

# **Migrant and Asylum Seeker's Resource Guide: How to Navigate Services**

*Developed and Published in February 2024  
(Resource Information May Have Changed Depending on the Date)*

The purpose of this document is to provide general and accurate information to migrant families who have requested assistance from the City of Seattle specifically for the migrant families experiencing homelessness that have requested assistance in Seattle. This information has been compiled by the Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA). OIRA is not a housing department, doesn't provide shelter services, nor does it serve as an immigration office that processes immigration cases or asylum cases. OIRA's mission is to improve the lives of Seattle's immigrant and refugee communities through policies and programs.

Disclaimer: Most of the resources below might require having access to a phone, internet, or a device to get online.

## **Important phone numbers:**

- **911** - call or text in an emergency. An emergency is any situation that requires immediate assistance from the police, fire department or ambulance.
- **211** - information and referral to local resources and services in the country such as housing assistance, help with financial needs, location of the nearest food bank and many other resources
- **866-427-4747** – twenty-four-hour crisis line. Immediate help to individuals, families, and friends of people in emotional crisis.

## **Protect Yourself Against Scams**

Below are tips and best practices for avoiding and protecting oneself from scams targeting migrants and asylum seekers, including common tactics to watch for.

- Avoid individuals who say they are from “the immigration” who contact you through social media accounts. US governmental officials will not contact you through your personal social media accounts.
- Avoid individuals who promise to “get you to the United States quickly” if you pay a large sum of money.
- Always keep your passport and other identity documents in your possession.
- Anyone who is forced or coerced, through fear or lies, to perform labor, services, or sexual acts, is a victim of human trafficking. If you have seen or experienced this type of abuse, please call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 888-373-7888.
- The US government will not ask you to transfer money over the phone or through Western Union, MoneyGram, PayPal, Venmo, or gift cards as payment for immigration fees.
- Sometimes businesses and websites pretend to be immigration experts or say they have special connections to the government. They might also guarantee that you can get a visa, Green Card, or work permit faster if you pay a fee. Beware of these organizations or individuals.

- In many Latin American countries, the term “notario público” (Spanish for “notary public”) means something different from what it means in the United States. In many Spanish-speaking nations, “notarios” are powerful attorneys with special legal credentials. In the United States, however, notary publics are people authorized by state governments to witness the signing of important documents and to administer oaths but are not necessarily authorized to provide legal services. A notario público is not authorized to provide you with any legal services related to immigration. Only an attorney or an accredited representative working for a Department of Justice (DOJ)-recognized organization can give you legal advice. Beware of individuals who pose as immigration attorneys such as unlicensed or disbarred attorneys.

### **Free Legal Services**

- Venezuelan migrants who came into the US before July 31, 2023, might be eligible for Temporary Protective Status (TPS). Free TPS application preparation sessions take place at the Riverton United Methodist Church every Monday from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm on a walk-in basis. Please email [ellenkley@gmail.com](mailto:ellenkley@gmail.com) to sign up for a session if you want to reserve your spot.
- To inquire about assistance with applying for asylum, please contact Northwest Immigrant Rights Project by calling [\(206\) 957-8600](tel:(206)957-8600)
- Services are not guaranteed.

## List of Immigration Attorneys Accepting New Clients (not free):

Here are different services you might need:

- TPS: temporary protective status
- U-visa: for certain victims of crimes
- T-visa: for victims of trafficking
- EAD: Employment Authorization Documents
- VAWA: for victims of battery or extreme cruelty committed by U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents
- Affirmative Asylum: application for those seeking asylum who are not currently in removal proceedings before the Immigration Court
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS): for unaccompanied children under the age of 21 who have been found dependent by a juvenile court due to abuse, neglect, or abandonment of one or both parents
- DACA: Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. It delays the deportation of people without documentation who came to the U.S. as children

Firm	Contact Information	Services	Languages	Service Fee
Benjamin Cornell, Gibbs Houston Pauw	1000 2nd Ave., Ste. 1600 Seattle, WA 98104 206-682-1080 (office) <a href="mailto:ben.cornell@ghp-law.com">ben.cornell@ghp-law.com</a>	- Asylum - TPS - Work permit	Spanish, Punjabi, Amharic, Tigrinya, Russian, Ukrainian, French, and Korean.	Payment plans available
Loi Lumala, Delsoz Ubuntu US Immigration PLLP	Bellefield Office Park 1400 112th Ave. SE, Suite 100 Bellevue, WA 98004 Office: 425-504-9025 <a href="mailto:loilum@delsozubuntu.com">loilum@delsozubuntu.com</a>	- Asylum - TPS - Work permit - U-Visa - Green Card - Citizenship	Dari, Spanish, Swahili, Lingala, and French	Free and low-fee services. Offers payment plans.
Najibullah Hakimi, Najib Hakimi Law PLLC	1102 A Street, Suite 300, Tacoma, WA 98402 Phone: (+1) 360-390-3936 Email: <a href="mailto:najib@nhakimilaw.com">najib@nhakimilaw.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nhakimilaw.com">www.nhakimilaw.com</a>	- Asylum - Humanitarian Parole - TPS - Work permit - Citizenship	Afghani, Iranian, Farsi/Persian	Payment plans available
Million Feyyisa Lenjiso, Feyyisa Law	555 Andover Park W, Suite 200 Seattle, WA 98188 Phone: (206)-708-0869	- Asylum - TPS - Work permit	Amharic, Oromo, and Arabic	Low fees considered

