

2025►  
**LEADING  
THE WAY**

# NASHVILLE



## Protecting American Ideals, Boosting Prosperity

Leading the Way: Heading to Nashville  
September 29-30, 2025  
Location: Belmont University





## For over 12 years,

the Forum has hosted Leading the Way, a convening of hundreds of moderate and conservative faith, law enforcement, national security and business leaders from all over the country. They come for valuable networking, advocacy and coordinating of strategy in their work to support immigrants. This year's convening comes at a critical moment, and it will amplify high-profile, influential national speakers as we all come together to create pragmatic solutions for all Americans.



We are at a historic crossroads for our nation's immigration story, so we once again take our convening outside of Washington, DC, to Nashville, TN, a city and state that depends on the talents and skills of immigrant workers and communities and where the debate on immigration is pervasive. Our Courage to Lead reception will kick off the convening on September 29th by recognizing elected officials who have worked across the aisle to advance constructive, bipartisan immigration solutions.



The Leading the Way general session will be held on September 30th and will feature high-profile speakers from Tennessee and nationally. Nashville's economy is intertwined with its immigrant workforce -- over 80% of Tennessee's immigrants are working age and 30,000 immigrant entrepreneurs are fueling Nashville's innovation and growth. This thriving city provides an ideal setting for gathering leaders committed to pragmatic immigration reforms.

**We invite you to join us.**

# ABOUT THE NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM

## OUR MISSION

Founded in 1982, the National Immigration Forum advocates for the value of immigrants and immigration to the nation.

## OUR VISION

We envision a 21st-century immigration system that helps new Americans gain the opportunities, skills and status they need to realize their full potential.

## OUR IMPACT

We bring together moderate and conservative faith, law enforcement, national security and business leaders to engage in constructive conversations and weigh in with policy makers in support of commonsense immigration and integration policies.

As the nation prioritizes the goals of secure borders, safety for Americans and economic prosperity, we seek to balance pragmatic policy solutions to ensure an orderly, secure and humane immigration system. We build momentum and share strategic insights from our trusted and experienced messengers on the way forward.

**Bibles, Badges and Business for Immigration Reform:** is a network of 30,000 moderate to conservative leaders working to broaden the conversation on the contributions of immigrants to America's success. This group includes an exclusive list of "BBB Talkers," consisting of hundreds of leaders with large networks that receive our messaging guidance around key issues and news cycles.

**Welcome Projects (Women of Welcome and We Choose Welcome):** is a grassroots effort launched in early 2017 by the National Immigration Forum and World Relief to educate, equip, and mobilize over 300,000 conservative to moderate evangelical women from all 50 states on immigration and immigration reform.

**Evangelical Immigration Table:** is a national movement of 11,000 Christian organizations and leaders from all 50 states who are committed to encouraging other Christians to think and act biblically on immigration issues.

**Law Enforcement Immigration Task Force:** launched in 2015 and convenes more than 150 police chiefs, sheriffs and law enforcement executives in 34 states who are committed to the belief that when immigrants feel safe in their communities, we are all safer.

**Students of Welcome:** is a fast-growing, student-led movement taking root on Christian college campuses across the U.S. Currently housed at 7 universities and reaching over 2,000 students.

**Council on National Security and Immigration:** launched in 2021, consists of 44 center-right national security experts who believe immigration reforms are imperative to bolster and maintain the United States' global leadership in the 21st century.

**The Forum Daily:** 4,400 subscribers spanning journalists, academics, and government officials receiving our narrative-shaping news roundup each morning.





## ABOUT THE NATIONAL IMMIGRATION FORUM (CONTINUED)

The Forum's business engagement programs advance our country and economy by partnering with companies to bolster the skills and career pathway potential of immigrant workers, meeting important business operational needs through three distinct programs:

- ★ **The Corporate Roundtable:** We convene some of the nation's leading corporations from a diverse set of industries to advance strategies that integrate new Americans into the U.S. labor market and improve their opportunities to thrive.
- ★ **English at Work:** We work with businesses to provide industry-contextualized English language training as a solution between employees seeking to increase English proficiency and employers seeking to upskill, retain and promote a diverse workforce.
- ★ **New American Workforce Citizenship Services:** We work with businesses to assist their eligible immigrant employees with the citizenship process through the worksite, so they can become full participants in the workplace, their community and our economy.





