

# Federal Fiscal Year 2018: A Webinar For Advocating For Our Funding Priorities

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*we are one family under God*

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# Presenters Today

**Ashley Feasley, Migration Policy Director, USCCB/MRS**

**Micheal Hill, Office of Government Relations, USCCB**

**Matt Wilch, Refugee Policy Advisor, USCCB/MRS**

**Melissa Hastings, Immigration Policy Advisor, USCCB/MRS**

**Kristin Lionetti: Policy Director, Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States**

**Tony Cube, Justice for Immigrants (JFI) National Manager, USCCB/MRS**

**\*Special Thanks to Laura Peralta-Schulte, NETWORK, and Lucas Swanepoel, Catholic Charities USA**

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# Why Are Appropriations Important?

- Funding fuels the federal government
- Is an action defining the federal government's priorities
- Appropriations are financed by taxpayer dollars and should reflect taxpayer's priorities



# Timeline: Typical Roles of Appropriations Players

## White House

- Request Appropriations for Agencies
- Sign or Veto Spending or Authorization Measures
- Provide General and Sometimes Specific Direction to Agencies



# Timeline: Typical Roles of Appropriations Players

## Agencies

- Assess Funding Needs Two Fiscal Years Ahead and Report to OMB
- Spend Funding During Current Fiscal Year
- Operate Programs, Often in Partnership with NGOs and Private Actors
- Respond to Congressional Oversight Inquiries



# Timeline: Typical Roles of Appropriations Players

## Congress

- Appropriate Funding to Agencies
- Set Parameters for How Agencies and Programs Can Operate
- Conduct Oversight Over Agencies and Programs



# Timeline:

## Typical Roles of Appropriations Players

### Private and NGO Sector

- Operate Programs in Collaboration with Agencies
- Serve as Experts Advising Agencies on Program Needs and Operations
- Advise Appropriators of Agency and Program Operations and Needs
- Rally Congressional Support for or Against Proposals
- Rally Public Support for or Against Proposals

# How To Set Up A Meeting With Your Lawmaker

- Look up your lawmaker's office and local office information. Use <http://www.house.gov/> and <https://www.senate.gov/index.htm>
- Call your their office and ask for the names of the schedulers so that you can send the requests directly to those staffers.
- Send your formal meeting request in writing to the office's scheduler. Remember that there might be a district/state scheduler and a DC scheduler.
- If you already have a staff contact in an office, consider cc'ing your contact in the meeting request.
- Gather before the meeting and discuss with your partners what role each will take and who will cover which issues or talking points.
- Your entire group should arrive at least five minutes early to the meeting.
- At the meeting, always get a business card of the staffer you are meeting with or the staffer(s) attending the meeting with the lawmaker.
- Always maintain a respectful tone. Do not be confrontational or overly argumentative.
- Assign one person in your group to take thorough notes.
- Post on social media as soon as possible any photos you take at the meeting. If using Twitter, tweet at the Member so that they can re-tweet the picture(s). Also tweet to @jfiusccb

# Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

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# Overview

- Focus- Department of Homeland Security
- Catholic Social Teaching on Immigration Enforcement:
  - Catholic Social Teaching recognizes the role of the government in ensuring the integrity of our border and enforcement of our laws.
  - However, this should not undermine or prohibit humane and just policies that allow individuals to migrate, to remain in home country and to access protection.

# No Exorbitant Enforcement Funding

- Oppose \$1.6 Billion for Border Wall along U.S./Mexico Border
  - Existing 700 Miles of Fencing
- Oppose Massive Increase to Immigrant Detention
  - Largest proposed increase ever
- 1000 ICE Officers and 500 CBP New Officer Hires Proposed
  - Last DHS officer hiring “surge” not completed



# Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Programs (LHHS)

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# Overview

- Focus – Department of Health and Human Services Funding and Department of Labor Funding
- JFI's asks promote access to crucial transitional services and assistance for refugees, unaccompanied children, other vulnerable migrant populations, and victims of human trafficking. This helps to build resiliency and self-sufficiency.
- JFI asks help equip local communities to successfully welcome these individuals and families.
- JFI asks also help the U.S. Government to fight human trafficking internationally.



# Build Resiliency and Self-Sufficiency

**WELCOMING COMMUNITY.....**

**Health Care**

**Education**

**Jobs**



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# Asks

## Refugee and Entrants Account

- \$1.69 billion
- For refugees, unaccompanied children, victims of trafficking, and other vulnerable migrant populations in the U.S.

