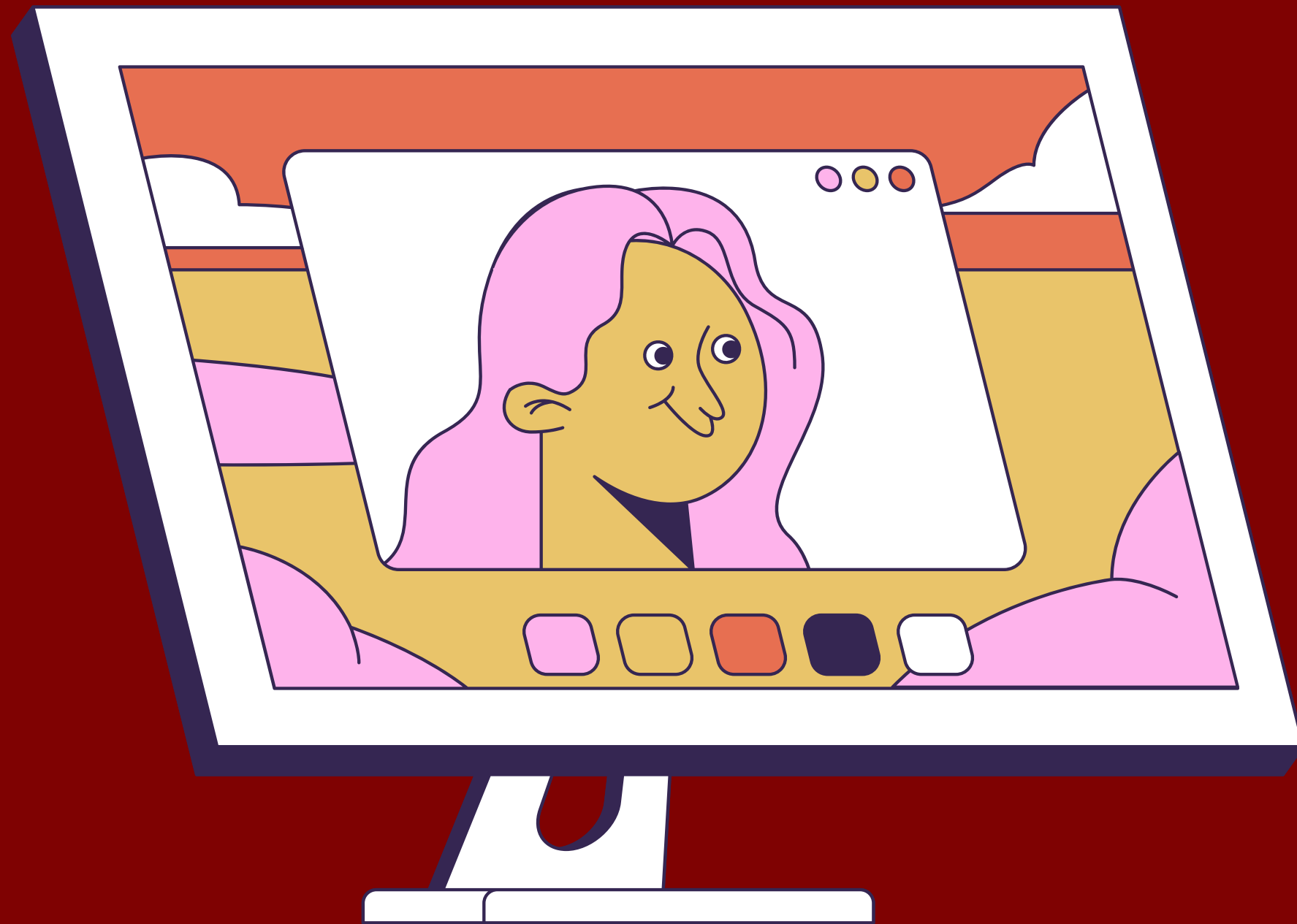


INTERNSHIP: IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS CLINIC



Hello!