	Email: <a href="mailto:million@feyyisalaw.com">million@feyyisalaw.com</a> .			
Nancy K. Whitehead, Law Office of James F. Whitehead	PO Box 84567 Seattle WA 98124 Phone: (206)448-0100 Email: nancy@jfw-law.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- Work permit</li> </ul>		Low fees available
Liya Djamilova, Law Office of Liya Djamilova	421 23 Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144 Phone: 206-6230118 Fax: 206-6233686 email: <a href="mailto:liya@djamilova.com">liya@djamilova.com</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Removal defense</li> <li>- Asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- EADs</li> <li>- Family based cases</li> <li>- U and T visas</li> <li>- DACA</li> </ul>	Russian, Spanish and French.	
Myrna Luna, Crescent Law	555 Andover Park West Suite 200 – Office 255 Tukwila, WA 98188 Phone: (425) 832-2030 Email: attorney@crescent-law.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Affirmative Asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- Work permits</li> </ul>	Spanish	Low fees available
Oresta Rzhiskiy, Oresta Rzhiskiy Law office PLLC	1122 W James st Kent Wa 98032 Phone: 253-335-4869 Email: orestad@hotmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Affirmative asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- Work permits</li> </ul>	Ukrainian and Russian	Very limited low fees services
Franca Baroni, Public Heart Immigration Services	Phone: 206-963-0283 Email: <a href="mailto:corpublicum@gmail.com">corpublicum@gmail.com</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited representation</li> <li>- removal proceedings</li> <li>- U and T visas</li> <li>- VAWA</li> <li>- Affirmative asylum</li> <li>- Work permits</li> <li>- SIJS</li> </ul>	Spanish, Italian, German, and limited French	Payment plans available
Emily Headings, Headings Immigration Law, PLLC	Mail: 7511 Greenwood Avenue N, #526, Seattle, WA 98103	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Family Visas</li> <li>- Asylum</li> <li>- Removal Defense</li> <li>- Citizenship</li> </ul>	Spanish	Low fees available

	Office: 4444 Woodland Park Ave. N., Suite B101, Seattle, WA 98103 Tel: 206.637.8398 Fax: 206.866.1235 <a href="http://www.headingslaw.com">www.headingslaw.com</a>			
Luz D. Metz, Metz Law Group, PLLC	110 Prefontaine Place S. Ste. 304 Seattle, WA 98104 Tel. 206-583-2745 Fax. 206-625-8683 <a href="http://www.metzlawgroup.com">www.metzlawgroup.com</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- Work permits</li> </ul>	Spanish	
Michele Carney CARNEY & MARCHI, P.S.	108 So. Washington St. No. 406 Seattle, Washington 98104 (Seattle): 206-224-0909 (Kennewick): 509-545-1055 <a href="mailto:mcarney@carmarlaw.com">mcarney@carmarlaw.com</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- Work Permits</li> <li>- Removal Proceedings</li> </ul>	Spanish	Payment plans available
Scott A Marks, The Law Office of Scott Marks	900 First Avenue South, Suite 104 Seattle, WA 98134 (206) 388-4135	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Asylum</li> <li>- TPS</li> <li>- DACA</li> <li>- EADs</li> <li>- Family Immigration</li> </ul>	Spanish	

