

The logo for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Alaska. It features the letters "ACLU" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. Below "ACLU" is the word "Alaska" in a smaller, red serif font. To the right of the text are two vertical yellow bars of equal height.

ACLU

Alaska

Mara Kimmel,
Executive Director
mkimmel@acluak.org

\$2.3B

Immigrant household income

\$1.8B

Total spending power

State & Local Taxes Paid

\$82.5M

Federal Taxes Paid

\$420.6M

Total Taxes Paid

\$503.1M

\$245.3M

Immigrants' contributions to Social Security

\$62.5M

Immigrants' contributions to Medicare

New Americans in **Alaska**



Alaska has a small but vital community of immigrants, many of whom came from the Philippines. About 7.5 percent of the state's residents are foreign-born, and 4.6 percent of its U.S.-born residents live with at least one immigrant parent. Immigrants make up 10.8 percent of Alaska's labor force and support the state's economy in many ways. They account for 45.1 percent of the manufacturing workforce in the state. As neighbors, business owners, taxpayers, and workers, immigrants are an integral part of Alaska's diverse and thriving communities and make extensive contributions that benefit all.

OVERVIEW¹

Immigrant residents ²	54,800
Immigrant share of population	7.5%
Immigrant taxes paid	\$503.1M
Immigrant spending power	\$1.8B

DEMOGRAPHICS

In the United States, immigrants are more likely to be working-age than their U.S.-born counterparts. This means they are more likely to be active in the labor force, allowing them to contribute to the economy not only as consumers but also as taxpayers, helping fund social services and programs like Medicare and Social Security.

Share of immigrant women	53.1%
Share of immigrant men	46.9%
Number of immigrant children	-
Share of U.S.-born residents living with at least one immigrant parent	4.6%
Number of U.S.-born residents living with at least one immigrant parent	31,000
Share of foreign-born that are proficient in English	86.8%

Our Communities

SOURCE: [HTTPS://MAP.AMERICANIMMIGRATIONCOUNCIL.ORG/LOCATIONS/ALASKA/#](https://map.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/locations/alaska/#)

Immigration Status

U.S. born citizen

Naturalized citizen

Lawful Permanent Resident

Employment Based Visa

Student Visas

Refugee

Asylee

Temporary Protected Status

Humanitarian Parole

Deferred Action on Childhood Arrival

Immigration in Alaska by the Numbers

J-1 and J-2 visas used in tourism/hospitality/retail, seafood, healthcare, education

H-1A visas (approx. 50 persons per year) – for labor in farms and greenhouses

1,100 Alaskans received their permanent residence status in 2023

47,000 visitor visas

32,000 foreign born Alaskans are U.S Citizens

30,600 foreign born Alaskans eligible to vote

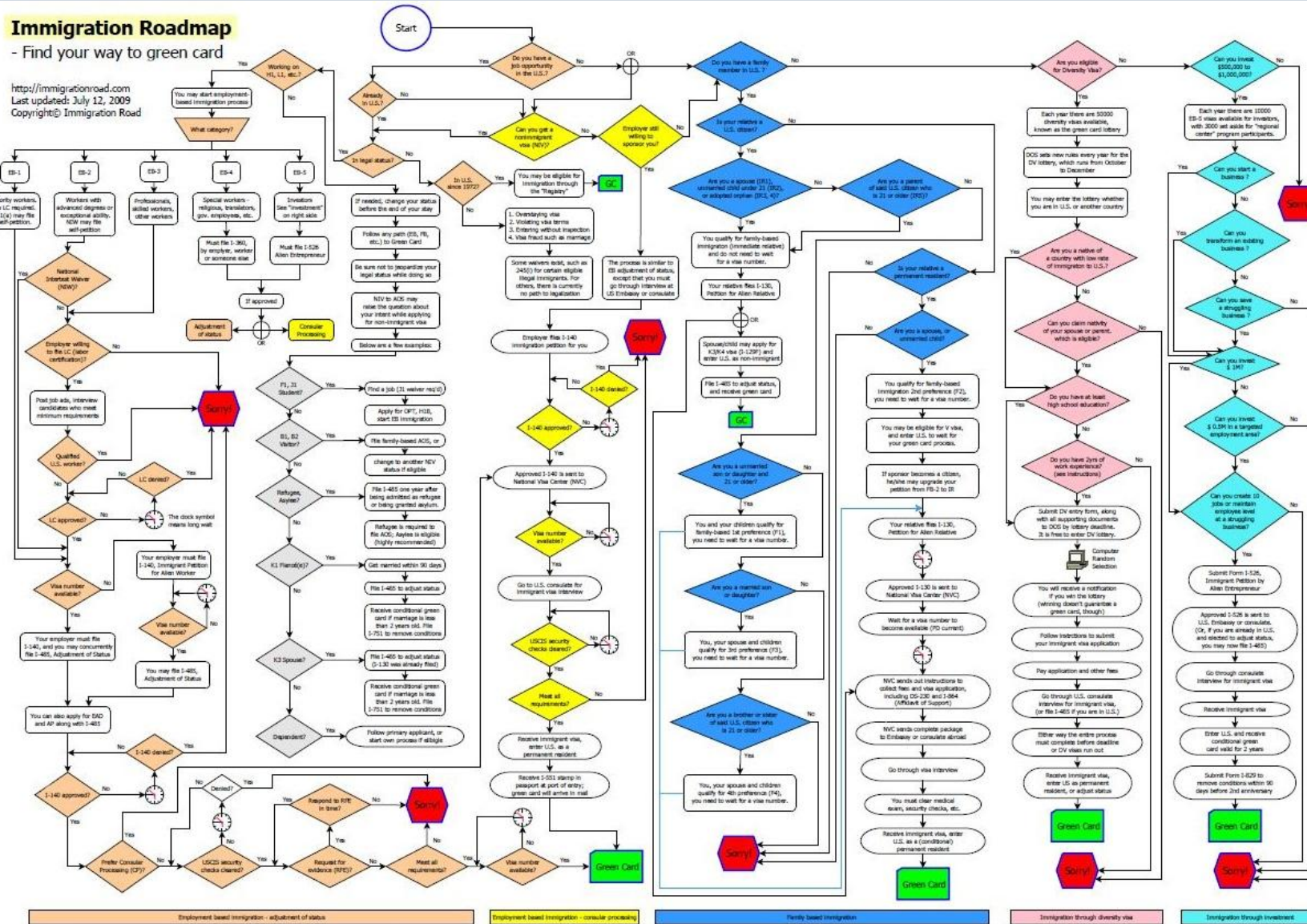
10,300 foreign born Alaskans eligible for naturalization

70 Alaskans here on Deferred Action Childhood Arrival status

Immigration Roadmap

- Find your way to green card

<http://immigrationroad.com>
Last updated: July 12, 2009
Copyright© Immigration Road



Disclaimer: This immigration roadmap is for general guidance only and shall NOT be construed as legal advice. U.S. immigration laws and regulations are ever changing, so always confirm with USCIS and/or consult a qualified professional with regard to your case. No warranty is made regarding the accuracy of any information; list all possible ways to GC are covered by this flowchart, and appeals/rejection to happen are not included. You may start multiple processes if you are eligible.

How do I get my green card?

