Supporting Immigrant and Refugee Families
Supporting residents in working together for healthy communities

Community: Pueblo County
Year Started: 2005
Population: ~159,204
Contacts: Center for Immigrant and Community Integration (CICI)
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Focus Areas
Citizenship • Education and training • Immigrant resource center • Workforce and economic development

Project Description
- **Education/Technology Community Team:** To help immigrant parents access school systems on behalf of their children, CICI offers advanced English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for adults, provides simultaneous meeting translation, and advocates on behalf of parents and students with school-related questions or concerns. Also, to facilitate improved interaction between immigrant parents and educators, the CICI works with local school representatives to provide forums where Spanish-speaking parents can meet with school administrators to better understand school policies and their responsibilities to the schools.
- **Workforce and Economic Development:** A collaboration among the local District Attorney’s office, the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment and the Pueblo Human Relations Commission helps immigrant workers to learn their rights, notify employers of their responsibilities under state labor laws and, if necessary, process wage claims. By reaching out to industry-specific business leaders and local chambers of commerce, this collective effort further assists immigrants in gaining greater access to business institutions and employment opportunities.
- **Cultural Competency Training and Facilitation:** To promote the process of immigrant integration, CICI offers these trainings – in English and Spanish – to volunteers, receiving community members, businesses, etc.
- **Access to Clinical Services:** For monolingual Spanish speakers, CICI provides child, parent and family counseling; assistance for victims of domestic violence; and advocacy efforts as needed.

Results
CICI offers a variety of services, classes and presentations, including Wage Reclamation, ESL, Know Your Rights, Avisos y Precauciones, Pathway to Citizenship and Immigration 101. As well, CICI’s Cross-Cultural Relations Team has conducted trainings at the Colorado Mental Health Institute, Mount Carmel Parish Coro (Choir), Catholic Diocese of Pueblo, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension/Office Diversity Team and the League of Women Voters. CICI also provides legal and document translation services for both newcomers and receiving community members, as well as interpretation services.