIX V. COUNT OF UCS IN INDIVIDUAL CITIES SEPARATED BY COUNTY

Alameda County

Oakland	359
Hayward	83
Fremont	16
San Leandro	15
Alameda	9
Union City	6
Livermore	4
Newark	3
Pleasanton	3
Berkeley	2
Emeryville	2
Albany	1
Castro Valley	1

Contra Costa County

Richmond	107
San Pablo	32
Concord	20
Antioch	13
Pittsburg	7
El Sobrante	3
Pinole	1
San Ramon	1

San Francisco City and County

San Francisco	336
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Marin County

San Rafael	153
Novato	17
Napa	7
San Anselmo	3
American Canyon	2
St. Helena	2
Angwin	1
Larkspur	1
Sausalito	1

San Mateo County

San Mateo	125
Daly City	81
Redwood City	58
East Palo Alto	29
South San Francisco	19
San Bruno	7
Burlingame	5
Menlo Park	5
San Carlos	2
Belmont	1

Santa Clara County

San Jose	143
Sunnyvale	30
Mountain View	23
Santa Clara	13
Campbell	6
Palo Alto	4
Milpitas	3
Los Gatos	1

Solano County

Vallejo	31
Fairfield	10
Vacaville	1

Sonoma County

Santa Rosa	22
Petaluma	7

Napa County

Napa	7
American Canyon	2
St. Helena	2

APPENDIX VI. NETWORKS AND COLLABORATIVES

Legal Partnerships

- Bay Area DACA collaborative, led by International Institute of the Bay Area
- SIJS legal Collaborative and UAC roundtable facilitated by legal services for children
- Bar Association of San Francisco, immigration legal defense fund
- Oakland collaborative – Centro legal de la Raza and others
- The Bay Area Rural Justice Collaborative, Facilitated by One Justice

Education Partnerships:

- SFUSD Latino Newcomer youth collaborative
- McKinney-Vento

Public Health and Mental Health

- SF Department of Public Health and California Department of Education
- Movimiento Reunificacion Familiar

Faith-based Partnerships

- Deborah lee, churches to house them (although fairly nascent)
- East Bay Sanctuary Covenant

University Partnerships

- University of San Francisco, School of Law Unaccompanied Immigrant Children Assistance Project
- USF's School of Nursing and Health Professions to help the children engage with schools and community health organizations
- Stanford University students in translation program
- Doctors in Residency at University of California, San Francisco

APPENDIX VII. LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS ADDRESSING UCS