Anna Taylor, JD

Deputy Director, Alaska Institute for Justice



Victims of Crime in Alaska

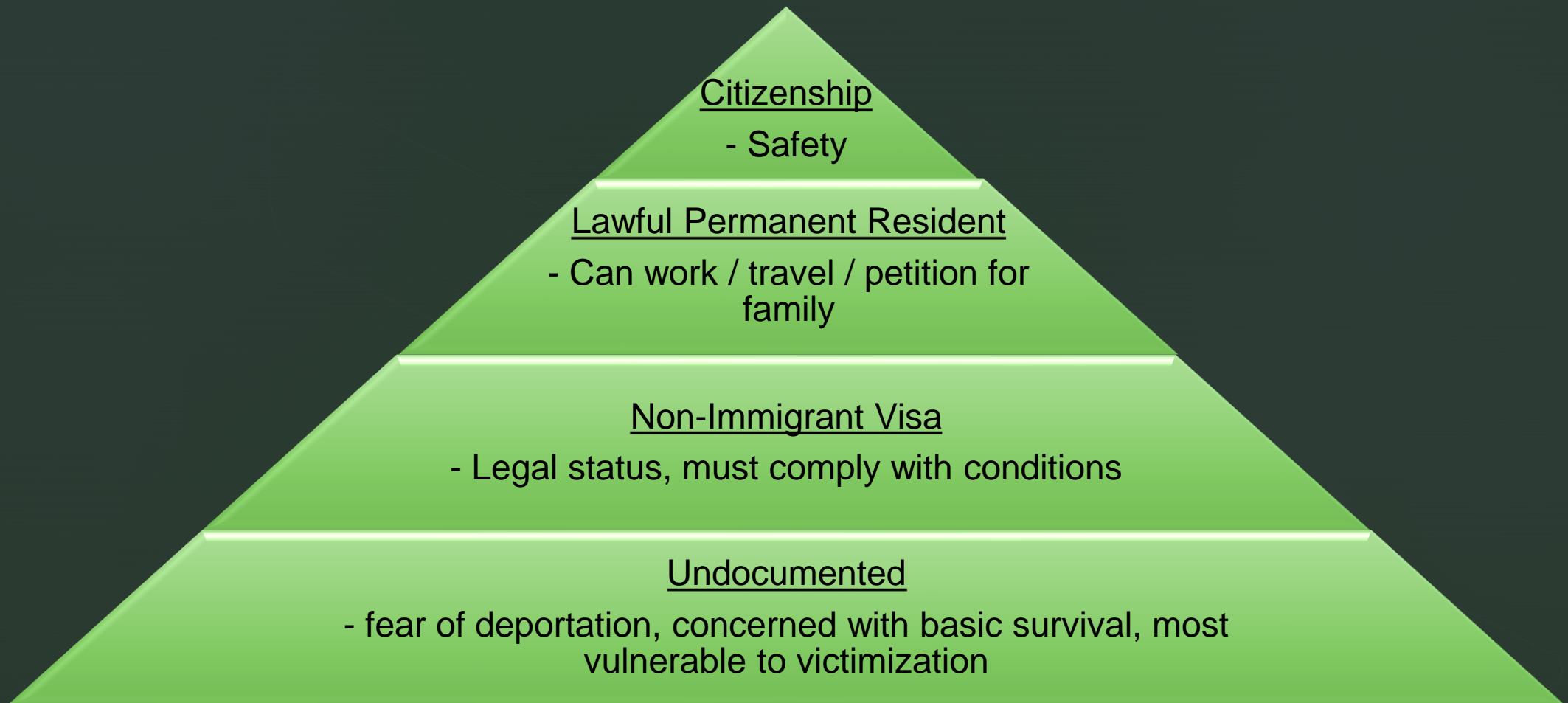
Overview

- Who we are and what we do
- Immigration Status as a tool of control
- AIJ's Crime Victim Statistics
- What AIJ can do for Survivors

Alaska Institute for Justice

- ▶ Non-Profit founded in 2005
- ▶ AIJ is dedicated to protecting the human rights of all Alaskans through legal services, policy and education
- ▶ Three components:
 - ▶ Alaska Immigration Justice Project (AIJP)
 - ▶ Language Interpreter Center (LIC)
 - ▶ Alaska Climate Justice Program

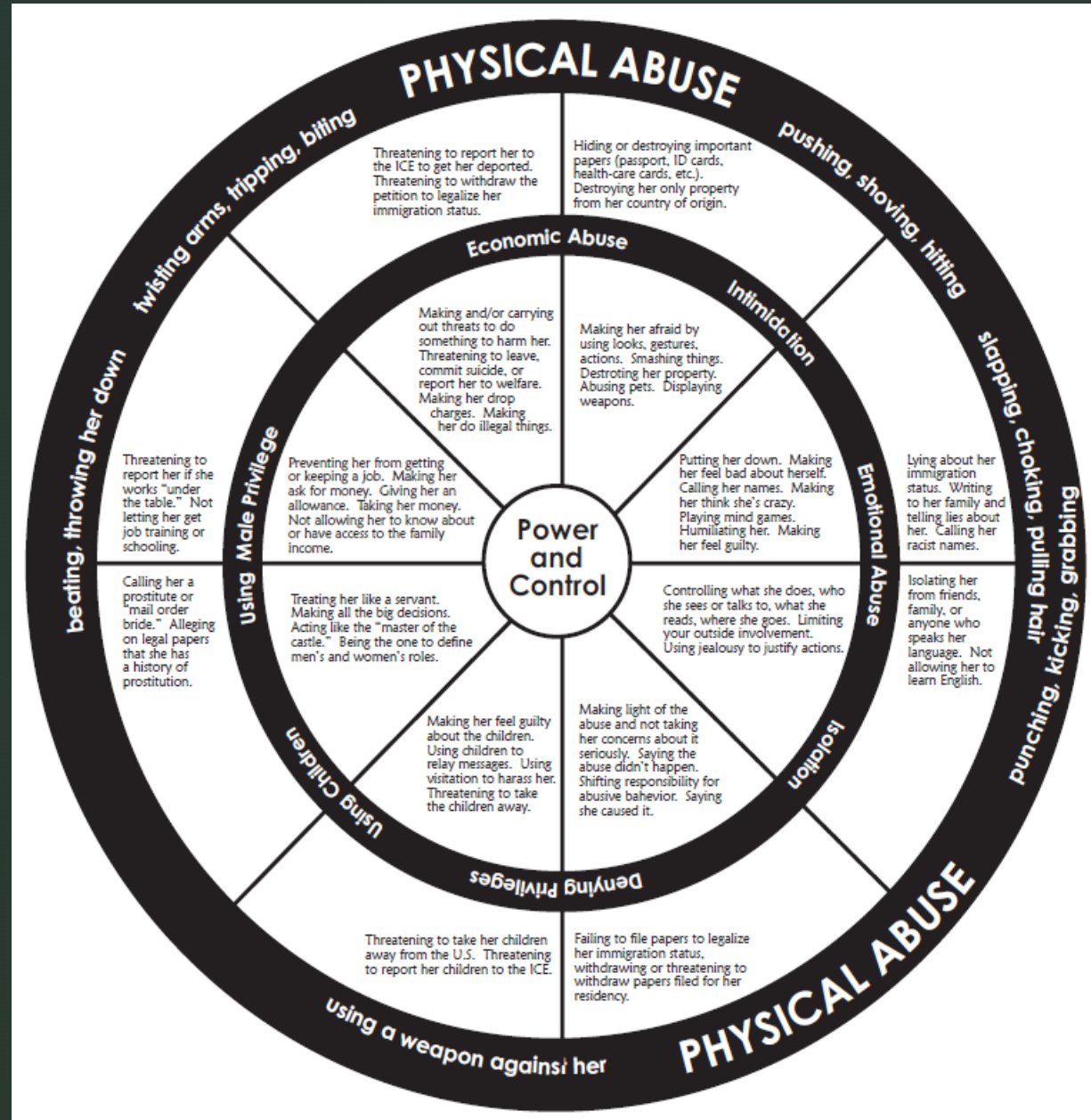
Immigration Statuses



Immigration Status Can Effect...

