



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contacts:

Tim Close
Director of Development & Communications
(253) 383-3951, ext. 229
tclose@tacomacommunityhouse.org

Danielle Burch
Communications Associate
(253) 383-3951, ext. 234
dburch@tacomacommunityhouse.org

Tacoma Community House to host Citizenship Day on Saturday, April 8

TACOMA, WA—Tacoma Community House is working in partnership with the Washington Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyer's Association ([AILA-WA](#)) and the [Washington New Americans](#) program to host a Citizenship Day at their facility (1314 S. L Street, Tacoma, WA 98405) on Saturday, April 8. This free legal clinic will pair eager legal permanent residents (LPRs) with pro-bono immigration attorneys who can provide guidance in navigating the complex naturalization process.

Washington State has over 263,000 legal permanent residents who are eligible for naturalization but have yet to take that final step. Often, this delay is due to confusion about the process or because of the formidable fees involved, over \$700 per application.

What: [Citizenship Day](#), a free legal clinic for eligible legal permanent residents to get help applying for citizenship

When: Saturday, April 8 – We welcome clients from 10am-1pm, or *until we reach capacity*. We strongly recommend arriving prior to 10am (please expect to stay 3-5 hours). No appointments needed.

Where: Tacoma Community House. 1314 South L Street, Tacoma, WA 98405

More details and information about what participants should bring to the event is available [here](#).

According to a [report](#) by the National Partnership for New Americans, the Center for Popular Democracy, and the USC Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration, new citizens see their average incomes rise by up to 11%, while cities gain hundreds of millions in new revenue from taxes, increased consumer spending, a reduction in bureaucracy, and many other factors, if only half of the city's eligible immigrants were to naturalize.

Once they become citizens, new Americans enjoy benefits such as the right to vote, the freedom to travel without fear of being denied re-entry, the ability to sponsor family members, and many others.

(Cont.)

About Tacoma Community House

As one of the longest, continuously operating social service agencies in Washington State, TCH has improved the lives of generations of immigrants, refugees, and other (predominantly low-income) community members through the four cornerstones of *Education, Employment, Immigration* and *Advocacy*.

Founded by Methodist women in 1910 in the small room of a private home in Tacoma's Hilltop neighborhood, TCH originally served a couple dozen neighborhood children. Today, TCH is a nationally respected, community-based multiservice center providing 3,800 program services to 3,500 adults and youth from the U.S. and over 90 other countries.

TCH's service area of Pierce, South King, Kitsap, Thurston, and Mason counties represents a growing population of 1.6 million individuals, 10% of whom are immigrants. TCH is the only organization that provides a full range of services to immigrants and refugees between Portland and Seattle.

Learn more at www.TacomaCommunityHouse.org

**Tacoma Community House | (253) 383-3951 | www.TacomaCommunityHouse.org
1314 S. L Street, Tacoma, WA 98405**

“Tacoma Community House creates opportunities for immigrants and other community members in the Puget Sound region through comprehensive services focused on self-sufficiency, inclusion and advocacy.”