

American Gateways

<https://www.americangateways.org/>



<https://www.americangateways.org/about>

“American Gateways is one of the largest immigration legal services providers in Texas. Our clients receive culturally sensitive, trauma-informed legal representation from start to finish of a case. Our staff are experts in the areas of:

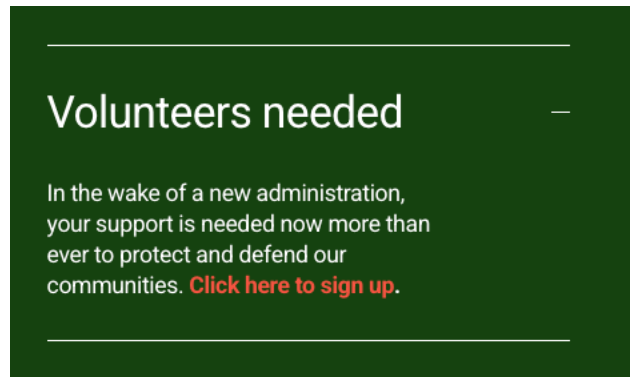
- Asylum (for individuals and families fleeing persecution in their home country)
- Violence Against Women’s Act (VAWA) Petitions (for battered spouses, parents, and/or children)
- T Visas (for survivors of trafficking)
- U Visas (for survivors of certain types of violent crimes that occurred in the U.S.)
- Representation before the San Antonio Immigration Court
- Permanent Residency and Naturalization
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- Family-based Petitions”

“American Gateways is also the only nonprofit in the state to provide legal orientation, immigration workshops, and pro bono legal representation at three immigrant detention facilities. Our Austin office serves the T. Don Hutto Residential Center in Taylor, Texas. Our San Antonio office serves the South Texas Detention Complex in Pearsall, Texas and the Karnes County Residential Center in Karnes City, Texas.”

Grassroots Leadership Inc.

<https://www.grassrootsleadership.org/>

“We believe that people closest to problems are often closest to the solutions. We are driven by the conviction that we are strongest when communities impacted by systems of harm work together towards solutions that benefit us all. Our campaigns aim to change policies and practices that reduce the scope of the incarceration and deportation machine, and we aim to redefine the narrative of safety in ways that do not involve arrest or deportation. We do this all by building power in our communities impacted by the carceral and immigration systems.”



<https://www.grassrootsleadership.org/ice-out-of-austin>

“ICE Fuera De Austin is a community group made up of immigrants, many of whom are undocumented, who fight to keep families who live under the threat of deportation together. We work at the intersection of immigration and the criminal justice system. We believe no one should be deported, and the only fight that can be won is the one made in the community.”

<https://www.grassrootsleadership.org/end-operation-lone-star>

“Operation Lone Star is an over \$4 billion enforcement operation that targets migrants for arrest, jail, and deportation. Created by Gov. Greg Abbott, the illegal and discriminatory scheme is designed to criminalize and rapidly deport migrants, many of whom are seeking safety in the United States. Operation Lone Star violates the U.S. Constitution, promotes racial profiling, fuels the mass incarceration of people of color, and encourages white supremacy rhetoric that is harmful to ALL Texans.”

Legal Aid Of Northwest Texas

<https://legallaidtx.org/get-help/am-i-eligible-for-legal-aid/>

“Legal aid is available for individuals, families, and groups who: ... Are legal U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents (undocumented immigrants may be eligible for help in obtaining a U Visa or T Visa or if they qualify under VAWA).”

Texas Civil Rights Project

<https://www.txcivilrights.org/join-our-team/>

“We are Texas lawyers and advocates for Texas communities, boldly serving the movement for equality and justice in and out of the courts. We envision a Texas where all communities thrive with dignity and justice and without fear. TCRP believes that legal advocacy and litigation are critical tools to protect and advance the civil rights of everyone in Texas, particularly our State’s most vulnerable populations, and to

effect positive and lasting change to law and policy. We believe that by serving the rising social justice movement in Texas with excellent legal representation and bold strategies, we can respond to the needs of the communities we serve.”