- Work authorization
- Driver's license
- Social security number
- Renting an apartment
- Fear of Law Enforcement

Immigrant Power & Control Wheel



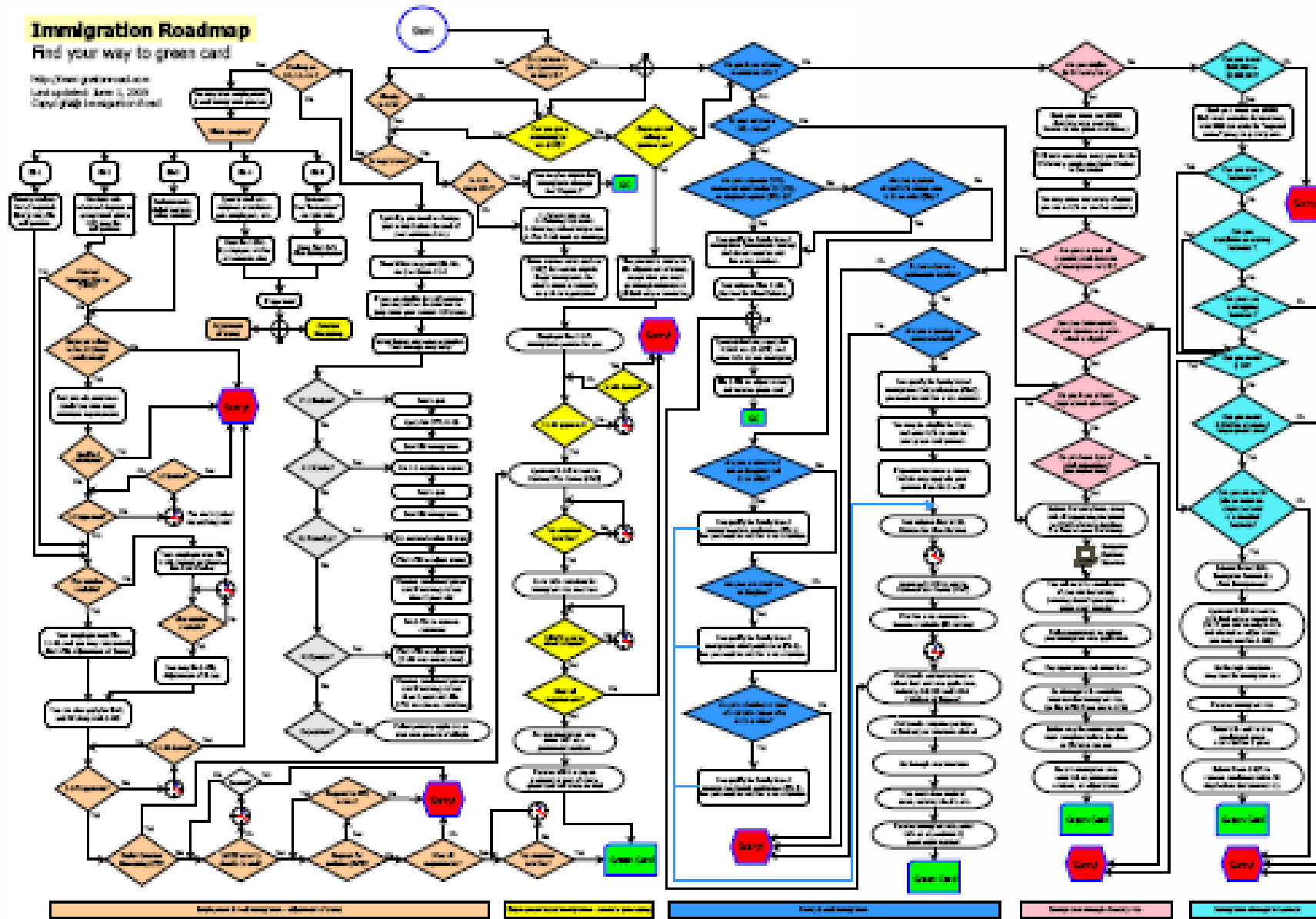
Crime Victim Statistics

- Human Trafficking – October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 – 40 survivors served
 - 6 survivors of sex trafficking, 32 survivors of labor trafficking, and 2 survivors of labor and sex trafficking
- Crime Victims – October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 – 113 survivors
 - 81 survivors of domestic violence
 - 13 survivors of assault
 - 13 survivors of sexual assault
- Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking – January 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024
 - Domestic Violence – 79 survivors
 - Sexual Assault – 11 survivors
 - Stalking- 1 survivors

Immigration Roadmap

Find your way to green card

http://www.greencardroad.com
Last updated: June 1, 2009
Copyright ImmigrationRoad.com



Disclaimer: The above information is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer of immigration services. Immigration laws and regulations are subject to change without notice. Please consult with an immigration attorney for more information.

VAWA Self Petitions

- VAWA Self-Petitions: green cards that are available to close family relatives of abusive US citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents

■ T and U Visas

- U visas: 4 year visas available to crime victims who are helpful in the investigation of a crime
- T visas:
 - Victim of severe form of human trafficking
 - In the US on account of human trafficking
 - Has not unreasonably refused to help in the investigation of human trafficking
 - Would suffer extreme hardship if deported

■ Contact Information

- Anna.taylor@akijp.org
- (907) 279-2457
- Language Interpreter Center
 - (907) 297-2760
- www.akijp.org

Building Belonging: Welcoming Our Newest Alaskans Through Refugee Resettlement Across the State

Issa Spatrisano

Alaska State Refugee Coordinator

Email: ispatrisano@cssalaska.org

Phone: 907-222-7341

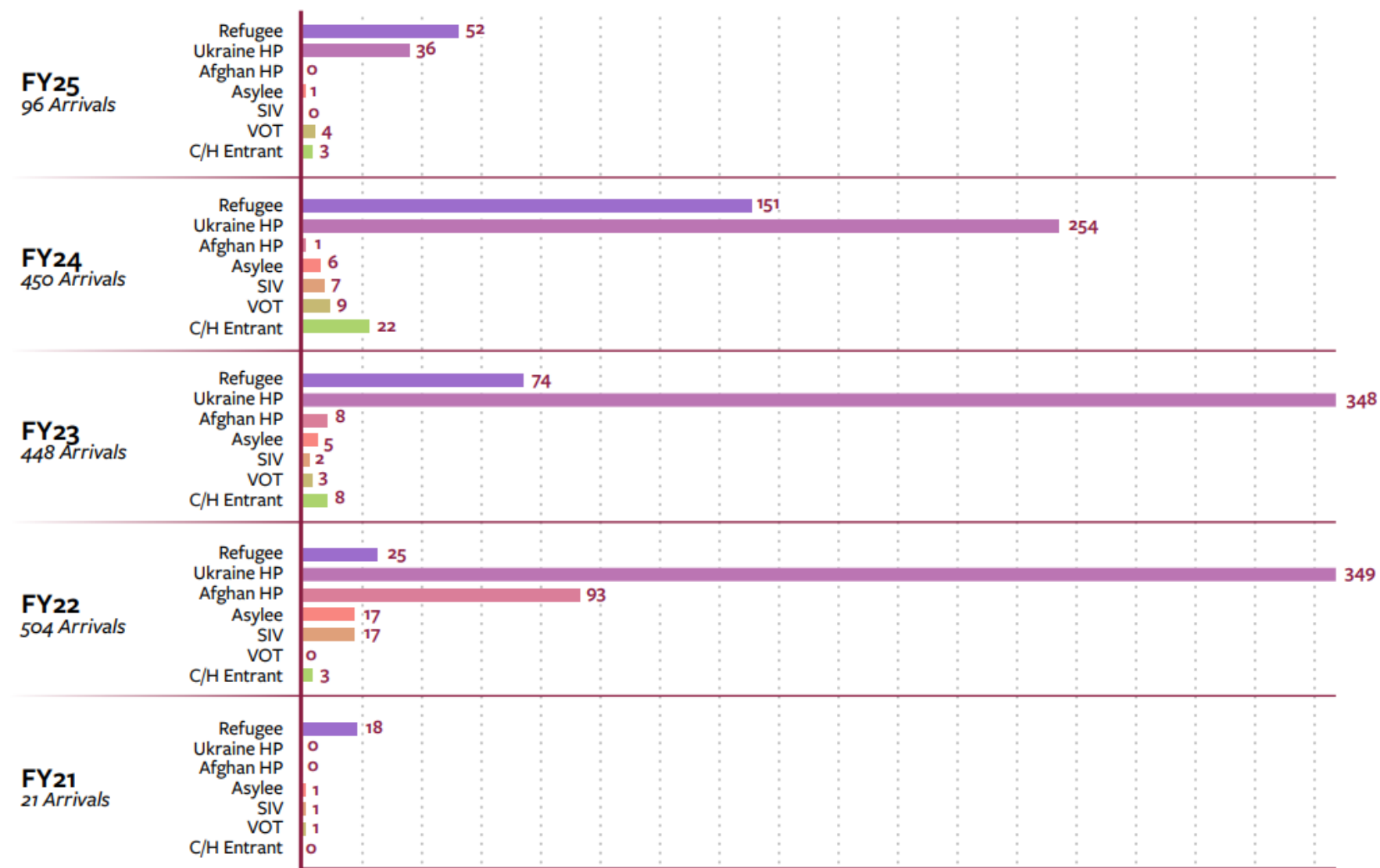


Catholic
Social Services

Populations served

- Pathway to Citizenship
 - Refugee
 - Asylee
 - Cuban and Haitian Entrant
 - VOT
 - Special Immigrant Visas (SIV)
 - Afghan Humanitarian Parolee
- Temporary Status
 - Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolee

Resettlement by Population Over the Last 5 Years

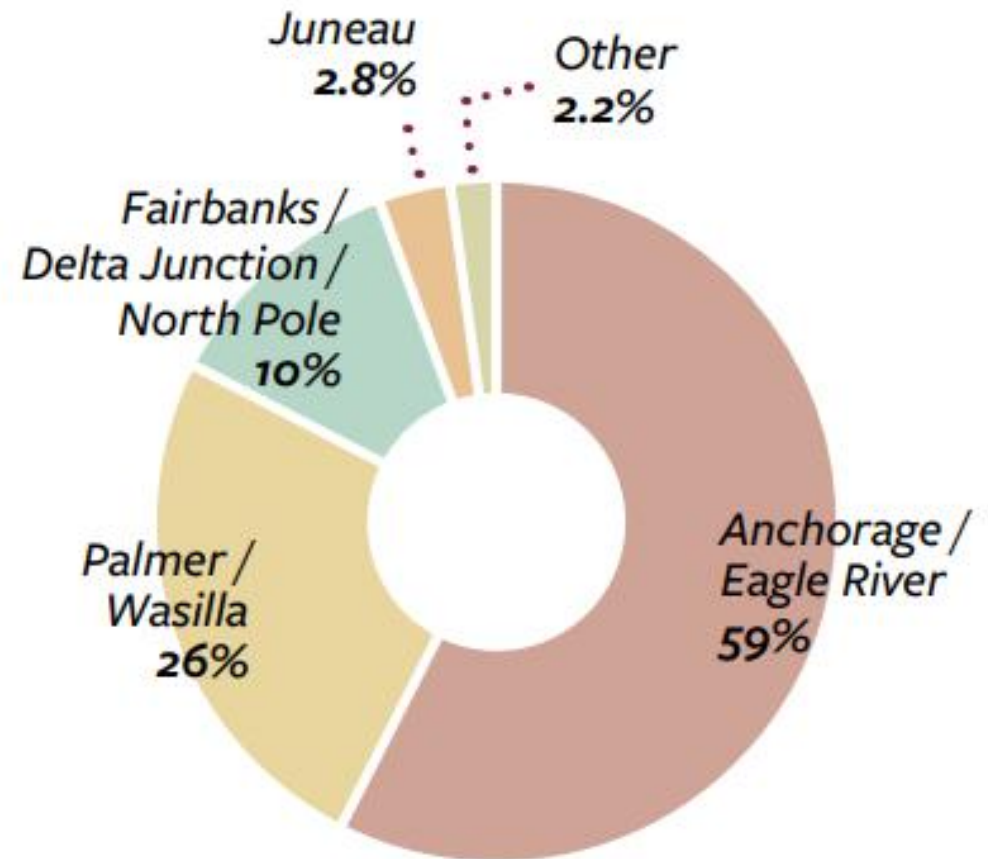


*Data current as of Feb. 10, 2025, describing population of clients who have arrived in the last 5 years.

Current Caseload Demographics

Where they live:

Anchorage / Eagle River:	685
Palmer / Wasilla:	308
Fairbanks / Delta Junction / North Pole:	118
Juneau:	33
Kodiak:	8
Aleutians:	11
Kenai:	3
Petersburg:	3
Ketchikan:	1



Alaska Office for Refugees

Sub Awardees

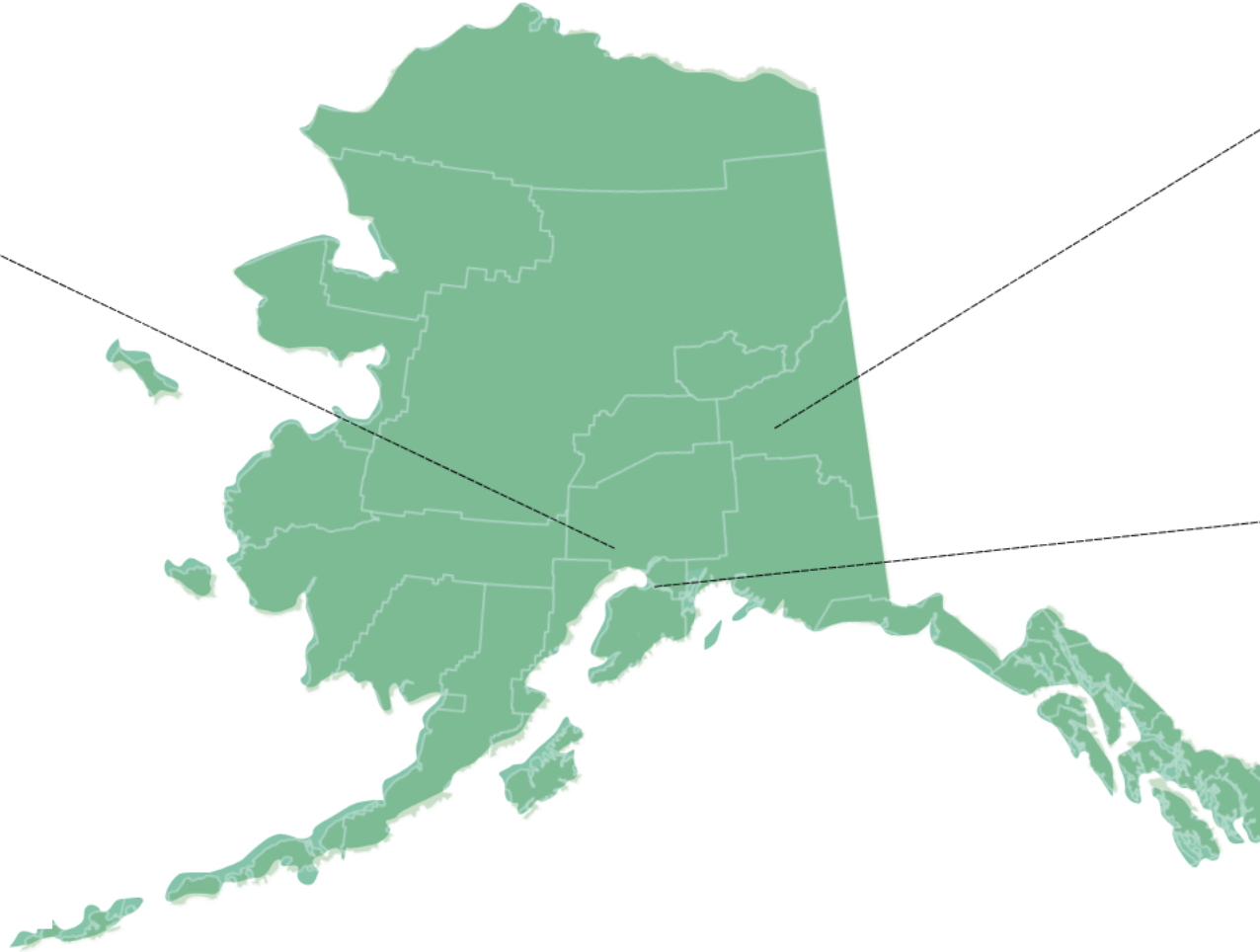


Mat-Su Valley

- CSS Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services
- Mat-Su School District
- VFW

Statewide

- CSS Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services
- Fireweed Consulting
- New Chance
- Dr. Gwen Mitchell



