

Felicia Escobar Carrillo

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Beacon Fund

Director of Immigration, October 2017 – Present

- Core member of leadership team launching new social impact venture that invests in expanding opportunities for individuals and communities to thrive using a mixed-capital approach.
- Supervise a team of 6 staff and consultants in developing a multi-faceted Immigration strategy with a focus on building support for immigration reform and supporting the integration of immigrants and refugees.
- Lead monthly Board of Directors meetings, including development of agenda, preparation of meeting materials, recruitment of guest speakers, and managing decision-making process.
- Manage and deploy an annual budget of \$30 million in support of advancing immigration reform and immigrant integration through grantmaking, advocacy contributions, and impact investments.
- Investment portfolio includes more than 100 national, state and local nonprofit organizations, government and higher education institutions, businesses, private funds, and community development financial institutions, and civic engagement organizations across 8 states and the District of Columbia.
- Build and maintain national, state, and local relationships and partnerships with the non-profit, philanthropic, government, and impact investment sectors.

California Community Foundation

Principal Consultant, L.A. Justice Fund, January 2017 – October 2017

- Designed a new program to implement a public-private partnership between the City and County of Los Angeles and philanthropic organizations to increase immigrant legal representation rates.
- Collaborated with the offices of the Los Angeles Mayor, City Attorney, City Council, and County Board of Supervisors to secure funding for the L.A. Justice Fund and to implement a unified policy for providing legal services to Los Angeles County's immigrants.
- Organized regular meetings to drive decision-making for the program design and application process, selection of grantees, and a communications strategy.
- Developed and executed a community outreach strategy that engaged nonprofit service providers, immigrant advocates, faith leaders, labor leaders, businesses, and private attorneys, law firms and bar associations, in order to build and strengthen support for the L.A. Justice Fund.

White House Domestic Policy Council

Special Assistant to the President for Immigration Policy, May 2014 – January 2017

- Formulated President Obama's immigration policy priorities and analyzed emerging immigration, refugee and enforcement trends in order to guide policy strategies and operational responses across the White House and the Administration.
- Oversaw the development of Presidential briefing materials and policy decision-making process.
- Managed a team of 4 policy experts in analyzing immigration issues involving the Departments of Homeland Security, State, Justice, Labor, and Health and Human Services.
- Coordinated and led several interagency and internal White House processes that involved multiple teams of policy, public engagement, legal, legislative affairs, and communications staff.
- Led the development and execution of President Obama's 2014 immigration executive actions and regulations, including expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policies and creation of the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans policy, to streamline legal immigration and make improvements to federal immigration enforcement policies.

- Spearheaded the creation of the White House Task Force on New Americans, including development of a federal strategic action plan to support state and local efforts to advance immigrant and refugee integration strategies.
- Collaborated with state and local governments to build partnerships such as the Building Welcoming Communities Campaign that support localities with welcoming immigrants and refugees, promoted citizenship and increased collaboration with the federal government.
- Drafted and analyzed legislative and budget proposals, provided technical assistance to Congressional offices and formulated the Administration's policy positions in collaboration with the White House Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, and the federal agencies.

Senior Policy Director for Immigration, June 2012 – May 2014

- Developed the President's comprehensive immigration policy agenda during the 2013 Senate immigration reform debate.
- Managed the federal interagency process to review legislation and amendments which included subject matter experts, legislative affairs and communications staff from the Departments of Homeland Security, State, Justice, Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.
- Advised Senate offices, drafted economic reports, talking points and related materials, and built a multi-sector coalition in support of the bipartisan Senate bill.
- Oversaw the implementation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, which provided relief from deportation to close to 800,000 immigrant youth.
- Reviewed DACA policies, application forms and public outreach materials, and coordinated interagency and external partnerships with advocacy groups, state and local governments, and philanthropy.
- Managed a team of 4 policy experts to lead the development comprehensive immigration reform and the DACA policy.

Senior Policy Advisor, January 2010 – June 2012

- Established a federal interagency working group to provide White House senior officials with an overview of the immigration system and guided reforms pursued by the Obama Administration.
- Proposed and implemented administrative policy reforms, such as guidance for new enforcement priorities and clarifying the use of prosecutorial discretion in enforcement.
- Cultivated relationships with immigration advocates across the country and in Washington, DC in order to help shape, gain feedback and build support for the Administration's immigration policy agenda, in collaboration with various White House offices and the federal agencies.

Office of U.S. Senator Ken L. Salazar

Senior Policy Advisor, January 2005 – August 2007

- Advised incoming Senator on the development of his initial policy agenda on judiciary, civil rights, immigration, labor and pensions issues, and proposed legislation around his priorities.
- Built and managed relationships with national, state, and local leaders to strengthen coalitions in support of the Senator's legislative agenda.
- Drafted legislation, floor amendments, speeches and talking points, and prepared the Senator for Committee hearings and markups.

U.S. Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee

Associate Director, July 2003 – December 2004

- Developed and implemented the Senate Democratic Caucus outreach and communications strategies to key constituency groups on education, health care, immigration, and labor issues.
- Served as liaison to state and local elected officials, and regularly communicated with national advocacy organizations on behalf of the Senate Democratic Leader.
- Organized meetings, forums, press conferences, and briefings to communicate the Senate Democratic Caucus policy agenda to stakeholders.

UnidosUS (formerly National Council of La Raza)

Texas Policy Analyst, July 1999 – August 2001

- Managed the largest national, Latino civil rights organization's state policy agenda on civil rights, education, health care, and immigration.
- Cultivated relationships with a coalition of community-based organizations serving Texas Latino communities to improve state level policies.
- Organized a State Advocacy Day for Hispanic community-based organizations and developed communications strategies to support the Advocacy Day.

EDUCATION

UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, CA

Juris Doctorate, May 2010

Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Cambridge, MA

Master of Public Policy, June 2003

Yale University, New Haven, CT

Bachelor of Arts, Sociology, January 2000

AWARDS & LEADERSHIP

- *Board Member*, FWD.us, 2019 – Present
- *Member*, California Community Colleges Board of Governors, 2019 – Present
- *Member*, Calbright College Board of Trustees, 2019 – Present
- *Steering Committee Member*, Leadership Council for Women in National Security, 2019 – Present
- *Member*, Latinos44, alumni group of Obama Administration staff members, 2017 – Present
- *Member*, American Bar Association Commission on Immigration, 2017 – 2019
- *Champion of Welcoming*, Welcoming America, 2017
- *National Cesar Chavez Partnership Leader Award*, LULAC, 2016
- *Director's Partnership Award*, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 2016
- *Luminaria Award*, Latina Lawyers Bar Association, 2015
- *Alumna of the Year*, UCLA La Raza Law Students Association, 2015
- *Distinguished Service Award*, Ethiopian Community Development Council, Inc., 2014