“Our Beyond Borders team works in two core areas: humanitarian and state and local advocacy. Our Humanitarian work involves advocating for migrants to move across our border with dignity. We also advocate at the state and local level for good governance of border communities without economic exploitation. In solidarity with partner organizations and communities, our team aims to eliminate policies that perpetuate the harmful effects of militarization, cultural erasure, imprisonment, and exclusion along the Texas-Mexico border and across the state.”

<https://www.txcivilrights.org/programs-criminal-injustice>

“Since before this country’s founding, police and prisons have been weaponized against people. These systems have the potential to affect every one of us, but poor, Black, Brown, disabled, noncitizen, and LGBTQIA+ communities are among the most impacted. Our state fails to take on the root causes that trap many Texans in the criminal legal system. Texans falling through the cracks of our broken social welfare systems are overly policed and incarcerated, but police rarely keep our communities safe from violence. Instead, police use excessive force and even kill unarmed Black and brown people. When people find themselves in court, they face a rigged system where punishment is based on who can pay. Jails and prisons are frequently on the verge of collapse with ever growing populations, understaffing, inadequate services, and dangerous conditions for their residents and staff. Even after serving time, individuals face countless barriers to re-entering society. A safer, more just Texas is possible. Every Texan should help determine what this looks like – especially Texans whose voices are so often overlooked. We must all fight together to make this a reality.”

Tahirih Justice Center

<https://www.tahirih.org/about-us/>

“The Tahirih Justice Center is a national, nonprofit organization that serves women, girls, and all immigrant survivors of gender-based violence. Our whole-person approach provides each survivor with free legal support and social services to secure their rights and build stable lives. By amplifying the experiences of immigrant survivors, our mission is to create a world in which all people share equal rights and live in safety and with dignity.”

<https://www.tahirih.org/what-we-do/direct-services/legal-services/>

“We protect immigrant women and girls who live in the United States and have a legitimate claim to legal status under U.S. immigration law as survivors of gender-based violence. Tahirih’s holistic, client-centered legal services include screening, assessment, counsel and advice, and/or full-scale legal representation. Our staff are experts in the areas of:

- Gender-based asylum (for individuals who have suffered or fear that they will suffer persecution in their home country)
- Violence Against Women’s Act Petitions (for battered spouses, parents, and/or children)
- T Visas (for survivors of trafficking)
- U Visas (for survivors of certain types of crimes on U.S. soil)

- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (for abused, abandoned, or neglected children)”

<https://www.tahirih.org/what-we-do/policy-advocacy/fair-immigration-laws/>

“Right now, America’s immigration system is inefficient and inhumane, and it’s harming courageous immigrants fleeing violence. Even minor improvements to the existing immigration law would empower immigrant victims to report domestic violence, end abusive relationships, and rebuild their lives in safety. At Tahirih, we specifically advocate for immigration reform that would:

- Increase the number of U visas available each year for immigrant victims who assist in the investigation or prosecution of designated crimes and violations. The U visa is a carefully crafted tool to reduce crime and protect individuals who cooperate with police to put criminals behind bars. But only 10,000 U visas are available per year, leaving too many victims without the tools they need to start over in safety
- Enable victims with pending VAWA petitions and U and T visa applications to receive work authorization no later than 180 days after their application was filed. Right now, applicants can wait more than a year and half for the adjudication of cases, which undermines their ability to achieve economic stability
- Eliminate the one-year filing deadline for asylum cases. Women fleeing gender-based violence often don’t know about the deadline, or may be unaware that they are eligible for asylum
- Separate the public safety mandate of local law enforcement from the federal mandate to enforce immigration law. Fear of immigration consequences should never stop an immigrant woman and girl from seeking help in the wake of a crime.”

