

On Long Island:

- **IMMIGRANTS CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO LONG ISLAND'S ECONOMY:**
 1. Immigrants make up 18% of the population and account for 20% of total economic output.
 2. Nearly a quarter of LI small business owners are immigrants, making up a larger share of entrepreneurs than their U.S.-born counterparts.
 3. Half of LI immigrants work in white-collar jobs.
- **IMMIGRATION IS AFFECTING SUBURBAN COUNTIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY BUT, CONTRARY TO PUBLIC PERCEPTION, AT A SLOWER RATE ON LONG ISLAND:**
 1. Among affluent suburbs, Nassau ranks 44th, with a 20% growth between 2000 and 2010, and Suffolk is 33rd with a 35% growth, compared with a doubling, tripling, or even quadrupling elsewhere.
 2. Nassau and Suffolk are in the middle range of immigrant share of population among affluent suburbs.
- **YET...**
 1. Long Island's reaction to its changing demographics has been disproportionate, historically fueled by misinformation and fearmongering at the highest levels of county and town government.
 2. An ongoing example: Of all New York State regions, Long Island has received the highest number of unaccompanied children fleeing violence from Central American countries. But some local and state government leaders have either responded with hostility or have chosen to ignore the situation altogether by not funding needed services for these children, including educational services.

LOCAL IMMIGRATION PROGRAM:

EDUCATING LONG ISLANDERS ABOUT IMMIGRANTS AND IMMIGRATION

LONG ISLAND, PARTICULARLY SUFFOLK COUNTY,

has earned the reputation of being a hostile place for America's newest immigrants, most of whom are from Latin America. The hate-crime murder of Marcelo Lucero in 2008 in Patchogue was the culmination of a pattern of violence against Latinos in Suffolk County. With documentary films like *Farmingville* (2004) and *Deputized* (2012) chronicling the tensions and the often aggressive reactions to immigration, the issue has gained increased attention over the past decade.

The rhetoric of national commentators, elected officials, and candidates for national office only heightens local tensions and emboldens local elected officials to propose anti-immigrant policies. Thanks to advocacy and education, several local anti-immigrant proposals and ordinances have been defeated in recent years, either in legislative chambers or in the courtroom, including laws preventing day laborers from seeking work in public places. Because hostility towards immigrants is fueled by lack of knowledge about why they are here, how they help our region, and the inevitability of demographic change, Hagedorn Foundation grantees work to correct misperceptions and set the record straight on the significant economic, social, and cultural contributions of immigrants to Long Island. While some Long Islanders may never feel comfortable with the changing face of their neighborhoods and schools, most would agree that fear, anger, and violence are not the way to respond to change.

To create greater understanding, ease tensions, and provide a solid foundation of mutual respect and acceptance, working with receiving communities is an essential grantmaking strategy. Hagedorn Foundation grantees are leading the way by engaging and educating others through media and communications; community-based bridge-building; faith-based initiatives; and direct work with school administrators, teachers, elected officials, and the general public.



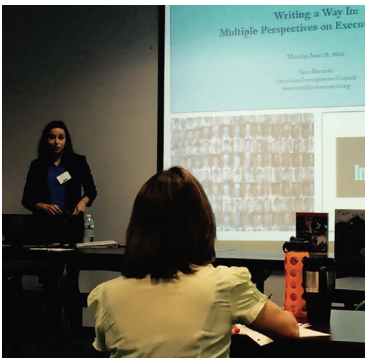
Fourteen Long Islanders learn from members of a women's weaving cooperative, Vida Nueva, in Teotitlán del Valle, Oaxaca, Mexico as part of the 2016 Roots of Migration Delegation organized by Hagedorn Foundation grantee Witness for Peace. The cooperative helps ensure that its members do not have to migrate north to earn a living.

Since 2005, the Hagedorn Foundation has granted nearly \$10 million to programs that support Long Island immigrants, including \$4.2 million since 2009 to organizations working to educate Long Islanders about immigrants and immigration. Grantees working toward this goal include:

American Immigration Council: Pairs local immigration attorneys with social studies teachers to educate high school students about US immigration policy and immigration on Long Island.

Farmingville Residents Association: Builds bridges among Farmingville's different ethnic groups.

Fiscal Policy Institute: Produces studies on the demographics and economics of Long Island immigration and disseminates this research through presentations to key sectors of the public.



American Immigration Council provides training to Long Island teachers on how to incorporate lessons on immigration policy into their classes.

Long Island Wins: Educates Long Islanders about immigration through various media and public forums and facilitates constructive dialogue between immigrants and non-immigrants.

Witness for Peace: Organizes annual week-long delegations to Mexico to deepen Long Islanders' understanding of the root causes of migration north.