I am Valeria Toledo



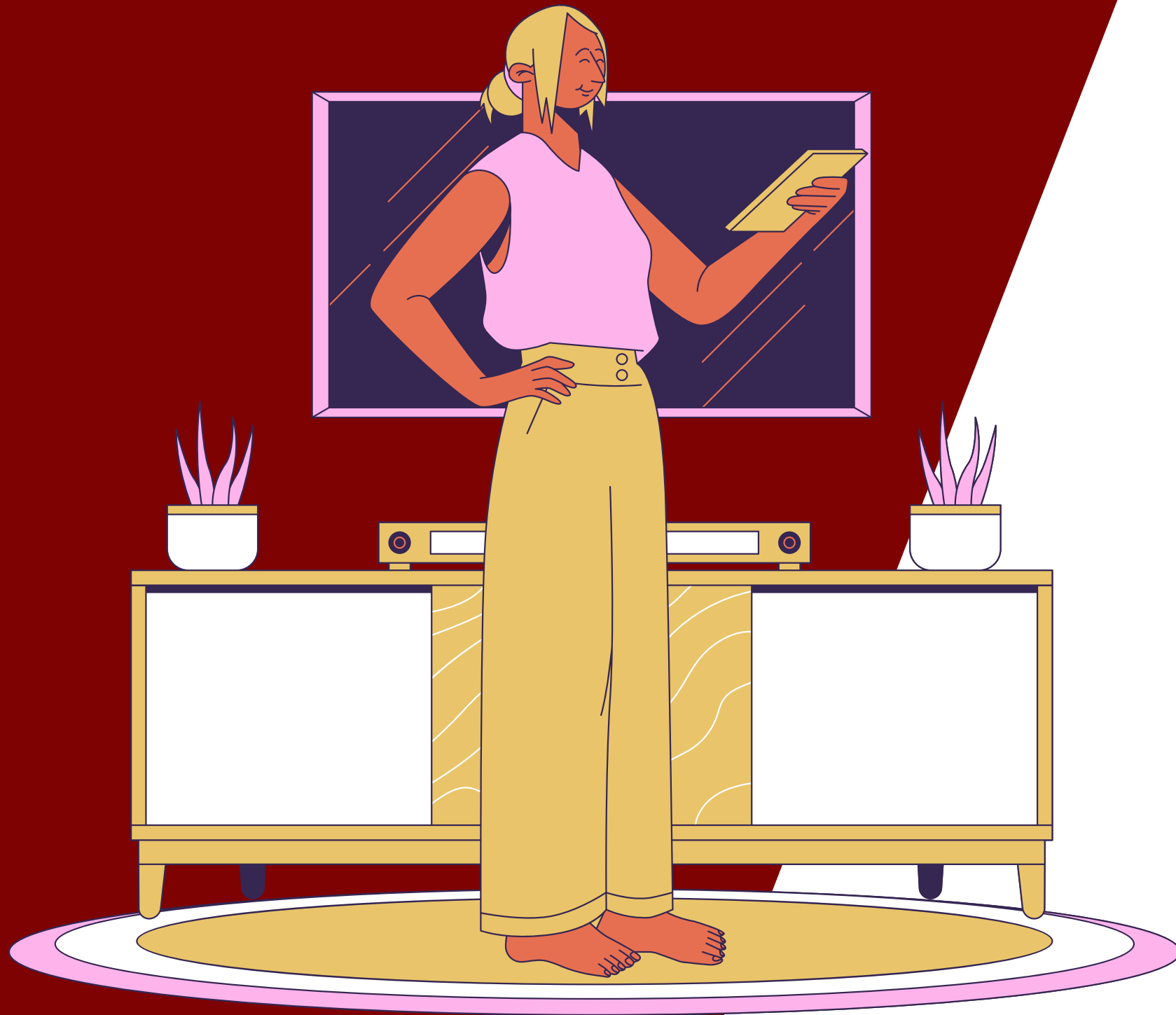
Internship in Social Justice

Students in Loyola's Social Justice Internship program participate in an immersive learning program with local organizations like as Catholic Charities, Misericordia, GirlForward, and ONE Northside Police Accountability. Students are expected to work with their designated agency for a minimum of 250-275 hours as part of this program. Each group is aligned with the social justice program, and they are all working toward the same objective of making the world a more fair place.

