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Diane Portnoy

President and CEO

The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. Applauds Progress on Immigration Reform

MALDEN, Mass, January 29, 2013 / In reaction to the bipartisan framework for comprehensive immigration reform released by eight U.S. senators on January 28 and President Obama's plan for comprehensive immigration reform announced today, The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. releases the following statement from Diane Portnoy, president and CEO:

“The efforts being made in the Senate and by President Obama to overhaul U.S. immigration laws reflect the crucial role that immigrants play in the U.S. economy and society. The Immigrant Learning Center's research has consistently shown that immigrants make significant contributions to this country as workers, consumers and entrepreneurs. This is true across the spectrum from those who have limited education but offer hard work and determination all the way to those with PhD's in high-demand fields. Sadly, our current immigration system puts up barriers across the board. A comprehensive solution is needed that does not sacrifice long-held American values like fairness and family. These steps toward reform are very encouraging for the future of this country. ”

About The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc.

The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. (ILC) of Malden, Mass, is a not-for-profit organization that helps immigrants and refugees become successful workers, parents and community members through direct service programs and public education. Our direct service program provides free, year-round English classes to immigrant and refugee adults in Greater Boston. The ILC further supports immigrants through the Public Education Institute, which informs Americans about the economic and social contributions of immigrants in our society. In January, 2013, The ILC published *Immigrant Struggles, Immigrant Gifts*, a book that documents the experience of 11 immigrant groups in the U.S., currently available on Amazon.com.

For more information visit the website <http://www.ilctr.org> and Facebook page <http://www.fb.com/immigrantlearningcenter>.

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