



**EXECUTIVE ORDER
NO. 2023-001**

BALTIMORE COUNTY NEW AMERICANS TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, more than 12% of Baltimore County's population are immigrants;

WHEREAS, immigrants contribute to the economic, social, and political vitality of the United States and Baltimore County;

WHEREAS, immigration policy is set at the federal level, but the actual benefits and challenges of immigration are felt at the state and local levels;

WHEREAS, Baltimore County strives to ensure that all people in the County receive equal protection under the laws and respectful treatment without regard to race, creed, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, economic status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, status as a veteran, physical or mental disability, immigration status, and/or language ability; and

WHEREAS, County government seeks to maintain positive relationships with members of the immigrant community, and seeks guidance on policies, practices, and services that impact immigrant health, well-being, economic success and safety; and

WHEREAS, Baltimore County plays a vital role in building upon the strengths of immigrants, enabling their speedy transition to integration and inclusion.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is this 5th day of June 2023, by the County Executive of Baltimore County, Maryland, ordered that the Baltimore County Task Force on New Americans shall be created and charged as follows:

Section I: Goal of the Task Force.

The Task Force shall develop a New Americans Integration & Inclusion strategic plan that builds upon the strengths of immigrants, their families, and their institutions, and expedites their journey towards integration and inclusion. The plan will further efforts to make Baltimore County a place of welcome, economic opportunity, community well-being, and inclusion.

Section II: Membership, appointment, terms of office, officers, and compensation of members.

- A. Membership. The Baltimore County New Americans Task Force shall consist of thirty-five (35) members appointed by the County Executive from a diverse group of stakeholders from nonprofit organizations, private partners, foundations, financial institutions and County agencies serving New Americans residing in Baltimore County.

- B. Terms. The term of a member appointed under subsection A of this section is one year. Members of the Task Force shall receive no salaries but shall be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with appropriations approved by the County Council. All members of the Task Force shall serve at the pleasure of the County Executive.
- C. Chair. The Chair of the Task Force shall be appointed by the County Executive and is one of the members of the Task Force.

Section III: Meetings, quorums.

- A. Meetings. The Task Force shall meet monthly, with no fewer than six (6) meetings through December 2023. In the event that in-person meetings are scheduled, Task Force members may attend electronically as needed.
- B. Quorum. A majority of members in attendance shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and an affirmative vote of the majority of those present at any meeting shall be sufficient for any official action.

Section IV. Duties and Responsibilities.

The Task Force shall perform the following duties:

- Participate in monthly Task Force meetings, beginning June 2023;
- Actively assist in community needs assessment survey;
- Organize and facilitate at least one focus group in each councilmanic district;
- Facilitate the distribution of a community survey in the five most commonly spoken languages in the county;
- Identify and analyze barriers facing immigrants and their efforts to health care, education, recreation, public assistance, workforce development, business resources or other critical services and aspects of community life, and make recommendations to address those barriers;
- Plan to devote an average of one hour per week to the Task Force;
- Such other activities as the Task Force considers necessary to actively engage the community and provide recommendations to the County Executive;
- Issue a final report to the County Executive and County Council no later than March 31, 2024.

Section V. Staff Assistance.

The Immigration Affairs Outreach Coordinator and the Baltimore County Executive's Office shall provide staff assistance.

This Order shall take effect **IMMEDIATELY** according to its terms and shall continue thereafter until March 31, 2024, unless further extended by the County Executive.

ATTEST:




Dawn Kile
Executive Secretary



John A. Olszewski, Jr.
County Executive

Reviewed for Form and Legal Sufficiency and Approved for Execution



James R. Benjamin, Jr.
County Attorney