MY ROLE

My role in the Immigrant's rights clinic:

- Translate weekly interviews, drafts, court documents, and calls with multiple clients whose native language is not English.
- Managed over 12 cases and coordinated communications between the law students and the supervisor attorney daily.
- Classified and continuously updated the cases spreadsheet with relevant notes about the weekly intakes with the clients.
- Give emotional support to clients who come from a violent background
- take notes during weekly intakes
- research asylum requests and I-130 forms



ABOUT THE CLINIC

The Immigrants' Rights Clinic provides legal representation to immigrant communities in Chicago, including individual representation of immigrants in removal proceedings, immigration-related complex federal litigation, and policy and community education projects on behalf of community-based organizations.



Nicole Hallett



Is an Associate Clinical Professor of Law and directs the Immigrants' Rights Clinic

Her scholarship focuses on immigration and labor/employment law, and in particular, how laws in these areas either promote or impede collective action and power-building in subordinated communities. In her practice, she specializes in creative lawyering through complex litigation and multi-pronged advocacy

Most common cases



Naturalization

A US citizen may file Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, with USCIS to establish a relationship with certain alien relatives who seek to immigrate to the US.



Asylum

“Asylum” is a way to stop your deportation and become a refugee. If you win “Asylum,” you’ll also have the chance to eventually become a permanent resident in the U.S.



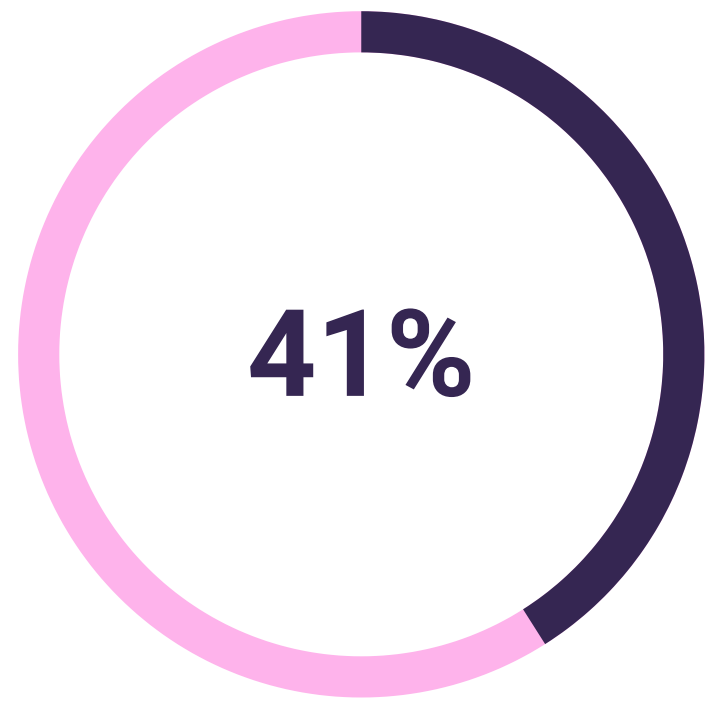
U-visa

The U Visa is for victims of certain crimes who have been physically or mentally abused and who want to help law enforcement agencies and government officials investigate or prosecute criminal conduct.

