



Gardner
& ASSOCIATES

Cultivating Leadership Skills Among Immigrant Parents for Engaging in Advocacy

Laura Gardner, MSW

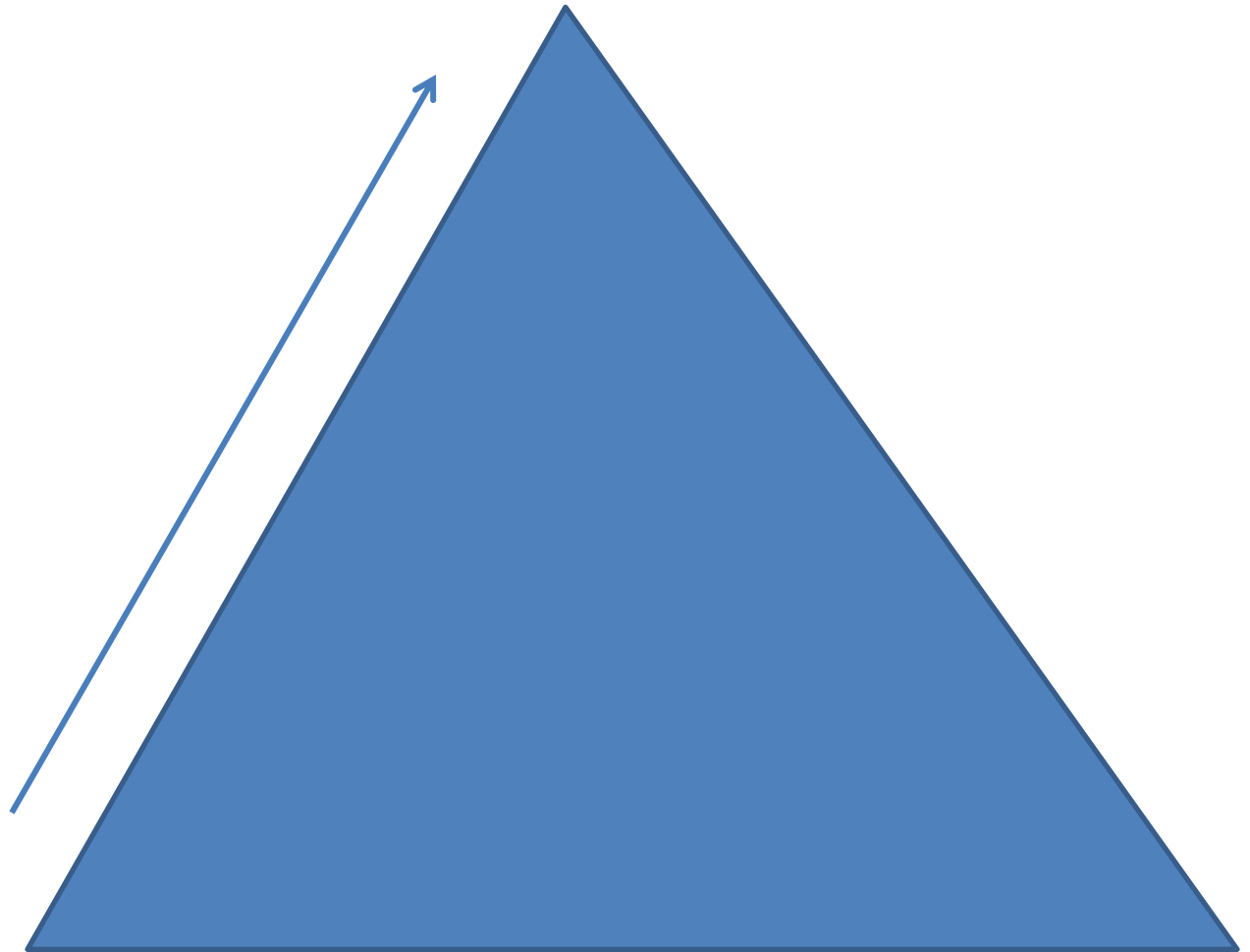
www.immigrantsrefugeesandschools.org



Continuum of Immigrant Parent Involvement

Model by Young-Chan Han

- **Leaders**
- **Connectors**
- **Learners**