## English Language Classes

Resource	Organization	Contact Information
<b>Most resources can be reached by phone. Access to Wi-Fi might be required for some of the resources below.</b>		
In Person and Virtual: English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Classes for Adults 18+	<b>Seattle Goodwill</b> 700 Dearborn Place South, Seattle, WA 98144	Call (206) 329-1000 to make an appointment
Virtual: English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Classes for Adults 18+	<b>Literacy Source</b> 3200 Northeast 125th Street, Seattle, WA 98125	Call (206) 782-2050 or visit: <a href="https://www.literacysource.org/irmirig/sign-up">https://www.literacysource.org/irmirig/sign-up</a> to register
Virtual: English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes for Adults 18+	<b>El Centro de la Raza</b> 2524 16th Avenue S Seattle, WA 98144	Call (206) 957-4610 or email: <a href="mailto:tzarate@elcentrodelaraza.org">tzarate@elcentrodelaraza.org</a> to register
In-Person: Talk Time: English as a Second Language (ESL) Conversation Groups	<b>The Seattle Public Library</b>	First come, first-served basis offered at multiple locations. Call (206) 386-4636 or view schedule at: <a href="https://www.spl.org/about-us/news-releases/talk-time-4/11">https://www.spl.org/about-us/news-releases/talk-time-4/11</a>
Virtual: English Innovations – Online English class (can provide computer/tablet)	<b>One America – Resources for Immigrants</b> 1225 S Weller Street, Ste 430 Seattle, WA 98144	Call to register in English: (425) 344-5612 Call to register in Spanish:(206) 839-7711 Call to register in Somali: (206) 468-9068
Visit this directory to contact and hire professional interpreters	<b>Washington State Court Interpreter Directory</b>	<a href="https://www.courts.wa.gov/programs_orgs/pos_interpret/index.cfm?fa=pos_interpret.searchresult">https://www.courts.wa.gov/programs_orgs/pos_interpret/index.cfm?fa=pos_interpret.searchresult</a>
Visit this directory to contact and hire professional interpreters and translators.	<b>Northwest Translator and Interpreter Society</b>	<a href="https://www.notisnet.org/Directory-of-Language-Specialists">https://www.notisnet.org/Directory-of-Language-Specialists</a>

## Available Shelters in the Seattle Area (Limited Resources)

Resource	Address	Contact Information	Shelter Intake Days/Hours:
Kent Community Engagement Center	1229 W Smith St, Kent WA 98032	Call (253) 854-0077 x5104	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am-2:30pm
CCS-Kent Family Center	1229 W Smith St, Kent WA		Wednesday, 10am-2:30pm
Federal Way Day Center	33505 14th Place South, Suite D, Federal Way, WA	Call: (253) 893-7895	Monday-Friday 10am-4pm
Source: Catholic Community Services, Retrieved on February 22, 2024, from <a href="https://ccsww.org/">https://ccsww.org/</a>			

## King County Homelessness Authority Resources

**Coordinated Entry Eligibility:** Coordinated Entry serves all people, including single adults, young adults, couples, families, and veterans who are experiencing homelessness. Please contact a Regional Access Point if you are:

- Living and sleeping outside
- Sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation
- Staying in a shelter
- Fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence
- Exiting an institution where you resided for up to 90 days and were in shelter or a place not meant for human habitation immediately prior to entering that institution.

## List of Regional Access Points in King County

**Regional Access Points (RAPs) are an entry point.** These entry points are resource centers where households experiencing homelessness may begin the process of exploring their housing options. They provide entry and assessment for the Coordinated Entry System; there is no guarantee this assessment will lead to a housing resource. Individuals and families experiencing homelessness may call ahead to schedule an appointment. **To schedule an appointment for a Housing Triage Tool, households must contact a Regional Access Point directly.** Regional Access Points have limited walk-in hours available. See below each RAP will list the walk-in hours available for that location. Walk-ins are first come first served.

Regional Access Point	Address	Contact Information	Hours of Operation
Multi-Service Center-Federal Way	1200 S. 336th St. Federal Way, WA 98003	Call 253-874-6718, (select Option 4) or email <a href="mailto:RAP@mschelps.org">RAP@mschelps.org</a> . (Allow three business	Calls are only answered on Wednesdays from 2:00pm-5:00pm.

		days to return your message).	Outside of that time, leave a voicemail with name, alias to protect your identity and a safe contact number or email address).
South King County – Renton YWCA Renton	1010 S. 2nd St., Renton, WA 98057	Call 425-523-1377 to make an appointment.	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Saturday hours by appointment only.
North King County – North Seattle Solid Ground – North Seattle	1501 N. 45th Street Seattle, WA 98103	Call 206-694-6833 to be assessed for diversion or Coordinated Entry. Be prepared to wait.	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Walk-in hours are Wednesdays from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, first-come first-served as time allows.
Catholic Community Services – Bellevue (The Salt House at Kirkland)	11920 NE 80th St #100 Kirkland, WA 98033 Next to the New Bethlehem Shelter in Kirkland	Call 206-328-5900 to make an appointment.	Monday-Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. By appointment only.
Catholic Community Services – Seattle	100 23rd Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98144	Call 206-328-5900 to make an appointment.	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00pm. By appointment only.

Sources: King County Regional Homelessness Authority. "About Coordinated Entry." Retrieved on February 22, 2024, from <https://kcrha.org/resources/about-coordinated-entry/>