



NATIONAL IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S ADVOCACY PROJECT,
(NIWAP PRONOUNCED *NEW-APP*)

**Invites you to a Training and Meeting on
Best Practices, Legal Rights, and Protections for Immigrant and
Limited English Proficient Crime Victims:
Free Training and Opportunity to Set the Agenda for Future Trainings**

When: September 27, 2019
10:30 am-4 pm

Where: **Kensington Park Library**
4201 Knowles Ave
Kensington, Maryland 20895

NIWAP invites victim service providers, victim advocates, attorneys, faith based organizations, social services, law enforcement, prosecutors, court staff, and judges who serve/work with immigrant victims of crime (domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse, stalking, human trafficking and child abuse victims) to attend a training and training needs assessment meeting presented by NIWAP national expert faculty.

The National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) at American University's Washington College of Law provides national expertise, training and technical assistance to judges, police, prosecutors, and victims' and legal services agencies across the country on the legal rights and access to justice, health care, housing and services for immigrant survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, human trafficking, sexual assault, stalking and other crimes.

This training will provide an overview of legal rights and options in Maryland for immigrant victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, stalking, human trafficking, and other crimes. The goal of this event will be to enhance the ability of Maryland stakeholders to support immigrant victims by improving service provider's knowledge, connecting attendees with technical assistance, materials, and tools, and identifying topics where additional training is needed that NIWAP can provide Maryland stakeholders over the next year. Topics this training will cover will include: immigration relief options, safety planning best practices, special issues that arise in family law cases (protection orders, custody, divorce, discovery), access to public benefits including housing and health care, tools for police and prosecutors, and language access legal rights.

In 2016 the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention published a report on a statewide victim services needs assessment in which one of the primary recommendations was that programs serving victims of crime wanted greater access to more opportunities to receive training from national experts. Victim services, legal services, faith-based, and law enforcement agencies were particularly interested in receiving training to improve agencies' ability to serve immigrant and limited English proficient (LEP) crime victims.

Between 2010 and 2015 Maryland's population grew by 4% with immigrants as the primary contributors to this growth, bringing the state's immigrant population in 2016 to 15.3% of the state's population. In Maryland 22.1% of the state's immigrant population have a temporary form of immigration status or are undocumented and 28.3% of children living in Maryland have one or more immigrant parents

NIWAP's training and technical assistance covers a wide range of topics important to ensuring that immigrant survivors and their children receive the access they need to ongoing wrap-around services and support to survive the trauma of crime victimization. Subject matter areas of expertise include help available to immigrant survivors under immigration, domestic violence, family (e.g. protection orders, divorce, custody, child/spousal support), public benefits (e.g. health care, housing, food, TANF, education, driver's licenses, child care, VOCA, victim services) and language access laws. NIWAP, Inc. is expanding its training, technical assistance, and support for programs working with immigrant and LEP victims and children in Maryland.

In addition to providing training, one of the key goals of this event will be to learn from participants about the questions or needs they have when working with immigrants in Maryland. This event will include significant time for questions and answers. It will also include an opportunity for attendees to identify topics for additional trainings NIWAP will conduct for Maryland stakeholders and for new tools that NIWAP can develop to assist programs in their work with immigrant victims and their children.

Tentative Agenda:

10:30 - 11:00am	Registration
11:00 – 11:15 am	Welcome and Opening Activity
11:15 – 1:00 pm	Overview of Immigrant Crime Victims' Rights and Options
1:00- 2:00 pm	Lunch (on your own – maps to local lunch options provided)
2:00- 2:30 pm	Activity: Identifying Public Benefits For Which Immigrant Victims Qualify
2:30 – 4:00 pm	Questions and Answers and Open Discussion on Needs (Training, Technical Assistance, Materials, Tools)

Online registration is now open at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L7V38ZH> . Once the conference is filled we will create a wait list and notify those on the wait list should space become available through cancellations.

Contact: For questions or comments on this conference please contact NIWAP staff at (202)274-4457 or info@niwap.org