

# Your World, Your Money

A GLOBAL THINKING FOUNDATION USA PODCAST

## The Worth of Immigration and Citizenship:

- With citizenship applications costing upwards of hundreds of dollars, the pathway to citizenship can be a long, arduous endeavor taken on by DACA, protected, and undocumented immigrants.
- With employment options limited by immigration status, many immigrants' contributions are limited in their scope. Nonetheless, a majority of immigrants make up the essential workforce, which has contributed to the frontlines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## The Economic and Cultural Benefits of Immigrants to the United States:

- In September 2021, a letter to the White House signed by 50 economists urged for legislation to enable pathways to citizenship, citing immigrant labor as vital to the economy.
- According to their analysis, revisions to immigration policy would increase worker wages, productivity and ultimately create jobs that could lift families out of poverty.
- Beyond their benefit to US GDP and intersectional perspective on current labor rights, pathways to citizenship ultimately enable more diverse and innovative workforces.

## Additional Takeaways from Anu:

- Listeners interested in further advocacy for immigrant rights can consider training to become a Department of Justice accredited representative to aid with legal forms and basic immigration services.
- With DACA currently in its public notice phase, Anu urges those who feel strongly to submit their opinions in a public forum and to local and federal legislatures.

### Season 3, Episode 03: The Worth of Immigration

Guest(s): Anu Thomas, Executive Director of Esperanza Immigration Legal Services (EILS)

