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## **Legal Services of Southern Piedmont Immigrant Justice Project**

The purpose of the Immigrant Justice (formerly Hispanic Outreach) Project is to protect low-income, non-English-speaking Hispanic residents and immigrants from other nations from exploitation, to ensure accessibility of public services, to stabilize the immigration status of clients, and to provide remedies despite barriers to redress.

The program provides individual advice and representation to low-income non-English-speaking Hispanics and immigrants from other nations before state and federal courts, administrative agencies and legislative bodies; conducts community legal education programs; educates community agencies concerning the legal rights of immigrants; and assists those agencies in serving the needs of immigrants.

### **CASE TYPES:**

- Family law: domestic violence, child custody where child is in danger
- Housing law: habitability, preventing discrimination, defending evictions
- Consumer law: especially involving mobile homes and automobiles
- Public benefits: ensuring accessibility and proper eligibility determination
- Immigration law
  - Immigration assistance for victims of domestic violence
    - VAWA petitions
    - Cancellation of removal
    - U and T visas for victims of trafficking and domestic violence crimes
    - Gender-based asylum claims
  - Affirmative and defensive asylum claims
  - NACARA
  - Temporary Protected Status applications
  - Family-based petitions necessary to reunite a family
  - Limited removal defense

For immigration cases, IJP will provide individual representation in Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Wilkes, Mitchell, Avery, Caldwell, Alexander, Catawba, Burke, Yancy, McDowell, Cleveland, Gaston, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Stanly and Union counties. For all other case types, IJP will provide individual representation in Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, and Union counties with some limited assistance in the other counties listed above. In addition, HOP will provide community education programs in all nineteen counties listed above.