

Friends Foundation for the Aging

New Grant Proposal Form

Date: 9/5/2025

Organization: American Friends Service Committee, NJ Immigrant Rights Program

TIN & Formal organization name: 23-1352010 – American Friends Service Committee

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Address: 89 Market Street, 6th Floor, Newark, NJ 07102

Amount requested: \$25,000

Project title: Aging Immigrant Support Program - New Jersey

Summary Description: Specialized legal services and resource coordination for aging immigrants, including TPS holders and vulnerable Cuban populations, addressing legal vulnerabilities, community fear and isolation.

Project Details

1. Problem Identification

New Jersey's aging immigrant communities face compounded vulnerabilities creating significant barriers to essential services and legal protections. Our client analysis reveals a growing demographic shift with increasing numbers of aging immigrants, particularly within Temporary Protected Status (TPS) populations and vulnerable communities such as aging Cubans. These older immigrants live with heightened ICE enforcement fears, even those with legal status, leading to dangerous isolation and reduced access to legal services and essential resources like healthcare.

TPS Crisis: For over two decades, TPS provided protection for tens of thousands from Honduras and Nicaragua who built families and community ties in the U.S. The second Trump administration moved to end TPS for both countries, with terminations scheduled for September 8, 2025, following a recent Ninth Circuit decision. Further terminations are anticipated, including El Salvador's program affecting over 200,000 people. Many TPS holders are now over 50, approaching retirement age, and face devastating consequences: loss of work authorization, employer-sponsored health insurance, and driver's license eligibility.

Cuban Population Challenges: The U.S. hosts a large aging Cuban immigrant population from earlier migration waves like the Mariel boatlift. Many over age 60 face significant barriers to retirement security, healthcare access, and long-term stability. While historically benefiting from unique pathways like the Cuban Adjustment Act, these protections have become more challenging to access, leaving older adults particularly vulnerable navigating complex benefit systems.

2. Proposed Solution

We propose an Aging Immigrant Support Program providing targeted legal services integrated with resource coordination and community support. This model combines dedicated legal support specifically tailored for aging immigrant populations with strategic resource coordination addressing broader needs beyond legal issues, leveraging our extensive TPS experience. Without the requested funding, we will need to scale back our proposed work with older immigrants; limiting our internal coordination and reducing the number of community presentations we can provide.

3. Planned Actions

Immediate TPS Response: Provide comprehensive legal screenings to identify alternative immigration options—family petitions through U.S. citizen spouses/children, humanitarian pathways including asylum, U visas, or VAWA protections. Each case requires fact-specific legal expertise given increased detention/deportation focus.

Direct Services:

- 10 individual consultations and legal screenings for aging TPS and Cuban clients
- Three legal clinics focused on TPS termination
- Support for 36 individual aging immigrants addressing urgent needs: alternatives to employer-based health insurance, family safety plans for potential detention/deportation, retirement/financial counseling, mental health service referrals
- Five community presentations about aging-specific benefits and resources

Advocacy Support: Beyond this funding, AFSC will advocate for state policies preserving driver's license and healthcare access, offer solidarity, counter misinformation with accurate updates, and remind long-time TPS holders and aging immigrants they are not alone during this uncertainty.

4. Population Served

The program serves aging TPS holders requiring specialized legal assistance, vulnerable aging Cuban immigrant community members, elderly immigrants with complex legal status issues, and aging immigrants experiencing fear and isolation due to ICE enforcement concerns. This demographic represents New Jersey's most vulnerable residents, facing intersecting age-related challenges and immigration-related fears creating unique service access barriers.

5. Partners and Collaborators

Collaborative Partnerships: AFSC collaborates with organizations serving aging and immigrant populations throughout New Jersey, including Reformed Church of Highland Park, Catholic Charities, Partnership for Maternal and Child Health of Northern New Jersey, Parker Family Health Center, Zufall Health, First Friends, NJ Department of Human Services, and local Quaker Meetings (including Montclair, Manasquan, and Shrewsbury).

This integrated approach builds on successful models combining legal services with resource coordination while addressing the unique intersection of aging and immigration challenges underserved in traditional programming.

6. Impact Measurement

Outputs: Track aging immigrant clients served with legal screenings/assistance, community presentations to aging populations, Know Your Rights presentations, individuals connected with resources, informational resources developed, partnerships established, and pre/post presentation surveys.

Outcomes: Reduce legal vulnerabilities among aging immigrant clients while increasing access to essential healthcare and social services. Improve understanding of legal rights and benefits among aging immigrant communities based on immigration status.

Long-term Impact: Empower aging immigrant populations through sustainable community partnerships and support systems. Increase community awareness of aging immigrant needs and create a replicable model for other regions with similar demographics.

Program Budget

Expected Income:

- Friends Foundation for the Aging grant request: \$25,000
- **Total Income:** \$25,000

Expected Expenses:

Staff Costs:

	FFA Request	AFSC Funding
• Supervising Accredited Representative	\$8,173	\$75,508.58
• Supervising Social Worker	\$8,172	\$72,947.19
• Taxes/Benefits:	\$5,394	\$48,998.40

Administrative Costs:

• 15% Overhead cost:	\$3,269	
• Total Expenses:	\$25,000	\$197,446.17

Please attach IRS determination letter. Organization website, Guidestar profile, and IRS Pub 78 status should be current and accessible for review.