- **Survivors**

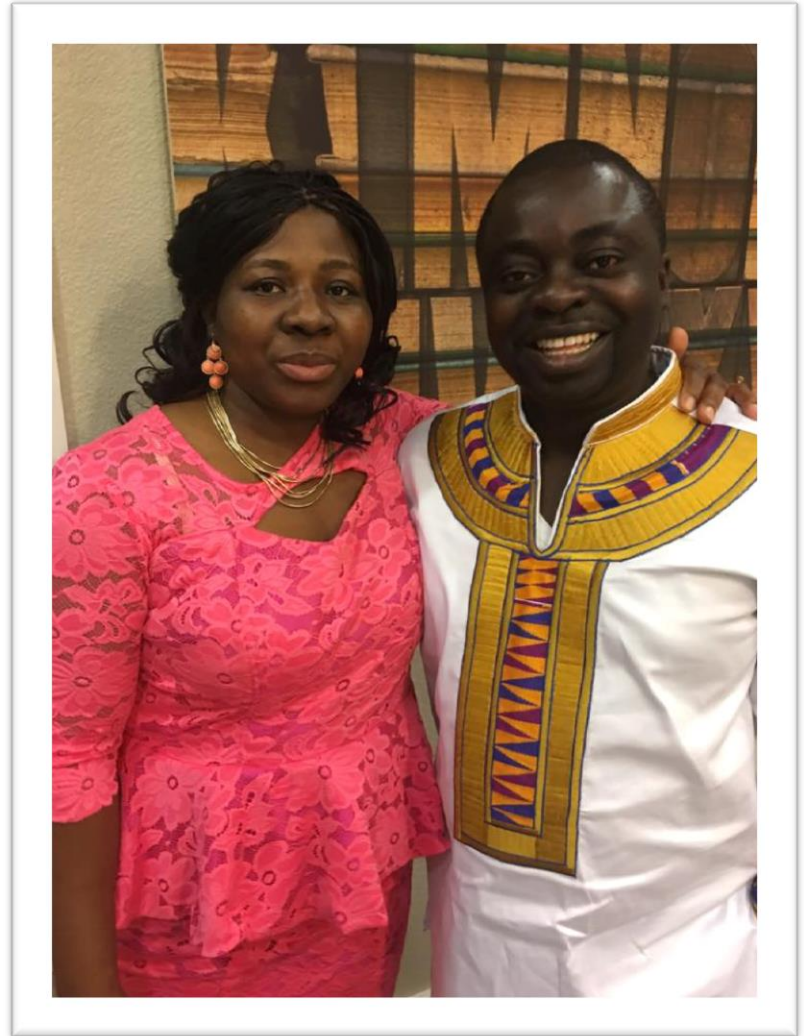


Poll #1



Parental Rights & Advocacy

- Right to weigh in on school board policies, regulations, & committees
- Right to provide input on the school district's budget and how funds are spent
- Right to receive information in preferred language



