

ABOUT IMMIGRANT WOMEN TOO

Immigrant Women Too is a national campaign to amplify the voices of women and girls who turn to the United States for protection. Inspired by the “Me Too” movement, Immigrant Women Too was launched as platform to support immigrant women in sharing their stories. Through this platform we hope to show immigrant survivors of domestic and other forms of gender-based violence that we support them, and they are not alone. We also hope to enrich the conversation around immigration and asylum issues in the United States and mobilize the public to speak out in support of women seeking asylum and other forms of protection in this country. “Survivor stories” will be featured on the campaign’s website, ImmigrantWomenToo.org, and may also be shared on social media and other platforms for the purpose of advancing the campaign’s advocacy goals.

IS MY CLIENT A GOOD FIT FOR IMMIGRANT WOMEN TOO?

We are currently seeking stories from women who have been granted asylum, withholding of removal, or Convention Against Torture protection in the United States on the basis of domestic violence or another form of gender-based persecution. At this time, we prefer to work with individuals who have already adjusted status and/or naturalized and will only feature women whose applications remain pending if we feel confident that doing so will not jeopardize their cases.

Immigrant Women Too will only feature women who have expressed interest in contributing to the campaign and who are completely comfortable sharing their stories publicly, at whatever level of anonymity they desire. Please be mindful when approaching your client about the campaign, taking into consideration not only her immigration status, but also her personal circumstances. Please use your best judgment and avoid requesting participation in the campaign from clients for whom doing so may be particularly difficult or upsetting. However, please do reach out to clients who are passionate about immigrant justice and who may find participation in the campaign to be especially fulfilling or empowering.

HOW CAN MY CLIENT AND I GET INVOLVED?

Please contact CGRS Communications Coordinator Brianna Krong at krongbrianna@uchastings.edu if you are interested in contributing to the campaign or have any questions.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR IN “SURVIVOR STORIES”? WHAT WILL YOU NEED FROM ME AND MY CLIENT?

1. Medium

Our storytelling campaign features video, audio, and text content. The ideal “survivor story” will include a video or audio interview with your client (conducted by you or one of your colleagues) and a brief text summary (prepared by the **Immigrant Women Too** team). For stories that do not include a video component, we request a photo of your client to feature alongside the audio interview and/or text summary, if possible. If your client prefers not to provide an audio or video interview, we ask that you draft a short text version of her story. For examples of stories already posted see: <http://www.immigrantwomentoo.org/survivor-stories/>

2. Content

Your client’s story should cover as many of the following elements as possible:

- The conditions that forced your client to flee her home country
- The difficulties of navigating the U.S. immigration system and producing sufficient evidence to win your client’s case
- How securing protection has improved your client’s life
- Commentary on differences in the treatment of women and survivors in your client’s home country versus the United States
- Any commentary on the current Administration’s attack on survivors and asylum seekers

Personal details are of course incredibly powerful. However, if your client is not comfortable revisiting the trauma that forced her to flee, please be sure to provide her the opportunity to focus on other elements of her story and more general commentary on conditions in her home country.

If your client is interested in authoring her own blog post for the campaign, we would absolutely welcome her contribution. We have the capacity to translate Spanish language posts and likely those drafted in other languages as well. However, if you or someone you know is able to handle the translation for us, we would greatly appreciate it.

If your client has already shared her story with the media or through some other platform and would like us to simply create a webpage for her using information she has already disclosed, we are also happy to do that.

3. Anonymity

We will maintain whatever level of anonymity your client is most comfortable with. We can use a pseudonym, first name, or initials instead of a full name. If your client does not want to show her face, you might opt to record a voice memo, rather than a video interview. Photos [taken from the back](#) can also be a good way to preserve anonymity.

4. Video and audio production

If your client is willing to provide a video or audio interview, we ask that you handle the actual recording process. Cell phone videos and voice memos are completely acceptable, though the higher the quality the better. Please try to minimize any background noise. If you choose to film the interview, we suggest that you do so facing your client, with the interviewer off-camera. In most cases we plan to cut the interviewer's questions from the final edit.

Video and audio recordings should be around 1-3 minutes long. If you end up recording an interview that is longer, we ask that you watch or listen to the recording yourself and identify the most relevant portions, noting them with time stamps. If you have the ability to edit down your video or audio interview (i.e., cut/stitch the relevant portions together), we would very much appreciate you doing so. CGRS does not have the capacity to translate and subtitle recordings that are longer than 3 minutes.

We expect that the majority of **Immigrant Women Too** interviews will be conducted in Spanish. CGRS will accept unedited and untranslated Spanish language interviews and will add English language subtitles to all **Immigrant Women Too** interviews. However, if you or someone you know has the capacity to transcribe, translate, and/or add English language subtitles to your client's interview, we would welcome your help doing so. (This will save us resources that we can dedicate towards other aspects of our advocacy campaign!)

If you plan to conduct an **Immigrant Women Too** interview in a language other than English or Spanish and do not have the capacity to translate it yourself, please contact us in advance to ensure that we will have the capacity to do so.

5. Client approval

Before recording your client's interview or sharing any details of her story with us, please have her review and sign our **Immigrant Women Too** [release form](#). If your client would like to review the final version of her survivor story page before it goes online, please let us know, and we will ensure she has the opportunity to do so.