New York City Council
Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker of the Council
Hon. Justin Brannan, Chair Finance Committee
Hon. Alexa Avilés, Chair, Immigration Committee

Report on the Fiscal 2026 Executive Plan and the Fiscal 2026 Executive Capital Commitment Plan for Committee on Finance and the Committee on Immigration

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Fiscal 2026 Executive Plan

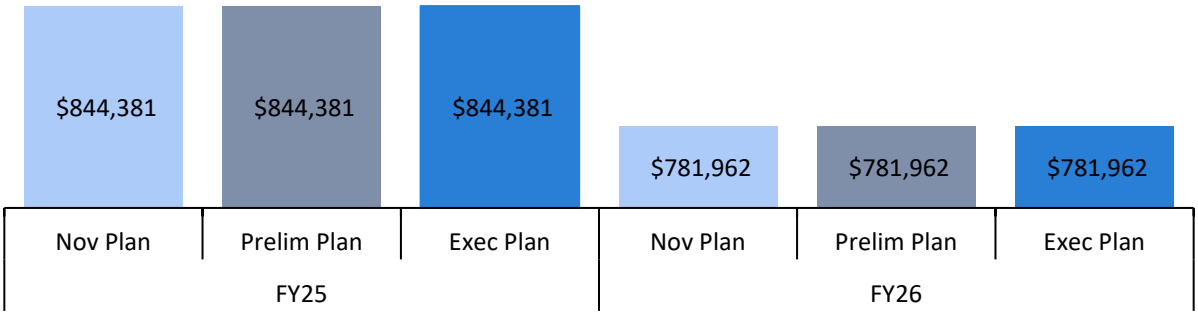
Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs

The Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) is committed to promoting the well-being of all immigrant New Yorkers by advising the Mayor, City Council, and City agencies on inclusive programs and policies. MOIA monitors state and federal developments that affect immigrant communities, enhances access to city services through targeted outreach, and supports the delivery of critical legal services.

The Executive Financial Plan for Fiscal 2025-2029 (Executive Plan) includes a proposed Fiscal 2026 Budget of $781,962 for MOIA. MOIA's Fiscals 2025 and 2026 budgets in the Executive Plan are unchanged from the Preliminary Plan. The current Fiscal 2026 Budget is $62,419 less than the $844,381 Fiscal 2025 Budget at adoption. For additional information on MOIA's Preliminary Budget, please refer to the Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Budget report.[1]

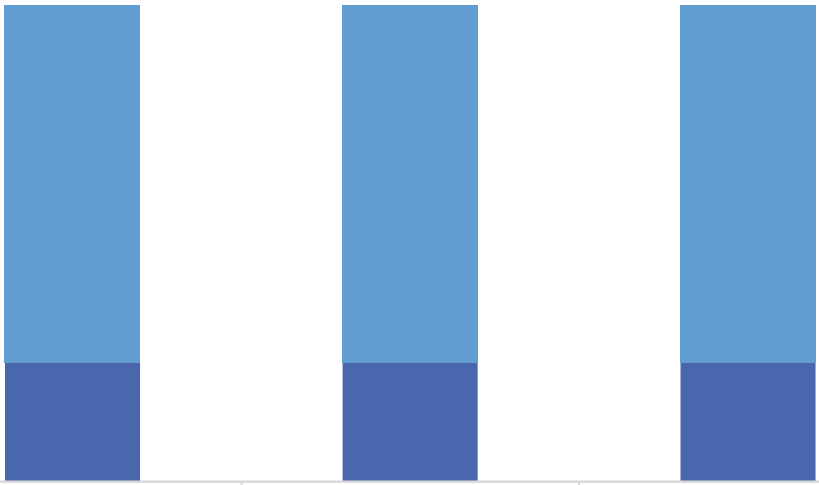
[1] New York City Council, "Report on the Fiscal 2025 Preliminary Plan and the Fiscal 2024 Preliminary Mayor's Management Report for the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs", as of March 2025.

Comparison of the Last Three Financial Plans



Source: *New York City Office of Management and Budget*

Personal Services (PS) and Other Than Personal Services (OTPS)



	FY25 Adopted	FY25 Executive	FY26 Executive
PS	$841,381	$841,381	$778,962
OTPS	$3,000	$3,000	$3,000

Dollars in Thousands
Source: *New York City Office of Management and Budget*

Fiscal 2026 Executive Plan Funding for Immigrant Services

MOIA's budget only offers a partial view of its overall operations. MOIA works closely with several City agencies, such as the Department of Social Services (DSS), Human Resources Administration (HRA), NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), NYC Health + Hospitals (H+H), the Department of Education (DOE), and the Administration for Children Services (ACS) to oversee immigration-related programs within those agencies. These key programs include:

