

# PROPOSAL BRIEF

<b>Proposal Title:</b>	DSP Immigrant Program
<b>Proposal Sponsor:</b>	Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals
<b>Date Proposed:</b>	6/25/2021

## Problem or Opportunity Statement

There are a large number of would-be immigrants that are either caught up in the backlog of the immigration process or do not have the resources or support to attain their dreams of moving to the United States. Many of these would-be immigrants are English speaking individuals with a strong desire to help others.

## The Proposal

Utilize ARPA funding to develop a DSP Immigrant program that streamlines the immigration process for screened individuals that are seeking employment in the health and human services field. The program could include training, housing and/or food stipends to get help them get started, as well as social support.

\*This program could also address immigrants currently living in the US.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large pool of applicants</li> <li>• Reciprocal benefits to provider and immigrant employees</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bureaucracy</li> <li>•</li> <li>•</li> </ul>

## Critical Questions

Can we garner legislative support of a program for immigrants that is expedited to address the emergent needs of our field?

Who needs to at the table to create a viable DSP immigrant program?

How can we address cultural bias to support the success of a program of this nature?

## Reference Materials / Attachments

Statistics and History of Immigration to the US

Article 2021: Frequently Requested Statistics on I.. | [migrationpolicy.org](https://migrationpolicy.org)

Potential Resources:

Dave Rastoka, Executive Director of Advancing Abilities and Scioto Trails- Currently employees 30 immigrant workers in Franklin County. Willing and able to join a workgroup to create/support a program that could allow people to enter the US for the purpose of working as DSPs

Kevin Metz, Director of Education, OADSP - Has experience with a similar program that was implemented at provider organization in NE Ohio 10-15 years ago.