Immigrant Parent Advocacy: Example 1

Immigrant parents attend school board meetings



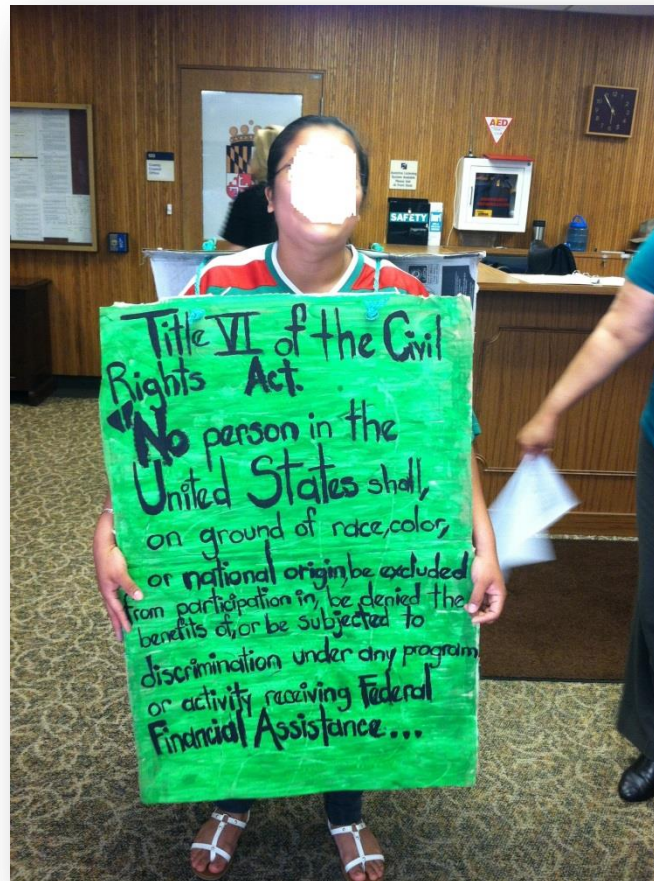
Immigrant Parent Advocacy: Example 2

Immigrant parents testify in front of the school board



Immigrant Parent Advocacy: Example 3

Immigrant parents testify in front of the county government

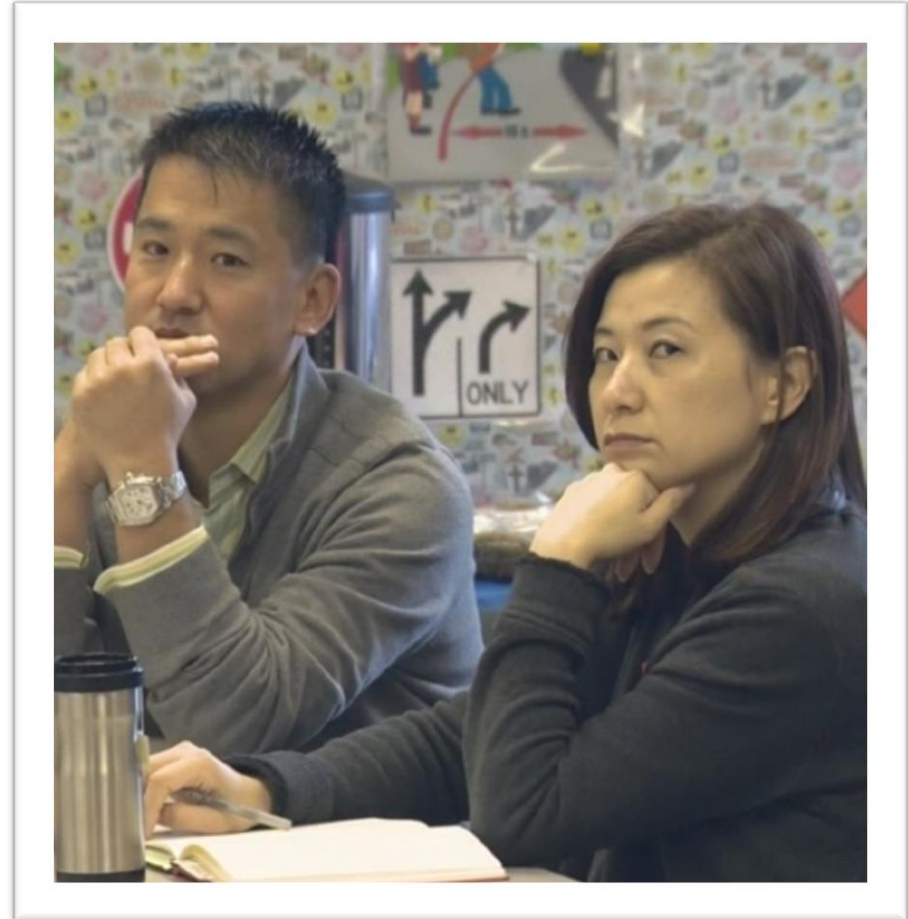


Poll #2



Developing Leadership & Advocacy Skills: Maryland Experience

- Immigrant parent leadership classes / academies
- Immigrant parent advisory boards



Developing Leadership & Advocacy Skills: Other Examples

Two organizations focused on Immigrants & Refugees:

- Abriendo Puertas / Opening Doors (<http://ap-od.org/>)
- Somali Parents Education Board (<https://speboard.org>)



Developing Leadership & Advocacy Skills: More Examples

Very inclusive and/or Big Focus on Immigrants:

- Bay Area Parent Leadership Action Network (PLAN)
(<http://www.parentactionnet.org/>)
- Community Organizing and Family Issues (COFI)
(<http://www.cofionline.org/>)
- United Parent Leaders Action Network (UPLAN)
(<http://unitedparentleaders.org/>)



**UNITED
PARENT LEADERS
ACTION NETWORK**



Immigrant Family & Community Engagement in Schools (1 credit)



Building Relationships with Immigrant Communities through Local Cultural



Interpretation & Translation in Schools



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