Legal Service Providers

Organization	Website	City	County
East Bay Community Law Center	ebclc.org/	Berkeley	Alameda
Carmen Reyes-Yosiff		Oakland	Alameda
Catholic Legal Immigration Network	cliniclegal.org/	Oakland	Alameda
Ijichi Perkins and Associates		Oakland	Alameda
Law Office of Angela M. Bean		Oakland	Alameda
Law Office of Helen Lawrence	helenlawrencelaw.com/	Oakland	Alameda
Law Office of Peggy Bristol Wright	www.bristolimmigrationlaw.com/	Oakland	Alameda
Law Office of Robert L. Lewis		Oakland	Alameda
Social Justice Collaborative	socialjusticecollaborative.org	Oakland	Alameda
The Law Office of Julianna Rivera		Oakland	Alameda
UC Davis School of Law	law.ucdavis.edu/	Davis	Davis
North Bay Legal Aid	lawyers.justia.com/legalservice/north-bay-legal-aid-9111	San Rafael	Marin
Bay Area Legal Aid	baylegal.org/	multiple locations	multiple locations
Immigration Center for Women and Children	icwclaw.org/	multiple locations	multiple locations
Youth Law Center	www.ylc.org/	multiple locations	multiple locations
Legal Aid of Napa valley	legalaidsnapa.org/	Napa	Napa
Asian Americans Advancing Justice	www.advancingjustice-la.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Bar Association of San Francisco	www.sfbar.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
People Organizing to Demand Environmental and Economic Justice (PODER)	www.podersf.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
University of California, San Francisco	www.ucsf.edu/	San Francisco	San Francisco
USF School of Law	www.usfca.edu/law/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Ana Gonzales		San Francisco	San Francisco
API Legal Outreach	www.apilegaloutreach.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach (APILO)	www.apilegaloutreach.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Center for Gender & Refugee Studies	cgrs.uchastings.edu/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Cindy Liou Consulting & Law		San Francisco	San Francisco
Helen Lawrence		San Francisco	San Francisco
Immigrant Legal Resource Center	www.ilrc.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Jaime D. Mira		San Francisco	San Francisco
Keker & Van Nest	www.kvn.com/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Law Office of Fellom & Solorio		San Francisco	San Francisco
Law Offices of Katie Annand		San Francisco	San Francisco
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights	www.lawyerscommittee.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
OneJustice	www.one-justice.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Pangea	www.pangealegal.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
SF Immigrant Legal Defense Collaborative at BASF	blog.sfbar.org/2015/05/07/the-san-francisco-immigrant-legal-defense-collaborative-bay-area-public-interest-attorneys-collective-response-to-crisis/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto	www.clsepa.org/	East Palo Alto	San Mateo
Immigration Services of Mountain View		Mountain View	San Mateo
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	www.legalaidsmc.org/		San Mateo
Cooley LLP	www.cooley.com/index.aspx	Palo Alto	Santa Clara
Asian Americans for Community Involvement	aaci.org/	San Jose	Santa Clara
California Strategies and Advocacy, LLC	www.calstrat.com/	San Jose	Santa Clara
CET Immigration Program	www.cetweb.org/immigration/	San Jose	Santa Clara
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley	www.lawfoundation.org/lacy.asp	San Jose	Santa Clara
Legal Advocates for Children & Youth	www.lawPhilanthropy.org/lacy.asp	San Jose	Santa Clara
SIREN	www.siren-bayarea.org/	San Jose	Santa Clara
Vital Immigrant Defense and Advocacy Services	vidaslegal.org	Santa Rosa	Sonoma

Philanthropic Organizations

ORGANIZATION	Website	City	County
California Endowment`	www.calendow.org/	Oakland	Alameda
Firedoll Foundation	www.firedoll.org/	Walnut Creek	Alameda
Y&H Soda Foundation	www.yhsodaPhilanthropy.org/	Moraga	Contra Costa
Marin Community Foundation	www.marincf.org/	Novato	Marin
Napa Valley Community Foundation	www.napavalleycf.org/	Napa	Napa
California Bar Foundation	www.calbarfoundation.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
The San Francisco Foundation	sff.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Walter S Johnson Foundation	wsjf.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Zellerbach Foundation	zff.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Silicon Valley Community Foundation	www.siliconvalleycf.org/	San Mateo	San Mateo
Heising Simons Foundation	www.heisingimons.org/	Los Altos	Santa Clara
Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees	www.gcir.org/	Sebastapol	Sonoma

Social Service Providers

ORGANIZATION	Website	City	County
Alameda Unified School District	www.alameda.k12.ca.us	Alameda	Alameda
East Bay Sanctuary Covenant	eastbaysanctuary.org/	Berkeley	Alameda
Bay Area Immigration Services	www.bayareaimmigrationservices.com/	Fremont	Alameda
Hayward Unified School District	www.husd.k12.ca.us/	Hayward	Alameda
La Familia Counseling Services	lafamiliacounseling.org/	Hayward	Alameda
Catholic Charities of the East Bay	www.cceb.org/	Oakland	Alameda
Covenant House California	covenanthousecalifornia.org/index-pg.php	Oakland	Alameda
International Rescue Committee	www.rescue.org/	Oakland	Alameda
Oakland Unified School District, staff focused exclusively on UCs	www.ousd.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=1	Oakland	Alameda
Alameda County Health Care Services	www.acgov.org/health/	San Leandro	Alameda
Alameda County Public Health Department	www.acphd.org/	San Leandro	Alameda
Alameda County Public Defender's Office	www.co.alameda.ca.us/defender/		Alameda
Centro Latino Cuscatlan		El Cerrito	Contra Costa
Canal Alliance	canalalliance.org/	San Rafael	Marin
International Institute of the Bay Area	www.iibayarea.org/	multiple locations	multiple locations
Up Valley Family Centers	upvalleyfamilycenters.org/	Calistoga	Napa
On the Move Bay Area	www.onthemovebayarea.org/	Napa	Napa
Puertas Abiertas Community resource Center	puertasabiertasnapa.org/	Napa	Napa
Casa Quezada	www.dscs.org/content/view/182/149/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Central American Resource Center (CARECEN SF)	carecensf.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
San Francisco Unified School District, staff focused exclusively on UCs	www.sfusd.edu/	San Francisco	San Francisco
SF International High school	international-sfusd-ca.schoolloop.com/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Sonadores Invencibles	younginvencibles.org/about/	San Francisco	San Francisco
The Alero Project	www.mnhc.org/news/rising-to-give-a-helping-hand-the-aler-project/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Child Protective Services	www.dss.cahwnet.gov/cdssweb/pg93.htm	San Francisco	San Francisco
Behavioral Health Services, San Francisco Dept. of Public Health	www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oservices/mentalHlth/CBHS/default.asp	San Francisco	San Francisco
Dolores Street Community Service	www.dscs.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Educators for Fair Consideration	e4fc.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Huckleberry Youth Programs	www.huckleberryyouth.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco

Social Service Providers

ORGANIZATION	Website	City	County
Instituto Familiar De La Raza	ifrsf.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Legal Services for Children	www.lsc-sf.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
Mission Neighborhood Health Center	www.mnhc.org	San Francisco	San Francisco
Office of Supervisor David Campos	www.sfbos.org/index.aspx?page=2117	San Francisco	San Francisco
Project Alero, Mission Neighborhood Health Center		San Francisco	San Francisco
San Francisco Human Services Agency	www.sfhsa.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
San Francisco Women Against Rape	www.sfwar.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
SF Mayor's Office of Housing/Community Development	sf-moh.org/	San Francisco	San Francisco
The Women's Building	www.womensbuilding.org/twb/	San Francisco	San Francisco
University of San Francisco	www.usfca.edu/	San Francisco	San Francisco
University Of San Francisco School Of Nursing and Health Professions		San Francisco	San Francisco
Government of Honduras		SAN BRUNO	San Mateo
Catholic Charities of San Mateo	catholiccharitiessf.org/	San Mateo	San Mateo
Catholic Charities San Francisco	catholiccharitiessf.org/	San Mateo	San Mateo
EMQ Families First	emqff.org/	Campbell	Santa Clara
Santa Clara County Library District	www.sccl.org/	Campbell	Santa Clara
Stanford University	www.stanford.edu/	Palo Alto	Santa Clara
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County	www.catholiccharitiesscc.org/	San Jose	Santa Clara
City of San Jose Mayor's Office	www.sanjoseca.gov/	San Jose	Santa Clara
City of San Jose - Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services	www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/	San Jose	Santa Clara
Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services	www.sccgov.org/sites/mhd/Pages/default.aspx	San Jose	Santa Clara
Santa Clara County Office of Human Affairs		San Jose	Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System, Mental Health	www.sccgov.org/sites/mhd/Pages/default.aspx	San Jose	Santa Clara
U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren	lofgren.house.gov/	San Jose	Santa Clara
Unity Care	www.unitycare.org/	San Jose	Santa Clara
Bill Wilson Center	www.billwilsoncenter.org/	santa clara	Santa Clara
Santa Clara County Counsel			Santa Clara
Catholic Social Service of Solano County	www.csssolano.org/	Vallejo	Solano
California Human Development	www.cahumandevlopment.org/	Santa Rosa	Sonoma
North Bay Organizing project	northbayop.org/	Graton	Sonoma County

Endnotes

¹ VERA Institute of Justice, “The Flow of Unaccompanied Children through the Immigration System: A Resource for Practitioners, Policy Makers, and Researchers.” Available at: (www.vera.org/pubs/flow-unaccompanied-children-through-immigration-system-resource-practitioners-policy-makers-and).

² These numbers are from Customs and Border Protection and are subject to change depending on the period. U.S. Customs and Border Protection, “Southwest Border Unaccompanied Alien Children apprehensions” Available at: (www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-border-unaccompanied-children).

³ For more information on these children on a county-by-country basis, see “Children on the Run” by UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency Available at: (www.unhcrwashington.org/sites/default/files/1_UAC_Children%20on%20the%20Run_Full%20Report.pdf).

