



Human Services Chamber of Hamilton County

The Human Services Chamber of Hamilton County strives to serve as the unified voice of our 100+ nonprofit members regarding issues that impact our entire community. We have five priority areas on which we focus our efforts and advocacy: Local Government, Housing, Mental Health, Older Adults/Disability, and New Americans.

We believe in the inherent dignity of immigrants and the integrity of their families. We also believe that immigrants are essential to our region's future and workforce challenges.

Immigrants have contributed greatly to increasing our local population and to boosting the local economy. In fact, the total spending power of the immigrant population in the Cincinnati region is \$2.9 billion (source: [Cincinnati Compass](#)). Furthermore, 100% of population growth in Ohio is attributed to the immigrant community including 6,596 individuals in 2023 in the Cincinnati Region (sources: [The Brookings Institution](#) and [Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber State of the Region Report](#), respectively). Immigrants have breathed new life and hope into a region that was experiencing decades of population loss and disinvestment.

We do not advocate for unrestrained immigration. What our community would benefit from are additional and accessible legal pathways for current migrant residents. Our nation has always had a fragmented immigration system, and our local communities have deserved a better process for decades.

As such, we believe that immigrants should not be scapegoated for societal challenges that have long existed or for the problems created by the fragmented system referenced above.

Our immigrant neighbors are not a monolith either, as they have a variety of statuses. For example, there are several long-standing, bipartisan, and well-coordinated humanitarian-based immigration programs. We sincerely hope that vetted and effective legal pathways like these do not become collateral damage to policies that may affect migrants negatively.

We encourage our community in Hamilton County to join us in continuing to foster an environment where we respect human dignity above all. Together, we can create a welcoming and inclusive space for everyone in Hamilton County; one in which all families, regardless of their journey, can achieve stability, security, and hope for a brighter future.