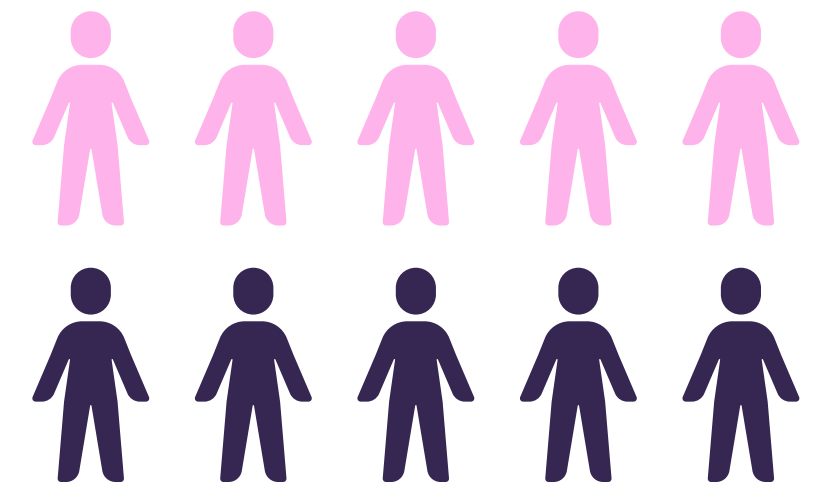
Naturalization Statistics



Mexico led the top five countries of origin for naturalizations in FY 2020, accounting for 13.3 percent of all naturalizations, followed by India (7.7%), the Philippines (5.3%), Cuba (5%), and the People's Republic of China (5%).