Delta

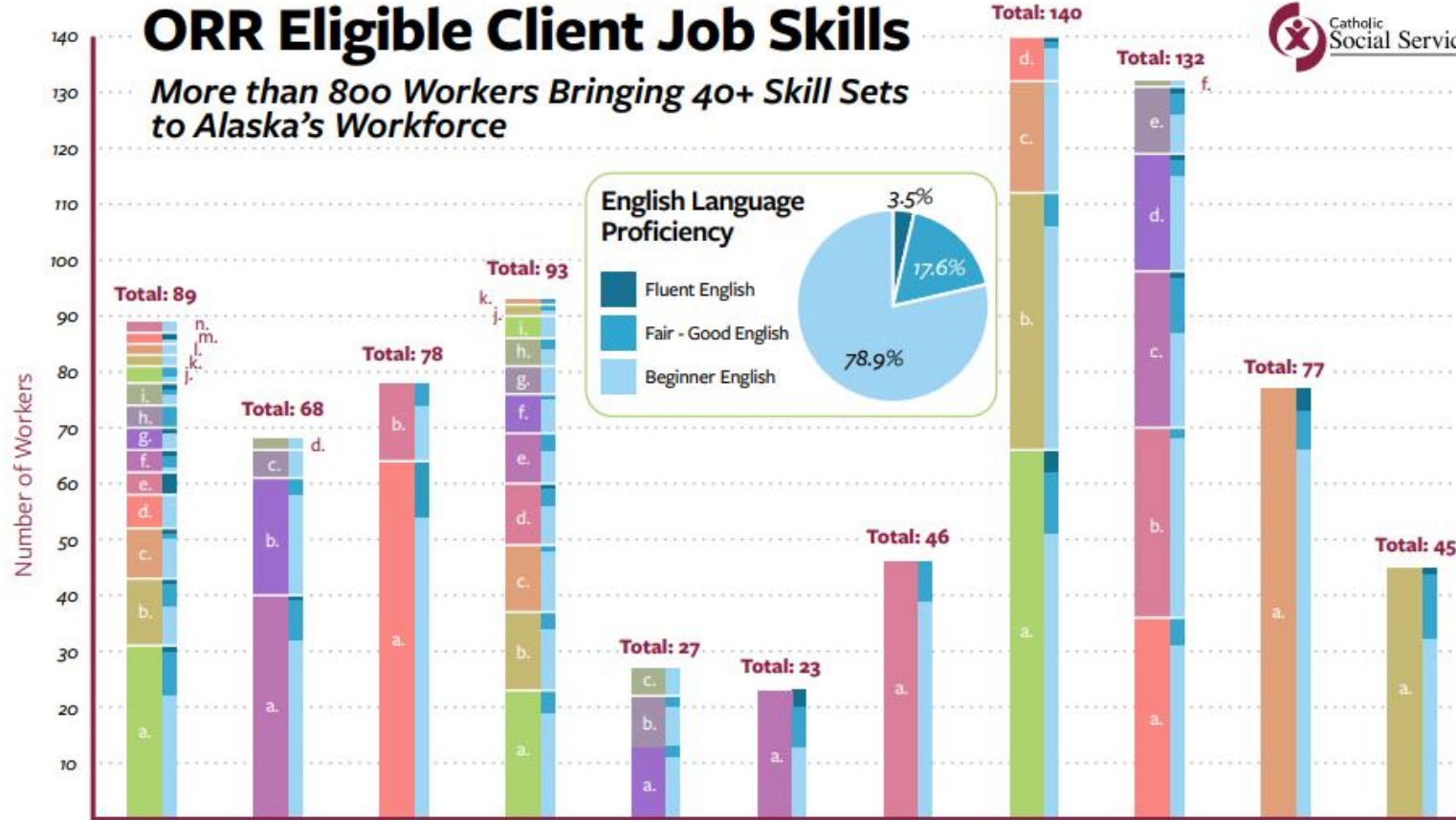
- CSS Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services
- Delta-Greely School District

Anchorage

- CSS Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services
- Anchorage School District
- Project Alaska
- Alaska Literacy Program
- Anchorage Museum

ORR Eligible Client Job Skills

More than 800 Workers Bringing 40+ Skill Sets to Alaska's Workforce



- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|---------------|---------------|
| Professional: | Transport: | Builder: | Skilled Trade: | Protective: | Business: | Healthcare: | Entry Level: | Trade: | Sales: | Other: |
| a. Teacher | a. Taxi/Driver | a. Construction | a. Mechanic | a. Security Guard | a. Business Owner/Manager | a. Healthcare | a. Food Services | a. Agricultural | a. Sales | a. Other |
| b. Accounting | b. Truck/CDL | b. General Laborer | b. Electrician | b. Law Enforcement | | | b. Cleaning | b. Beauty | | |
| c. Engineer | c. Bus Driver | | c. Machinery Operator | c. Military | | | c. Childcare | c. Office/Clerical | | |
| d. Economist | d. Electric Locomotive Driver | | d. Welder | | | | d. Customer Service | d. Seamstress/Tailor | | |
| e. Interpreter | | | e. Painter | | | | | e. Fish Processing/Commercial Fishermen | | |
| f. Designer | | | f. Carpenter | | | | | f. Cobbler | | |
| g. HR | | | g. Jeweler | | | | | | | |
| h. Software Developer | | | h. Boiler Operator | | | | | | | |
| i. Data Analyst | | | i. Installer | | | | | | | |
| j. IT | | | j. Plumber | | | | | | | |
| k. Journalist | | | k. Wood Work | | | | | | | |
| l. Lawyer | | | | | | | | | | |
| m. Pilot | | | | | | | | | | |
| n. Social Worker | | | | | | | | | | |

*Data current as of Feb. 10, 2025, describing population of clients who have arrived in the last 5 years.

Federal FY 24 Employment Outcomes

Part Time Jobs

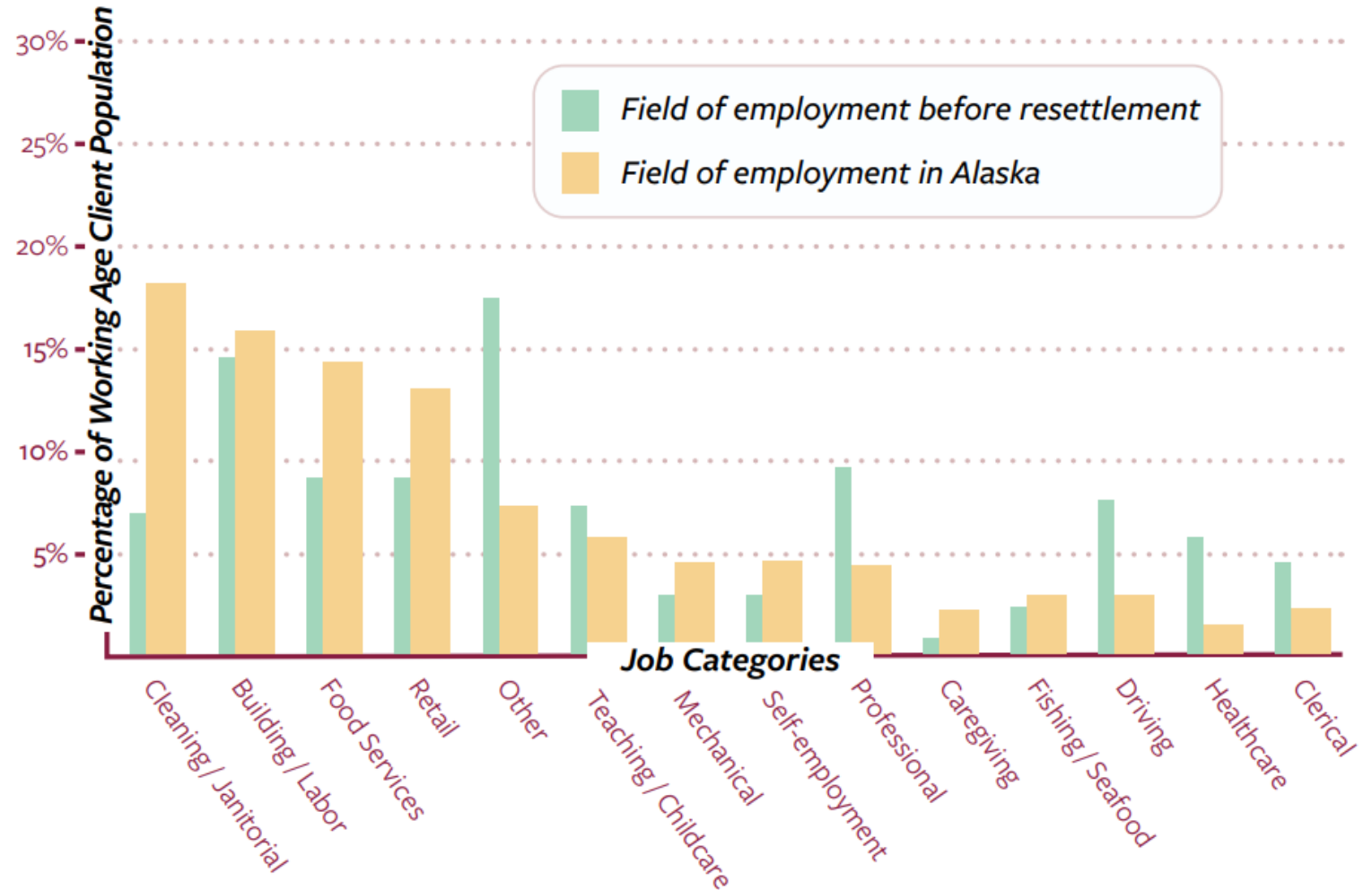
- 29% of job placements
- Average wage: \$16.33/hour

