



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE DIOCESE OF PUEBLO



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A PLACE OF WELCOME  
*Immigration Stories*

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Dedicated to the amazing families  
with whom we've had the pleasure  
of working.

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*"I was hungry and you gave me food, I was  
thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a  
stranger and you welcomed me. "*

*- Matthew 25:35*

# Our IMMIGRATION PROGRAM



Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo proudly serves more than 350 immigrants every year through its Immigration program. This includes individuals fleeing violence, those wishing to reunite with loved ones, those longing to be U.S. citizens, and those seeking new opportunities.

Our Immigration program provides:

- Assistance with paperwork to gain the status of Legal Permanent Resident, attain Visas, and become a U.S. citizen;
- Case management and accredited representation;
- English as a Second Language classes; and
- Citizenship test preparation.

In this booklet are just a few faces that this program has served, providing new opportunity and possibility!

# FACES OF POSSIBILITY

## Henderson Nicholls - U.S. Citizen from Barbados

I was born and raised in Barbados. Kathy, a U.S. citizen, was working in Barbados when we met. I was smitten by her, and we started to date. Our relationship blossomed, and I eventually asked Kathy to marry me. Little did we know that Kathy's company was eliminating her job, and she had to return to the United States. We traveled back to the United States in 2009 after Kathy petitioned for my green card. In 2020 with the help of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo, I applied for my U.S. citizenship and was approved.



## Andrew Keske - U.S. Citizen from United Kingdom

Forty-seven years ago, I was adopted by my stepfather who was a U.S citizen. He was active-duty military and stationed in England where he met my mother. We moved to the U.S. in 1976 due to my stepfather's military orders. I joined the military as a Legal Permanent Resident and recently became a U.S. citizen with the help of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo. I am in the process of petitioning my lovely spouse from Peru.

## Marcos - U.S. Citizen from Mexico

I was born in Mexico and have been living in the United States for approximately 47 years. I came to the U.S. to work and make a better life for myself and my family. During President Ronald Reagan's amnesty in the 1980s, I gained my Legal Permanent Resident status with the help of my boss. In October 2019, I sought help from Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo to get my U.S. citizenship. With the support of the Immigration program, I became a naturalized U.S. citizen in November 2020. This has been a dream come true!



## Angie Daskas - Legal Permanent Resident from Canada

I am Canadian and met my husband through a mutual friend in Baltimore. After many plane rides back and forth from Montreal, Canada to Pueblo, Colorado - not to mention the countless hours on the telephone getting to know each other - we decided to get married. When my young daughter and I moved to Pueblo in 2018, we left behind our family, friends, and everything we knew to start our new life here in the United States. We are forever grateful to Catholic Charities' Immigration program for helping us through the immigration process. Fikile (the Immigration Program Coordinator) is and always will be known as our very first friend in Pueblo!



## **Norma Lopez - Legal Permanent Resident from Mexico**

*\*Trigger warning\** I came to the U.S. to be with my eldest son who is a U.S. citizen. He previously had lived in Mexico to be closer to our family, but when he turned 18, he decided to come to the U.S. to live and hoped for better opportunities. Unfortunately, things did not work out as planned, and he tried to end his life. I was granted a temporary Humanitarian Visa so I could travel back and forth from Mexico to the U.S. to be by his hospital bed. The temporary nature of the Humanitarian Visa left me worried each time that I went back to Mexico, and I feared that the day would come when I could no longer be by my son's side. I worked with the Immigration program at Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo to gain my Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) status. I now am a LPR and can sleep better knowing that I can continue to visit my son daily and not be worried about the future. I will be able to pray, read, talk, hug, or sing to him as I have done for many years.

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## **Kumbirai Sabau - Legal Permanent Resident from Zimbabwe**

I arrived in the U.S. five years ago as a student. In my first year in the U.S., I met the love of my life, and now we have a daughter together. My application process to become a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) was not easy, but Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo helped me file my documents and change my status. I am so grateful to Catholic Charities' staff for helping me become a LPR.

## **Romervis Ramos – Legal Permanent Resident from Venezuela**

I am married to Guillermo, a U.S. Citizen born in Puerto Rico who is a retired marine and retired police officer from Florida. After a year of communicating by phone and video, I decided to come to the U.S. in August 2016 and brought my two young children with me. Our family sought help from Catholic Charities with fees and navigating the system. With Catholic Charities' help my children and I received our green cards. I am very happy to be a Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) and to be together with my husband and children. I am grateful to Catholic Charities for guiding and helping us in this process.



## **Nery Gonzales – U.S. Citizen from Guatemala**

I am a native of Guatemala who was born deaf and relies on sign language to communicate. I came to the United States for a better life in 2009 on a visitor visa. In 2014 I reached out to Catholic Charities for assistance on my path to citizenship. Since I could read English, my Accredited Representative communicated with me in writing. In January 2015 I proudly stood before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officer with my Accredited Representative by my side and took my oath of citizenship. Catholic Charities walked with me on this journey and showed me that the inability to speak and hear are no barrier to citizenship.



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You can help support families and individuals like these!  
Make a monetary donation today by calling: **719-568-4190**  
or visiting: [www.pueblocharities.org/support-us](http://www.pueblocharities.org/support-us)



## Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Pueblo

### **Catholic Charities' Main Office:**

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### **Catholic Charities' Immigration Office:**

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