## International Labor Affairs Bureau

- \$91 million
- For victims of human trafficking, to enable the U.S. Government to combat child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking internationally.



# Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS)



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# Overview

- Focus – Department of Justice funding
- JFI's asks promote migrant's access to protection by supporting:
  - Access to fair and timely proceedings;
  - Counsel; and
  - Full due process.

# Access to Due Process & Justice

## **Access to timely proceedings**

- Support overall increased request for the Executive Office of Immigration Review (EOIR).
- Support request for 75 new immigration judges.

## **Access to legal resources and representation**

- Expand Legal Orientation Programs to all detention facilities.
- Expand the Pilot Program for Legal Representation.

## **Protection not prosecution**

- Oppose hiring 70 immigration enforcement prosecutors.

# Other Asks

## Sanctuary Jurisdictions

- Oppose section 219 –
  - Aggressively expands existing information sharing and compliance requirements for local law enforcement.
  - Existing requirements set forth in 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

## Detention

- Oppose detention funding –
  - Short-term space that is offered by the U.S. Marshals.



# State and Foreign Operations and Related Programs (SFOPS)

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# Overview

- Focus – Department of State Funding
- JFI's asks promote eliminated the root causes of conflict and persecution that force people to flee from their countries.
- JFI asks protect and provide life-saving support for refugees who have fled from their homes to neighboring countries, and also supports the local communities that welcome the refugees.
- JFI asks support processing of the most vulnerable refugees for resettlement to the United States, 75% of whom are vulnerable women and children.

# Accompany Refugees on their Whole Journey

## International Disaster Assistance

“The Right Not to Have to Migrate”—address the root causes

## Migration and Refugee Assistance

Overseas Assistance—refugees’ basic necessities, host country support

Refugee Admissions Program—most vulnerable, family unity

## Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance

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## Asks

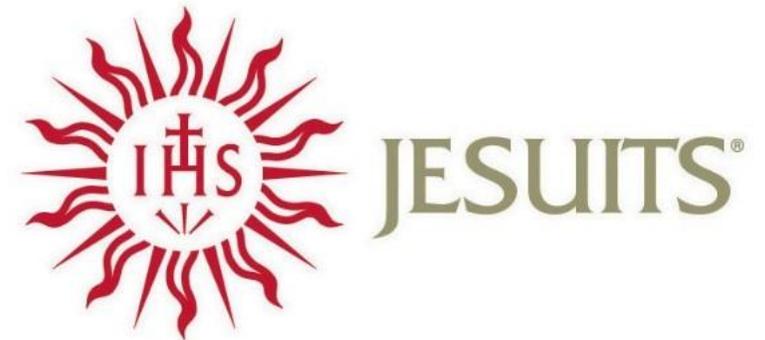
International Disaster Assistance Account--\$3.4 billion

Migration and Refugee Assistance Account--\$3.6 billion

Emergency Migration and Refugee Assistance--\$50 million

# Root Causes: Central America

- Immigration policy should consider the root causes of migration
  - Poverty, inequality, lack of opportunity
  - Violence and impunity
  - Weak states



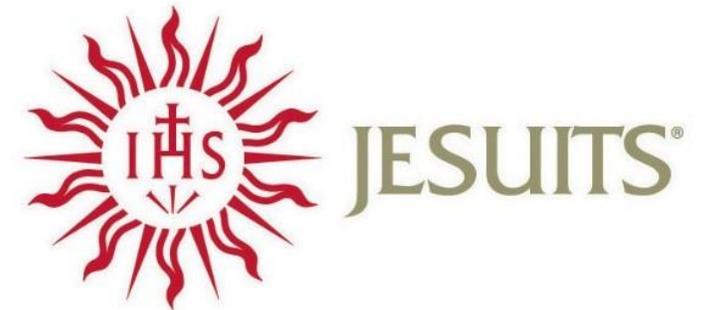
“We flee insecurity and hunger.”

“In my neighborhood, I am more likely to be shot in the head than I am to find a decent job.”

# Asks: Central America

Prioritize addressing the root causes of migration through community-based approaches that

- reduce poverty and
- prevent violence.



Other important asks:

- Support strengthening judicial systems
- Support strengthening protection systems for children and other vulnerable populations

Ask for U.S. assistance to address these areas rather than funding security forces.

# Questions

Please type your questions in the Chat area of your webinar screen

Send any follow-up questions to [acube@usccb.org](mailto:acube@usccb.org)

To view this and other webinars, visit the JFI Website:

<http://justiceforimmigrants.org/>

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