Full Time Jobs

- 71% of job placements
- Average wage: \$18.64/hour

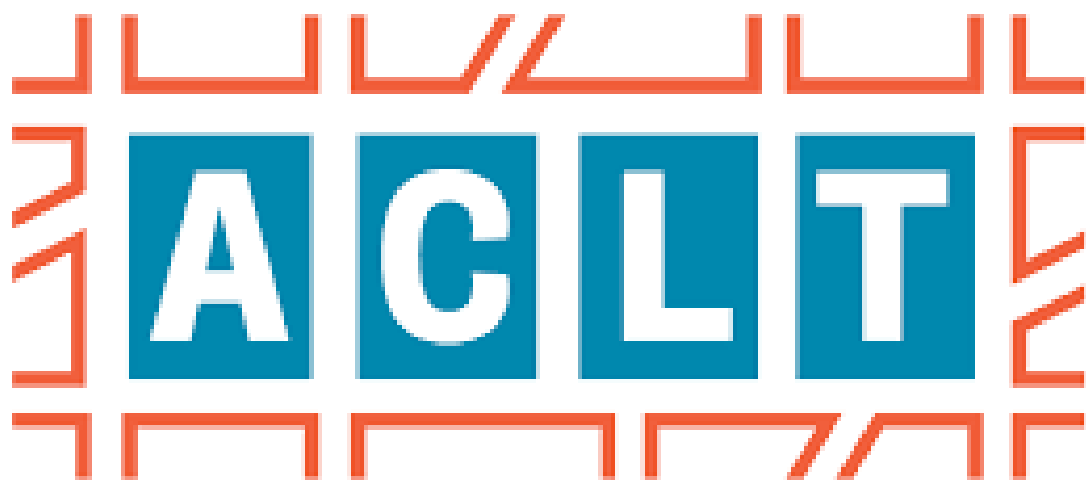


Brain Waste



All data current as of January 21, 2025.
Data represented here reflects job placements in FY23 and FY24.





Anchorage
Community
Land Trust

Kirk Rose, Executive Director
krose@anchoragelandtrust.org



3.5 Millions Ukrainian
Refugees created by the war
in less than 30 days. Men
Women & Children.



Ukraine Relief program is founded
Alaskans Step Up- Donate 1 million for an airlift
The Rescue Plan
The Back Up Plan
The Results

Cities around the state were anxious to welcome Ukrainians



1, 2022

this letter of great importance in
welcome Ukrainians to our state who
any background checks to enter ou

he last several months, we have w
more than 11 million residents to
Eastern European community wh
Alaskans are integral members of our s
could all stand together solidarity by
and doing what we can to help the

few Chance Inc. Ukraine Relief Pro
ing to expedite passage of Ukrainians
applied their efforts. I greatly appre
can to assist in the transport of Ukra
o encourage members of the hospital
as non-profit charities, to assist these
k you to those who are already active
as Mayor to support them, as well.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jim Matherly
City of Fairbanks



April 13, 2022

As of April 13, 2022, BBC reported more than 4.7
outside Ukraine's borders into Poland, Romania,
Putin's invasion and carnage. The travesty of Puti
outrage.

Our city has a large Eastern European community
individuals are integral to our cities, neighborhood

Anchorage has often been called the most diverse
are tenacious in protecting and supporting our lit
are protective against the subjugation in other nation
Anchorage residents and the business sector, to s
Ukrainians to our city who seek refuge, sanctuary
background checks to enter our country.

As mayor, I stand ready to work with the faith-ba
facilitate the expedited passage of Ukrainian refu

It has also come to my attention that at the requ
Ukraine Relief Program, Iceland Air has agreed to
refugees to Alaska from Europe. I encourage who
financial, residential housing industries, and non-p
possible.

Action is what it takes to create results. I applaud
to provide assistance to those in dire need.

I will do my part as Mayor in the coming weeks fo

Sincerely,

Mayor

P.O. Box 100650 • Anchorage, AK 99519-0650 • www.muni



April 18, 2022

As of April 13, 2022, BBC reported more than
traveled outside Ukraine's borders into Poland. F
President Putin's invasion and carnage. The trave
moral outrage.

Our city has a large Eastern European commun
These individuals are integral to our cities, neighb
spheres.

As Alaskans we are tenacious in protecting and
defensive of and protective against the subjugate
we care. I urge Wasilla residents and the busin
welcome Ukrainians to our city who seek refuge, s
necessary background checks to enter our country.

As mayor I stand ready to work with the faith-ba
facilitate the expedited passage of Ukrainian refu

It has also come to my attention that an airline has ag
refugees to Alaska from Europe. I encourage w
financial, residential housing industries, and non-p
possible.

Action is what it takes to create results. I applaud
to aid those in dire need.

I will do my part as Mayor in the coming weeks fo

Sincerely,

Mayor Glenda D. Ledford
City of Wasilla



March 25, 2022

As of March 21, 2022, Reuters reported more than 3.5 million Ukrainians fled their homes and
traveled outside Ukraine's borders into Poland and Romania, and neighboring countries, to
escape Russia's invasion and carnage. The travesty of Russia's onslaught is unacceptable and a
moral outrage.

Our State has a large Eastern European community, many of whom are of Ukrainian descent.
These individuals are integral to our cities and neighborhoods in the workforce, business, and
faith-based spheres.

Alaskans are tenacious in protecting and supporting our liberties and at the same time defensive
of and protective against the subjugation in other nations. We are humanitarians and we care.
I urge Alaskans, the business sectors, and all levels of governance including local, borough,
state, and federal administrations and policymakers, to support, incentivize, aid, and welcome
Ukrainians to our State who seek refuge, sanctuary, asylum, and who comply with all the
necessary background checks to enter our country.

My Administration will stand ready to work with the faith-based community and relief
organizations to facilitate the expedited passage of Ukrainian refugees to Alaska. One such
endeavor is underway thanks to New Chance Inc. Ukraine Relief Program in Anchorage.
It has also come to my attention that members of the airline industry are contemplating offering
the transport of Ukrainian refugees to Alaska from Europe, with United Airlines most recently
considering such support. I encourage wholeheartedly members of the aviation, hotel, financial,
and residential housing industries, as well as non-profit charities, to step forward and assist
where possible.

Now is the time for Alaska to show its support for Ukraine.
Actions speak louder than words, and I applaud those who are actively helping those in dire
need. I will do my part as Governor in the coming weeks for Ukraine, as well.

