



**Southwest Suburban
Immigrant Project**

2023 IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION SUMMIT

NANCY GARCIA GUILLEN
Director of Civic Engagement
Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project

SSIP



Southwest Suburban
Immigrant Project

Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project
is a social impact organization
committed to community organizing for
the rights of immigrants in Chicago's
southwest suburbs through **education,**
civic engagement, and advocacy.

JUST A FEW OF OUR PROGRAMS...



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1. **Leadership & Healing Spaces:** via Community Navigators & Changemakers with a focus on POC development
2. **Parent Mentor Program (PMP):** Engagement and empowerment of parents within and beyond their school communities
3. **Mariachi Matters:** a social justice through music & culture space for low-income/immigrant children and their parents
4. **The People's Clinic:** accessible legal representation and literacy for low-income/mixed status families
5. **Immigrant Family Support & Resource Programs (IFSP & IFRP):** navigation of systems and resources for immigrant families through a state-level network
6. **Health Justice:** Addressing the root causes of health gaps in the immigrant community through Know your Rights & advocacy

CHALLENGES IN WORKING FOR HEALTH JUSTICE



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The demand to meet
other basic needs

Language Barriers

The costs of
limited healthcare
access

Internet access
and technology
knowledge

SOLUTIONS & BEST PRACTICES



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It takes a village! Relying on our partners has been critical and essential. Through this network we have provided support to families on different services, such as COVID testing & PPE, food pantries, housing & more.

Centering the client! In moments of uncertainty and fear, meeting the need with education has been key. This looks like providing someone with the immediate information they need to understand the situation & inviting them to be part of the ongoing conversation for solutions.

Effective Rapid Response! Coordinating and sharing resources quickly, from tangible items to volunteers, through mutual aid and innovative tactics. Meeting crisis as an organized community also means being mindful of rest for those constantly at the frontlines.

Developing the Strengths of Directly Impacted People! We believe the people most directly impacted are the experts we need at the table. Through leadership development and healing spaces, we center our stories as immigrants and find solutions via legislation and programming.

**Collaboration with
other organizations
is key and our
continued commitment
to shared knowledge!**