- **NYC Care Program.** The Executive Plan includes baseline funding of $100.0 million in H+H's budget in each year of the financial plan period for NYC Care, unchanged since the program launched in Fiscal 2019. NYC Care has become a national model for expanding health equity and ensuring preventive, primary, and specialty care for some of the City's most vulnerable populations. NYC Care enrollment has steadily increased from 113,178 in Fiscal 2022 to 143,503 in Fiscal 2024, reflecting its vital role in providing healthcare access to low-income individuals and immigrant communities, many of whom are afraid to seek care due to fears of deportation. This raises serious concerns that any decline in usage driven by such fears could lead to funding reductions that would jeopardize this critical lifeline.
- **Citywide Immigration Legal Services.** The Executive Plan includes $71.7 million in Fiscal 2025 in HRA'S budget for immigration legal services. Include $25.3 million in Council initiatives such as the NY Immigrant Family Project, Unaccompanied Minors, and Low Wage Worker Support; $17.8 million for ActionNYC; $14.1 million for deportation defense; $6.5 million for the Mayoral Immigrant Opportunity Initiatives; and $7.9 million for asylum legal services.
- **Promise NYC.** The Executive Plan includes $25.0 million in City funding in Fiscal 2026 only to support approximately 1,000 child care slots under the Promise NYC program. Promise NYC is a City-funded program which provides undocumented families with child care vouchers, as they are not eligible for other subsidized voucher programs. Since its inception in Fiscal 2023, funding for Promise NYC has been added on a year-to-year basis and has not been baselined. The Council called for the funding for Promise NYC to be baselined in the Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Budget Response. However, the funding was restored in the Executive Plan for one year only.

- **Municipal Identification Card (IDNYC).** The Executive Plan includes $12.3 million in HRA's budget in Fiscal 2026 for the City's Municipal Identification Card program. This program continues to serve as a critical resource, providing municipal identification to New Yorkers, including vulnerable populations such as immigrants and the homeless. In Fiscal 2022, IDNYC issued 162,627 cards, increasing to 183,682 in Fiscal 2024. This highlights the growing importance of this program in providing all New Yorkers, regardless of immigration status, with access to essential services, cultural benefits, and a sense of belonging in their city.
- **DYCD Immigrant Opportunity Initiative.** The Executive Plan includes baseline funding of $7.1 million in DYCD's budget starting in Fiscal 2026. The funds support the English for Speakers of Other Languages/Basic Education in the Native Language (ESOL/BENL) program in the Adult Literacy RFP.
- **Services to Immigrant Families.** The Executive Plan includes $2.9 million in DYCD's budget for comprehensive services to immigrant families, immigrant workers, immigrant youth, and for survivors of domestic violence and trafficking.

MOIA's Immigration Programs

Program Areas	FY25 Adopted	FY26 Preliminary	FY26 Executive	Difference FY26 Exec – FY25 Adopted
MOIA's Legal Support Center*	$15,700,390	$7,900,390	$20,200,000*	$4,499,610
MOIA's English Support Center (WeSpeakNYC)	1,743,000	617,665	617,665	(1,125,335)
Haitian Response Initiative	1,633,500	0	1,650,000	16,500
MOIA's Support Legal Hotline	1,329,170	283,998	575,000	(754,170)
Rapid Response Legal Collaborative	500,000	500,000	500,000	0
Immigrant Rights Workshop	443,600	443,600	509,600	66,000
TOTAL	**$21,349,660**	**$9,745,653**	**$24,052,265**	**$2,702,605**

* The Fiscal 2026 Executive Budget for MOIA's Legal Support Center includes $12.2 million for ActionNYC, $5.0 million for the Asylum Seekers Legal Assistance Network and $2.8 million for the Asylum Seeker Resource Navigation Center.

Executive Plan Changes

Significant Executive Plan Changes

New Needs

- **Adult Literacy.** The Executive Plan includes an additional $10.0 million of City funding in Fiscal 2026 in DYCD's Budget to support the adult literacy initiative. This funding will help restore programs aimed at improving literacy skills among adults, expanding their access to educational opportunities, employment prospects, and personal development. In Fiscal 2025, DYCD issued a request for proposal for an adult literacy program, and awarded contracts valued at $12.0 million to 29 adult literacy programs. Meanwhile, for the same fiscal year, the City Council invested $14.1 million towards the adult literacy initiative program. The $26.1 million in Fiscal 2025 provides for 14,150 participants.
- **Language Services.** The Executive Plan includes an additional $6.1 million of City, State, and federal funding in HRA's budget in Fiscal 2025 only to meet the demand for translation and interpretation services at benefit access centers.
- **Legal Services.** The Executive Plan includes an additional $6.3 million of City funding in Fiscal 2026 in HRA's Budget for legal service programs of which, $4.4 million is allocated for legal services for low-income immigrants and $1.9 million for legal services for low-wage workers.
- **Immigrant Family Engagement.** The Executive Plan includes an additional $4.0 million of City funding in Fiscal 2026 only to support language access services. This funding aims at bridging communication gaps between schools and the city's diverse immigrant communities. With approximately 43 percent of City public school students speaking a language other than English at home, this funding ensures that families receive essential school information in their native languages, particularly those not covered by the DOE's standard translations in nine languages. The funding is intended to keep programming at the same levels in Fiscal 2026 as Fiscal 2025.
- **Haitian Relief Initiative.** The Executive Plan includes baseline funding of $1.7 million of City funding in HRA's budget starting in Fiscal 2026 for the Haitian Relief Initiative. This funding supports newly arrived Haitian immigrants by providing comprehensive case management, social services, and immigration legal assistance, including eligibility screenings, legal consultations, application support, and removal defense.