⁴ Up to 15% of other UCs are apprehended internally after being arrested by state or local law enforcement. VERA Institute of Justice, “The Flow of Unaccompanied Children through the Immigration System: A Resource for Practitioners, Policy Makers, and Researchers.” Available at: (www.vera.org/pubs/flow-unaccompanied-children-through-immigration-system-resource-practitioners-policy-makers-and).

⁵ See The Flores Settlement. The Flores Settlement imposed several obligations, which fall into three broad categories, on the former INS. First, the INS was required to release children from immigration detention without unnecessary delay. Second, it was obligated to place children in the “least restrictive” setting appropriate to their age and any special needs. Third, it was required to implement standards relating to the care and treatment of children in immigration detention. The text of the Flores settlement agreement is available at www.centerforhumanrights.org.

⁶ Pew Research Center, “15 States with the highest share of immigrants in their population” Available at: (www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/05/14/15-states-with-the-highest-share-of-immigrants-in-their-population/).

⁷ Pew Research Center, “Number of Latino Children caught trying to enter the U.S. doubles in less than a year.” Available at: (www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/06/10/number-of-latino-children-caught-trying-to-enter-u-s-nearly-doubles-in-less-than-a-year/).

⁸ Office of Refugee Resettlement, “Unaccompanied Children Released to Sponsors by State” Available at: (www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr/programs/ucs/state-by-state-uc-placed-sponsors).

⁹ California cities that have become members of Welcoming America include Los Angeles, Oakley, San Francisco, and San Jose.

¹⁰ Reuters, “California Sets up fund for Legal Representation of Immigrant Children” Available at: (www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/28/us-usa-immigration-california-idUSKCN0HN00B20140928).

¹¹ The Washington Post, “Obama administration to provide \$9 million in legal help to undocumented children” (www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/govbeat/wp/2014/10/02/obama-administration-to-provide-9-million-in-legal-help-to-undocumented-children/).

¹² Corporation for National and Community Service, “Justice Department and CNCS Announce New Partnership to Enhance Immigration Courts and Provide Critical Legal Assistance to Unaccompanied Minors” Available at: (www.nationalservice.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2014/justice-department-and-cnccs-announce-new-partnership-enhance).

¹³ Senate Bill 873 is available in full at (leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB873).

¹⁴ The Los Angeles Times, “Oakland churches offer aid, sanctuary to Central American immigrants” Available at: (www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-bay-area-sanctuary-20141231-story.html#page=1).

¹⁵ Data obtained from ORR release records by zip code.

¹⁶ California Lawyer, “Unaccompanied, but Not Alone: Kids Who Migrate Alone Face Tough Odds Finding a Lawyer” Available at: (www.callawyer.com/2015/05/unaccompanied-minors-face-tough-odds-finding-a-lawyer-especially-in-central-valley/).

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Syracuse University’s Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) Immigration Project – Juvenile Immigration Court Deportation Proceedings Available at: (www.trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/juvenile/).

¹⁹ Association of Bay Area Governments, “San Francisco Bay Area State of the Region, Available at: (reports.abag.ca.gov/sotr/2015/section3-changing-population.php).

²⁰ Southwest Key, for example, is a company that bills itself as one of the largest providers of services for unaccompanied children in the U.S. They operate more than 25 shelters across 15 cities in Texas, Arizona and California and serve thousands of children each day.

²¹ The Catholic Immigration Network (CLINIC) provides a series of ORR webinars that give closer insight into this: Available at: (cliniclegal.org/resources/orr-webinar-series#w3).

²² U.S. Department of Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement, Unaccompanied Alien Children Program (www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/orr/fact_sheet.pdf).

- ²³ Immigrant Center for Women and Children, Legal Orientation Program for Custodians (LOPC), Available at: (icwclaw.org/services-available/legal-orientation-program-for-custodians-lopc/).
- ²⁴ Available at: (www.blog.sfbay.org/2015/05/07/the-san-francisco-immigrant-legal-defense-collaborative-bay-area-public-interest-attorneys-collective-response-to-crisis/).
- ²⁵ Available at: (cssr.berkeley.edu/cwsmsreports/LatinoPracticeAdvisory/Madera/Policy%20and%20Procedures%20SIJS.pdf)
- ²⁶ Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982).
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