

# Working With Immigrant Populations

Research and Policy Takeaways for Practitioners



## Summary

Increasing knowledge of parent-child and intergenerational relationships amongst mixed-status families, identifying and utilizing culturally relevant resources, and addressing family conflict and trauma are important when working with and studying immigrant populations. The following are specific strategies that practitioners and researchers may find useful in their work with immigrant families.

## Research

**Participate** in anti-racist and intersectional approaches to studying access and inequity

**Utilize** community-based participatory research (CBPR) when working with immigrant populations

**Use** innovative mixed-method designs, enacted over time and following whole-family systems



## Policy

**Provide** economic, social, and emotional support to children and families by increasing financial assistance and providing a family liaison officer to help connect the family to needed resources

**Alleviate** the legal vulnerability of undocumented and mixed-status families by providing better access to legal services and interpreters

**Minimize** public exposure such as raids, arrests, and detentions by shifting to administrative strategies

**Reduce** the need for children to write letters of support for their parents' cases

**Highlight** to immigration judges that the removal of a parent is an extreme hardship in and of itself

**Offer** waivers of deportation for parents of school-aged children

You can access the complete research collection on Immigration and Families at:

[ncfr.org/immigration-resources](https://ncfr.org/immigration-resources)