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid Inc.

<https://www.trla.org/practice-areas>

“Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA) provides free legal services to low-income people facing most forms of civil legal problems, including bankruptcies and foreclosures, divorces and custody arrangements, consumer fraud, wills and estates, accessing public benefits, and litigating for civil and environmental rights. Specializing in more than 45 civil legal practice areas, TRLA represents clients in cases ranging from landlord-tenant disputes handled through Justice of the Peace courts to complex litigation heard in state and federal courts. Our attorneys are organized into teams specializing in practices that fall within the following groups. ... IMMIGRATION”

Montrose Counseling Center Inc.

<https://montrosecenter.org/services/>

“The Montrose Center envisions a society in which all LGBTQ+ individuals have the opportunity and the resources they need to realize their full potential. Our team of state-licensed clinicians, masters-level therapists, skilled educators, support staff and dedicated volunteers work together to create healthier futures for our community. We hope you view the Montrose Center as a safe space to grow, learn, and be well.”

<https://montrosecenter.org/services/gender-services/>

“The Montrose Center provides a safe, welcoming space where you can connect with peers and gender-affirming resources. Our gender services cover a vast array of resources that compliment our core service areas—Recovery, Wellness, Family and Youth—so that you can seek additional support, service and connection when and where you need it. The organizations we partner with work to eliminate barriers to healthcare, and inspire health, wellness, and fulfillment for transfeminine, transmasculine, nonbinary, and intersex people.”

<https://montrosecenter.org/services/gender-services/transwellness/>

“Whether you identify as transgender, nonbinary, genderqueer, gender fluid, gender nonconforming, two-spirit, intersex, or are simply questioning the gender to which you have been assigned, the Montrose Center welcomes you! The following are services we offer that you may find helpful, no matter what stage of discovery or transition you are in.”

<https://montrosecenter.org/micro-sites/hatch-youth/>



Educational programs include:

- LGBTQIA+ health issues and accessing care
- Mental health and wellness
- LGBTQIA+ rights
- Queer history
- Creative writing and art
- Social justice
- Community resources
- Empowering community speakers
- Fun and games

The groups are comprised of introductions, social time, programming, and small group, and are curated by Hatch staff and trained volunteer facilitators. Youth have access to role models and peer support and can participate in special projects and events, including Hatch Prom and walking in the annual Pride Houston 365 Parade. There are no costs for any activities.



Hatch Youth (ages 13-17) peer support groups take place meetings every Friday and Sunday from 6:30-9:30 PM in Room 114.

Hatch Jr. peer support groups take place on the 2nd* and 4th Sundays of each month from 2-4:30 PM in Room 101.

*2nd Sunday meetings coincide with **PFLAG Houston's** monthly meeting from 2-4:30 PM in Room 112/113 at the Montrose Center, which parents can attend while their child is in Hatch Jr.!

Hatched Out peer support groups take place every Tuesday 6-8 PM in Room 114.

We can't wait to welcome you into our inclusive and empowering family at Hatch Youth! Whether you're looking to connect with peers, find support, or just have a good time, there's a group for you, regardless of age. At Hatch, you'll find a safe and welcoming space where you can be your authentic self and make lasting connections in Houston's LGBTQIA+ community. See you there! 🌈+

<https://www.facebook.com/profile/100080258295060/search/?q=hatch%20jr>



Hatch Youth is at the Montrose Center. · Follow

December 7, 2024 · Houston, TX · 🌐



Join us tomorrow for our first Hatch Jr of December!!

We're looking forward to being in community with y'all as enter into the last month of the year!

Hatch Jr meets every Sunday from 2pm - 4pm for youth ages 7-12 at the Montrose Center providing a safe and affirming space where your little ones are free to be themselves and meet other folks who are going through similar experiences!

We hope to see you there!

[#hatch](#) [#hatchjr](#) [#montrose](#)

