



# A Month-by-Month Guide to Promoting Immigrant Integration in 2022

Immigrant integration is most successful at the local level. Working with your neighbors, local organizations, and local officials to cultivate and foster a community of diversity and inclusivity ensures everyone feels safe, welcomed and at home. Here are several ways to promote immigrant integration in your community for the new year and beyond!

## January

Start the year off ensuring all staff understand the basics of immigrant integration: its definition, what it looks like, who is responsible for making it happen and how to get an agency ready to work on integration as an agency goal. Use [CLINIC's 3-part integration podcast](#) series in a staff meeting to kick off integration planning in the new year.

## February

Initiate monthly community walks with your local officials and community members! For example, the Boulder, Colo., city government offers the [Boulder Walks](#) program. These community walks allow residents of the city to stay active and explore their neighborhoods all while getting to know one another. The community walks are family and pet friendly and provide the perfect opportunity to connect with local officials. Community walks can encourage people from different language backgrounds to join in, especially if interpretation is offered to those who are interested.

## March

Connect with your local nonprofits that work with the immigrant and refugee population. [Immigration legal service providers](#) are wonderful partners for immigrant integration work, as are [faith-based organizations](#). Many organizations could use your help! To find a nonprofit in your area, visit CLINIC's [affiliate directory](#).

## April

Together we are stronger! Engage with your local officials and encourage them to promote immigrant integration. Listen to the Center for Immigrant Integration's recorded webinar on [partnering with cities](#) to learn the basic components of establishing a relationship and working with your local government to promote integration.

## May

Gather input from your community so your program can offer services that are needed and wanted. Data collected from agency staff, clients and community members can help agency staff develop local immigrant integration programming that reflects the needs of your community. CLINIC offers three [Immigrant Integration Surveys](#), a webinar and a toolkit on how to collect and use the data.

## June

Celebrate Immigrant Heritage Month with your community by attending a community event. For example, the [City of Philadelphia](#) hosts an annual event to bring together immigrant communities and long-time residents. Immigrant Heritage Month is the perfect opportunity to explore other cultures, learn and grow!

## July

Celebrate [Independence Day](#) several ways! Attend a naturalization ceremony and celebrate America's newest citizens! Invite your neighbors over for a multicultural Fourth of July cookout and try different foods. Lastly, create a safe space and encourage your immigrant neighbors to share their journey to the United States. For some, this may be their first Independence Day.

## August

Attend a fundraiser or participate in community events that support nonprofits whose mission supports the immigrant community. CLINIC affiliate [Latin American Coalition](#) hosts the [City of Immigrants 5K marathon](#). Members of the community gather in this event to celebrate their heritage and the city's immigrant communities.

## September

Every September thousands of people and organizations celebrate Citizenship Week. Plan your own local celebrations using CLINIC's [Citizenship Week](#) resources. Alternatively, join an organization hosting a community wide event.

## October

Attend a local or national conference! CLINIC affiliate [Immigration & Citizenship Organization](#) hosts an annual [Immigrant Integration Day](#) where organizations, officials and community members come together to promote the integration of immigrants and refugees. Conferences are the perfect opportunity for networking and offer convenient access to various resources from multiple organizations.

## November

Combine traditions or make new ones! Every year, CLINIC affiliate, [FaithAction International House](#), hosts their largest, annual bridge-building event — [Multicultural Thanksgiving](#). This event brings hundreds of members from the community together. They laugh, they eat, they share stories and friendships blossom.

## December

As we prepare for another year, take a moment to reflect on the history of the United States and the changes we have gone through to create a more inclusive, welcoming and integrated community. We must celebrate diversity and the many ways, knowingly or not, we have promoted immigrant integration. Plan for the coming year with our [affiliate highlights](#), where you can read about initiatives CLINIC affiliates are offering in their local areas.

Do you have a great story to highlight! [Share with us](#) how your community promotes immigrant integration!