Sincerely,

Mike Dunleavy



**PROJECT
ALASKA**
"Learn to thrive not just survive"

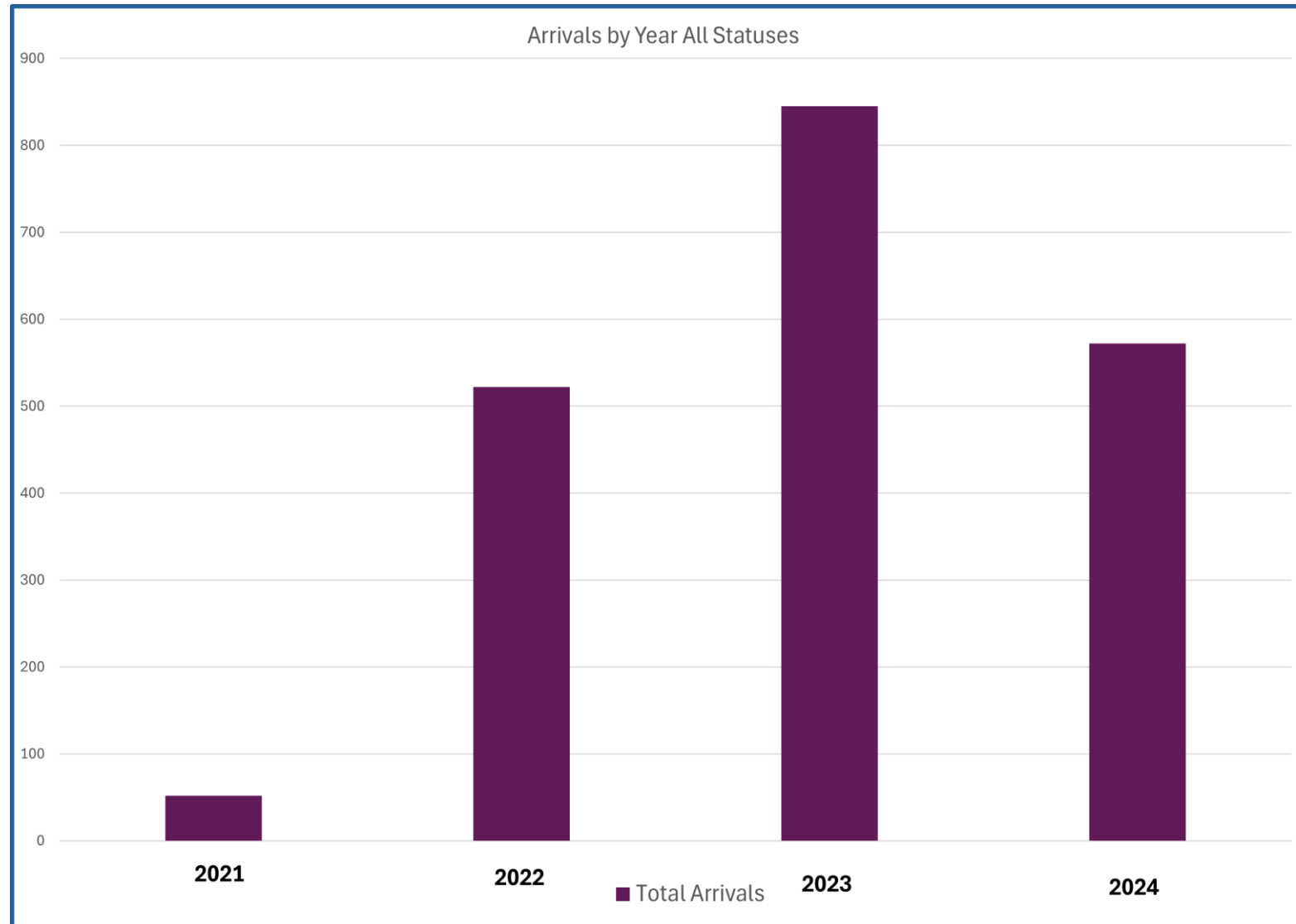


Since spring 2022
Over 300
Ukrainian families have
arrived in Alaska.

Refugee's vs Immigrants



- Forced displacement
- Trauma (survivor guilt)
- Status insecurity
- Helplessness
- Lack of resources
- Language skills
- Cultural differences
- Initial assistance not prolonged support



Over 2,000 Ukrainians have arrived in Alaska.





Project Alaska is committed to empowering our clients with the skills and resources required for career advancement and occupational prosperity, enabling them to lead their best lives. We achieve this through skills assessment, personalized career planning, professional training and educational guidance, job placement, with ongoing support.

Contact us:
907-330-9916

Contact our Career Coaches
oksana@projectalaska.org
alyona@projectalaska.org
olena@projectalaska.org



<https://projectalaska.org/>



PROJECT ALASKA PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

Skills assessment to get you a better paying job.

Develop individualized short and long-term "career plans".

Job placement according to your training, experience and skills.

Job interview coaching, office etiquette, workplace cultural orientation.

Guidance towards professional training, certification and licensing, assisting with placement into trade schools and apprenticeship programs.

Help with your diploma evaluation according to USA educational standards.

Guidance for high school students and post-graduates in choosing the best careers, obtaining proper education through local universities and career colleges.

Identification and acquisition of education and training funding sources.

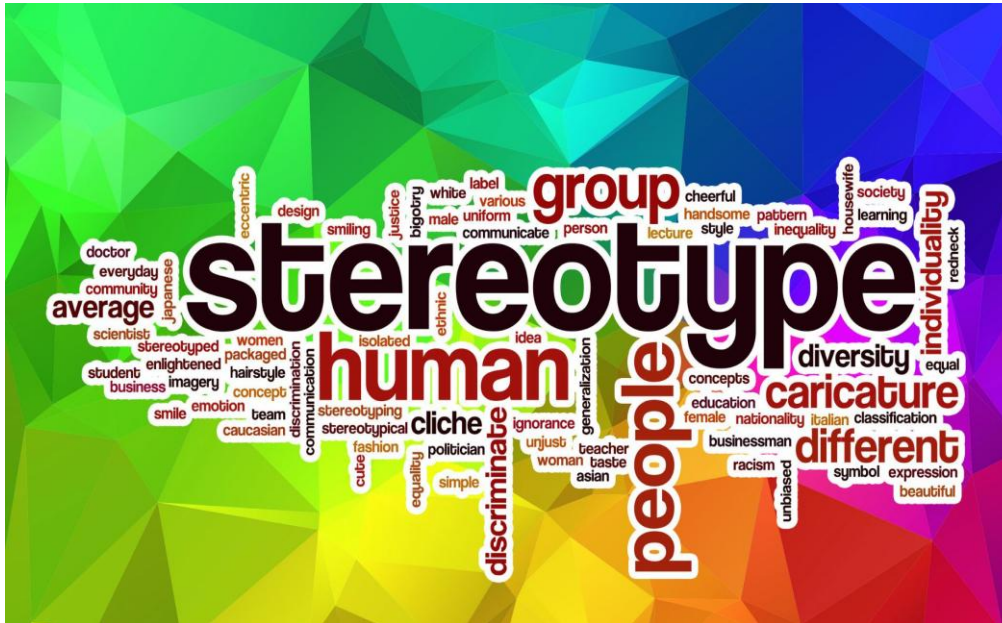
Assistance with education, training and financial applications.

Professional resume assistance and cover letter development.

Small business orientation, development, planning, licensing and support.