Median age

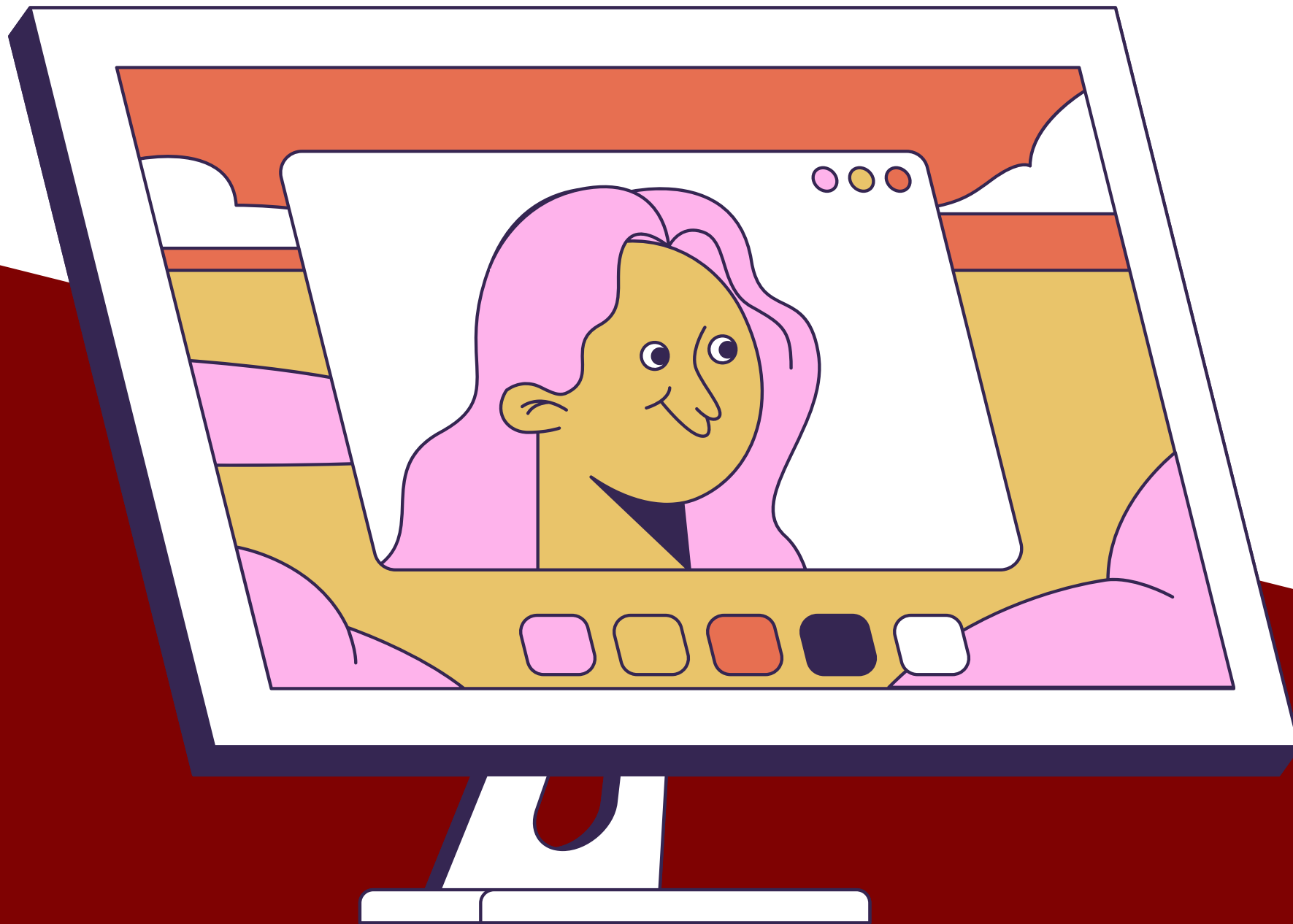


Women made up more than 55% of those naturalized in FY 2020

Personal Project

How to petition for alien relative

- Form I-130
- Form I-485
- Form I-693
- Form I-864



HOW TO PETITION FOR ALIEN RELATIVE

A US CITIZEN MAY FILE FORM I-130, PETITION FOR ALIEN RELATIVE, WITH USCIS TO ESTABLISH A RELATIONSHIP WITH CERTAIN ALIEN RELATIVES WHO SEEK TO IMMIGRATE TO THE US.

YOU MUST ALSO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS WITH THE FORM I-485:

- A filing fee of \$1,400
- Biometric services fee of \$85
- Two recent passport-style photographs
- Government-issued identity document with photograph
- Birth certificate
- Passport page with admission or parole stamp, passport page with a nonimmigrant visa, and Form I-94
- Form I-797, the receipt or approval notice for Form I-130

FORM I-864 (AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT)

You'll also need to file a Form I-864, Affidavit of Support, along with the I-485. You must identify a sponsor on this form. He must demonstrate that his household income is at least 125 % of the poverty level to be a sponsor.

FORM I-130

To begin, fill out **Form I-130**. You must attach the following documents to this form:

- Birth Certificate
- \$535 non-refundable filing fee
- Fill out biographical information
 - physical address for the last five years
 - Employment history for the last five years

FORM I-485

You must also file **Form I-485**, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status, at the same time. You'll need to fill out this form with information regarding your most recent admission into the United States and the information on the **I-94** you received when you arrived.

FORM I-693

Finally, a Form I-693, Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record, must be filed. Make an appointment with a doctor who has been designated by USCIS as a "civil surgeon," and bring your medical and vaccination records, as well as a government-issued photo ID with you.

Why is this important?

Many immigrants struggle when they want to gain legal status in the United States. The high fees and long process make it very difficult for immigrants to work and have a better life in the United States. During my time at THE IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS CLINIC, I learned the most common process to get a green card, U-Visa, Asylum, etc. Most importantly, I learned how we could support and help immigrant communities by providing them with the correct information. That's why my project is about the steps to petition for an alien relative, so it would be easy to understand.