## PREVIOUS LEADING THE WAY SPEAKERS

### **Joseph Azam**

Board Chair, The Afghan-American Foundation

### **Jon Baselice**

VP of Immigration Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

### **Chief Ramon Batista**

Santa Monica, CA Police Department

### **Dr. J. Blair Blackburn**

President, East Texas Baptist University

### **Cathy Burns**

CEO, International Fresh Produce Association

### **Kristie De Pena**

SVP for Policy and Director of Immigration Policy,  
Niskanen Center

### **Sheriff Sean Casey**

Alexandria, VA Sheriff's Office

### **Elaine C. Duke**

Fmr Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security

### **Michelle Hackman**

Wall Street Journal

### **Glenn Hamer**

President & CEO, Texas Association of Business

### **Douglas Holtz-Eakin**

President, American Action Forum

### **Robert P. Jones**

President & Founder, Public Religion Research Institute

### **Gil Kerlikowske**

Fmr Commissioner of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection

### **Walter Kim**

President, National Association of Evangelicals

### **Stephanie Martz**

Chief Administrative Officer, National Retail Federation

### **Alejandro Mayorkas**

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

### **Doris Meissner**

Senior Fellow and Director, U.S. Immigration Policy Program,  
Migration Policy Institute (MPI)

### **Vikrant Reddy**

Senior Fellow, Stand Together Trust

### **David Rennie**

The Economist

### **Dr. Jeffrey Singer**

Senior Fellow, Cato Institute

### **Chief Michael Tupper**

Chief of Police, Marshalltown, Iowa

## PREVIOUS COURAGE TO LEAD HONOREES

### **2024 Honorees**

Representative Tom Suozzi (D-NY-03)

Representative Morgan Luttrell (R-TX-08)

### **2023 Honorees**

Congressman Henry Cuellar (TX-28)

Congressman Lloyd Smucker (PA-11)

Texas State Representative Ana Hernandez (TX-143)

Mayor Javier Villalobos (McAllen, Texas)

## 2024 SPONSORS



# SPONSORSHIP INFO

Your sponsorship of Leading the Way and the Courage to Lead Award is a testament to how your strategic investment has translated into measurable progress across America's landscape, effectively helping immigrants gain the opportunities, skills, and status they need to realize their full potential.

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

### Benefactor — \$100,000

- Sponsor prominently featured and named as a sponsor of Leading the Way and the Courage to Lead award, eg "Courage to Lead Award presented by [Sponsor name]"
- Opportunity for speaker remarks during main program
- Sponsor featured in post-event write ups distributed to our list serves
- Sponsor logo on Leading the Way and Courage to Lead tangible event collateral including signage and program
- Sponsor recognized by speakers from the stage during Leading the Way and Courage to Lead
- If sponsoring a panel: sponsor name announced as a panel sponsor during panel discussion introductions
- One social media post by the Forum highlighting sponsor name (as desired)
- Opportunity for sponsor logo most prominently placed on the Leading the Way website and event application

### Leader — \$50,000

- Sponsor featured in post-event write ups distributed to our list serves
- Sponsor logo prominently featured on Leading the Way and Courage to Lead tangible event collateral including signage and program
- Sponsor recognized by speakers from the stage during Leading the Way and Courage to Lead
- If sponsoring a panel: sponsor name announced as a panel sponsor during panel discussion introductions.
- One social media post by the Forum highlighting your company (as desired)
- Opportunity for sponsor logo to be prominently placed on the Leading the Way website and event application

### NEW FOR 2025: Constituency Support -- \$30,000

- Specific promotion with chosen constituency: Students, evangelical women, law enforcement leaders or business leaders
- Logo and recognition on internal invitations and planning materials for chosen constituency
- Logo and recognition on meeting signage and materials for chosen constituency's closed-door, strategy meeting

### Champion — \$25,000

- Sponsor logo on Leading the Way and Courage to Lead tangible event collateral including signage and program
- Sponsor recognized by speakers from the stage during Leading the Way and Courage to Lead
- Your Sponsor announced as a panel sponsor during panel discussion introductions.
- One social media post by the Forum highlighting sponsored (as desired)
- Opportunity for sponsor logo on the Leading the Way website and event application

### Patron — \$15,000

- Sponsor logo on Leading the Way and Courage to Lead tangible event collateral including signage and program
- Sponsor recognized by speakers from the stage during Leading the Way and Courage to Lead
- Sponsor name listed on the Leading the Way website and event application



## SPONSORSHIP INFO (CONTINUED)

### Promoter — \$10,000

- Sponsor logo on Leading the Way or Courage to Lead tangible event collateral including signage and program
- Sponsor recognized by speakers from the stage during Leading the Way and Courage to Lead
- Sponsor name listed on the Leading the Way website (as desired)

### Ally — \$5,000

- Sponsor logo on Leading the Way and Courage to Lead tangible event collateral including signage and program
- Sponsor name listed on the Leading the Way website (as desired)

## Thank you for sponsoring the 2025 Leading the Way and Courage to Lead

Please email Francela Chi De Chinchilla to confirm sponsorship at [Fchinchilla@immigrationforum.org](mailto:Fchinchilla@immigrationforum.org)

Questions? You can reach Francela at (202) 459-6023

### Contributions can be wired or mailed to:

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