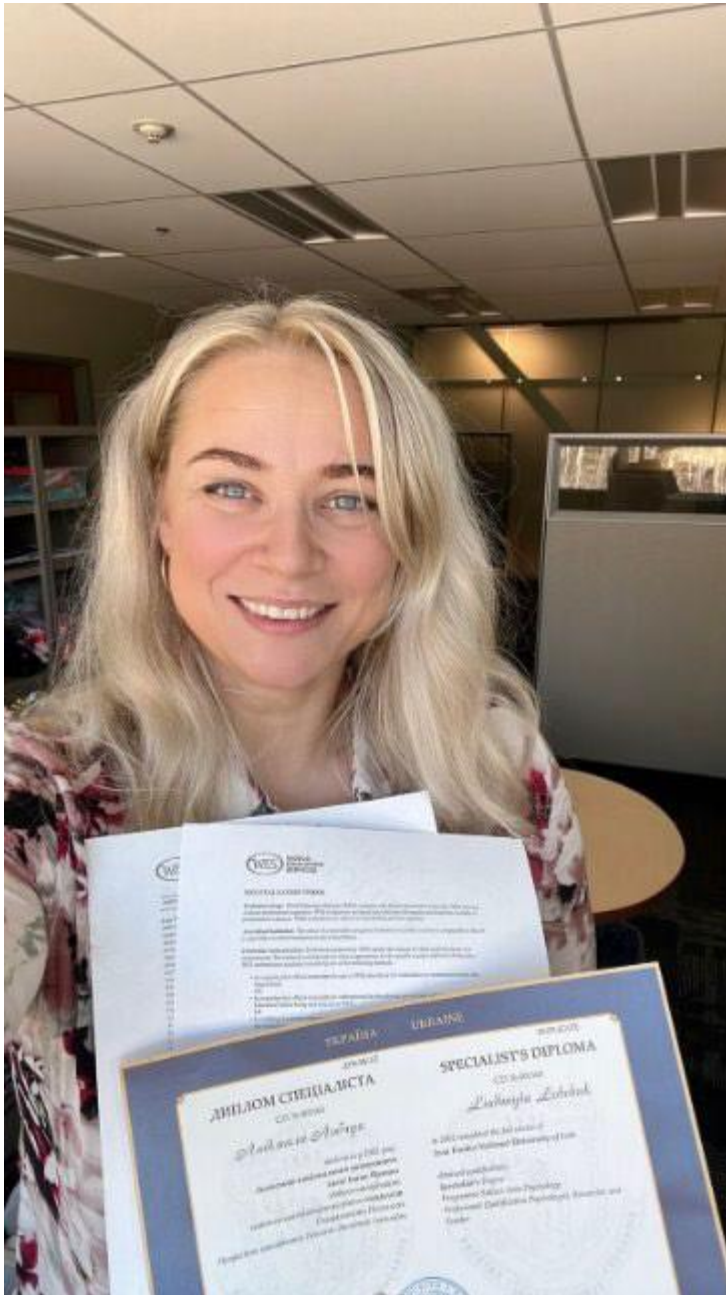
Breaking Refugee Stereotypes



Ukrainian Refugees

- 76% of women and 71% of men have completed higher education.*
- Labor market inclusion rate is faster compared to other refugee groups.*
- Are highly skilled tradesman, allowing them integrate quickly.
- 33% speak English well or very well.*

*The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development(OECD)



Because of the large percentage of refugees from Ukraine that are highly qualified, they present unique challenges and pressures on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) policies and practices.*

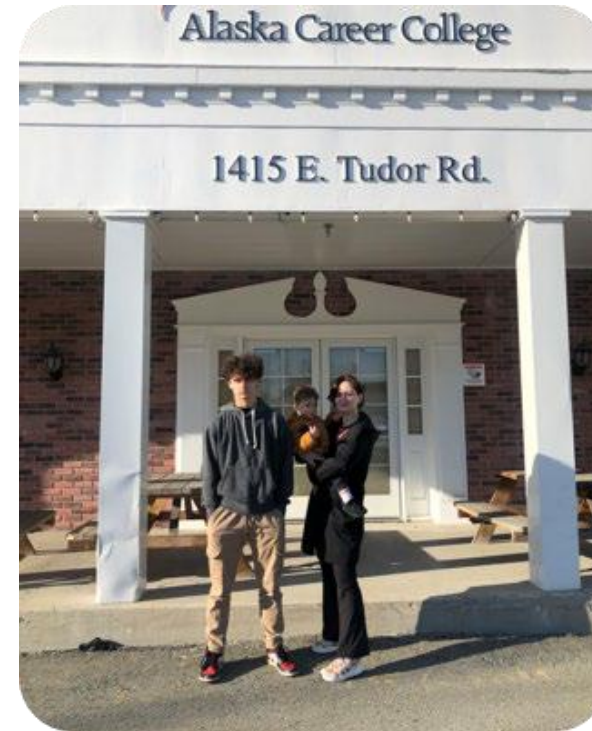
WES DIPLOMA EVALUATION



*The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development(OECD)



Help navigating
educational, finance and
training opportunities.





Apprenticeship opportunities helping clients to complete and navigate the application process while advocating to eliminate barriers.

Helping them to get one step closer to their Dream Job!



Ukrainians have
become a part of our
Alaskan community



*In 2023 & 24 our Delta Junction
Ukrainians donated potatoes to food
banks statewide.*



Advocacy at the federal, state and local level for the elimination of barriers and expansion of support systems.



"This Program supported by a Grant from the Anchorage Assembly and Office of The Mayor"

Project Alaska is helping Parolees and Refugees of every origin and ethnic background with trade and career development.

So, they can learn to thrive and not just survive.

Tetyana Robbins
Executive Director
Project Alaska
907-360-2565
tetyana@projectalaskainc.org
www.projectalaska.org



**PROJECT
ALASKA**

"Learn to thrive not just survive"

Alaska Literacy Program

Changing Lives Through Literacy

Since 1974

LITERACY (*noun*)

competence or knowledge in a specific area

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| → English | → Financial |
| → Workplace | → Family |
| → Digital | → Test Prep |
| → Health | |



ALP Students and the Workforce

- Average student age: 41
- 88% are working or available for work

ALP FY25 Student Demographic Report



Fiscal Year 2025

Total students this FY: 949			Average students served each quarter: 655		
Female	622	66%	Low Income	146	15%
Male	325	34%	Low Literacy	96	10%
			Refugee	82	9%
			US Citizen	33	3%

Diversity

ALP students speak 55 unique first languages. [\(full language list\)](#)

ALP students are from 82 unique home countries. [\(full country list\)](#)

World regions and ethnicity

Africa	108	11%	Asian	125	13%
Asia	141	15%	Black	139	15%
Europe	64	7%	Hispanic	291	31%
Oceania	5	1%	Native	9	1%
North America	110	12%	Pacific Islander	11	1%
Caribbean	72	8%	Two or more races	7	1%
Central America	51	5%	White	176	19%
South America	130	14%			

Age

Youngest Student	16	16-25 years old	153	16%
Average age	41	26-40 years old	365	38%
Oldest Student	91	41-64 years old	374	39%
		65+ years old	85	6%

Education

Total 5 years or less	95	10%	No Schooling	53	6%
			1-5 years of school	42	4%
with at least a GED	563	59%	6-12 years (no diploma)	214	23%
			GED	5	1%
at least some college	353	37%	High School Diploma	205	22%
			Some Postsecondary	86	9%
			College or Prof. Degree	267	28%

Work

			FY total		Qtr avg	
Total Working	489	52%	Unemployed	349	37%	25%
			Employed-Full	392	41%	28%
			Employed-Part	97	10%	7%
Total Not in Labor Force	111	12%	Unavailable for Work	39	4%	3%
			Not Looking for Work	57	6%	4%
			Retired	15	2%	1%

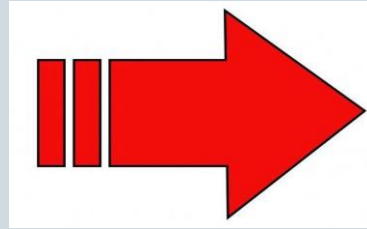
One Student's Journey

- **2016**: came to Alaska and joined ALP classes
- **2017**: become a Peer Leader Navigator and is still active with the program
graduated a healthcare training program via an ALP and CITC partnership
- **2018**: began working at Municipal support agency, remained over 6 years
- **2024**: wrote an award application for PLNs and won the award
- **2025**: began working at a state support agency



Growth at ALP

Until 2021, ALP averaged
350 students a YEAR



We now average more than
600 students a QUARTER

Over 1,000 individuals
served each year.