Class Topics & Reflections

Authentic Leadership

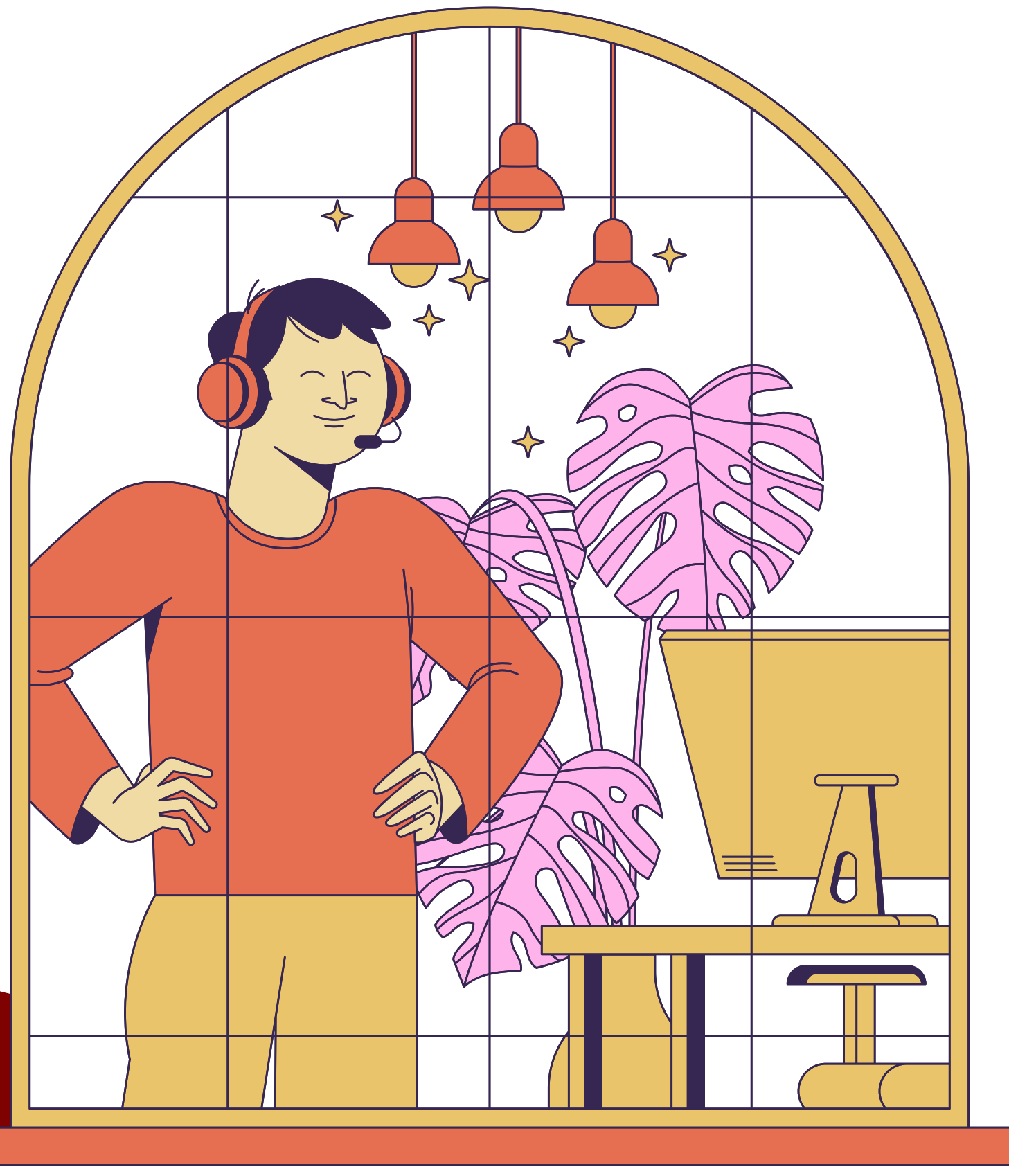
This Leadership style is genuine and transparent. “Showing up as yourself matters” Authenticity emerges between and among leaders and participant interactions. A key factor is to inspire through trust, and it Develops over time. One aspect that I think is the most important and my internship has helped me develop is to be purpose-driven with explicit moral dimensions. Moreover, it is Grounded in positive psychological behaviors and traits.

During my internship, I developed positive psychological behaviors and traits because while doing my job as a translator, sometimes I had to be the moral support for clients. It helped me expand my knowledge of managing my emotions in a professional setting. Moreover, it helps me be a better listener and understand the clients' needs.



Identity and Intersectionality

Working with immigrants helped me analyze and understand the struggles that thousands of immigrants endure daily to get to the United States. It allowed me to connect with them on a deeper level, even if I don't have similar needs. My internship was a constant reminder of my family's challenges over the years and how they struggle to get legal status in the United States. This position helped me rediscover my identity as the daughter of immigrants, and it unfolded a new area of personality and individuality. During my internship, I connected with critical aspects of my identity that helped me perform better and connect with clients who share the same cultural backgrounds as me.



Reflection

During my internship, I learned that social justice has a lot of meanings. For instance, it is more than just advocating and supporting those in need; or empowering communities. When working to improve the community, you have to be an active listener to understand their needs and find ways to strengthen and empower them. During my internship, I used different theories I had learned in my Social Justice classes to know how to be a valuable asset to the Immigrants' right clinic and help them achieve their goal of helping the immigrant community get free legal advice.