Budget Response

Fiscal 2026 Expense Proposal Estimate: ***$113.0 million***
Expense Proposals Included in the Fiscal 2026 Executive Budget: ***$8.4 million***

In the City Council's Fiscal 2026 Preliminary Budget Response, the Council identified several areas of concern relating to immigrant communities. The budget response called on the Administration to invest an additional $59.0 million to ensure continuity of services and to help defend Immigrants against ongoing aggressive, anti-immigrant policies; $40.0 million for the Immigrant Opportunity Initiative (IOI), as well as $10.0 million for the Rapid Response program.

FY26 Budget Response Items			
#	**Response Priorities**	**Amount Requested**	**Amount in the Exec Budget**
1	Immigration Legal Services Enhancement	$109.0	$4.4
2	Immigrant Family Engagement	4.0	4.0

Dollars in thousands

State of New York City Immigrant Health

New York City's immigrant communities face multifaceted health challenges, including limited access to affordable healthcare, language barriers, and the need for culturally competent services. While the budget includes funding for legal services, literacy programs, and basic healthcare access through NYC Health + Hospitals, it largely neglects long-term solutions to systemic barriers, such as expanding health insurance access for undocumented individuals, and increasing funding for mental health services tailored to immigrant trauma.

Recently arrived asylum seekers and current undocumented individuals face unique psychological burdens, including migration trauma, fear of deportation, family separation, and the ongoing stress of navigating complex legal and social systems. Yet, the budget lacks targeted funding for trauma-informed mental health services tailored to these experiences.

A recent report from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) highlights that immigrant New Yorkers experience better overall health outcomes than their U.S. born counterparts, despite facing systemic barriers and disparities. Drawing on findings from the DOHMH's comprehensive health profile of immigrant communities, the report reveals that immigrants in New York City have a higher average life expectancy, 83.5 years compared to 79.9 years for those born in the United States. In addition to being healthier

overall, immigrants play a critical role in the city's healthcare infrastructure. Nearly half, forty-seven percent of all healthcare practitioners and technical workers in New York City are foreign-born, underscoring the indispensable role immigrants serve in both delivering and supporting health services across the five boroughs.

However, the report also underscores persistent disparities and structural challenges faced by immigrant communities. One of the most pressing issues is access to healthcare. Fifteen percent of immigrant adults are uninsured, almost double the rate among U.S. born residents. Moreover, mental health care remains inaccessible for many; only thirty-four percent of immigrant New Yorkers experiencing depression receive treatment, compared to forty-eight of those born in the United States.

The Council invested $2.6 million in Fiscal 2025 for the Immigrant Health Initiative. However, meaningful action is still required from the Administration to guarantee access to healthcare and support systems, regardless of immigration status.

Impact of Federal Policies and Budget

Since the Trump Administration took office in January 2025, New York City has experienced a surge in deportations and controversial immigration enforcement actions, including an intensified crackdown on both undocumented and documented immigrants. Federal agents have conducted arrests, detaining individuals without due process and targeting communities engaged in political activism. The Administration has employed obscure and unclear laws, including the 1798 Alien Enemies Act, to justify expedited deportations, though the Supreme Court recently limited such actions, citing due process concerns.

Compounding these enforcement measures are significant federal funding cuts to immigration legal services. In March 2025, the federal government eliminated over $200 million in grants, disrupting legal aid for more than 26,000 minors across the country. In New York City alone, approximately 1,000 open cases are now at risk, and more than 200 staff members from legal service providers have been affected. Despite the urgency of the situation, the Fiscal 2026 Executive Plan does not include funding to support services for unaccompanied minors and families.

The convergence of aggressive federal enforcement and diminished legal support has created a precarious situation for immigrant communities in New York, undermining due process and threatening the stability of families across the City.

State Budget Action

Office for New Americans. The State Fiscal 2026 Enacted Budget includes $65.7 million to provide services such as legal assistance, English language classes, and workforce development to immigrants across the state.

Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). The State Fiscal 2026 Enacted Budget includes $13.5 million to enhance services for refugees and other resettlement-eligible individuals, with the goal of promoting economic self-sufficiency and reducing reliance on public assistance. The funding will also support a program for non-citizens who entered the country on or after January 1, 2022, have Department of Homeland Security documentation, are ineligible for ORR-funded services, and do not hold valid or expired visas. Prioritizing families with children, the program provides case management, basic needs assistance (e.g., food, clothing, shelter), and other essential services. Funds may be awarded to refugee resettlement agencies contracted with New York State's Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, based on the geographic distribution of eligible individuals. Of this amount, $1.5 million is dedicated to the Immigrant Student Welcome Grants Program.

Human Trafficking Program. The State Fiscal 2026 Enacted Budget includes $2.4 million to provide services such as case management, temporary shelter and rental assistance, and legal services for victims of human trafficking.