



JOIN US FOR OUR **AYUDA**
FUNDRAISER
 THURSDAY, JULY 12TH, 11AM - 9PM



Show this or mention you are here to support **AYUDA** and we'll donate 30% of the proceeds.
 2911 District Ave. Fairfax, VA
 choolaah.com

July 3, 2018

[Donate](#)

Happy Fourth of July!

Amid the fireworks and festivities to celebrate America's Independence Day tomorrow, consider the contributions that immigrants and their children have made to the values we celebrate on the Fourth of July:

Perseverance. Work ethic. Love of family. Generosity. Faith. Gratitude. Strength.

More than one million of our neighbors in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington DC have moved here from abroad with dreams of a better future and to share in these common values.

Ayuda stands with them.

We will continue to help immigrants from anywhere in the world navigate the immigration and justice systems and access the social safety net. We will help break down barriers, support those in need, and help to make our communities stronger.



Dreams, toils, and triumphs: A client story

"Adriana took a terrifying, life threatening journey from Colombia to the U.S. with her abusive husband and children. She arrived here unable to speak English and far from any support system. She was scared and alone.

The day arrived when she couldn't take her husband's abuse anymore. This is when I first met her. I remember Adriana telling me that she wanted her children to have a better life. She had to make the heartbreaking decision to leave their father in order to achieve this. But she had no idea what to do next.

To keep her and her children safe, we filed for a Protective Order against her husband, and our social services team found a shelter where she and her children could live safely for a while. We then filed for a U nonimmigrant visa, which allows victims of domestic violence and other crimes to stay in the United States. It took months of waiting, but finally she got it!

Today, she and her children are living happily and safely in Maryland. She has a good job, and her abuser is behind bars." - Paula Fitzgerald, executive director

Adriana's triumph is a triumph for all of us.

During these days of constant turmoil, let us all remember that there is the cycle of good that comes from being welcoming and supportive of all people -- no matter the language spoken or skin color. The dreams, toils, and triumphs...all are a part of our shared experiences.

**Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz
 Foundation Announces \$55,000
 Operating Grant**

The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation has recently announced a grant of \$55,000 to support Ayuda's general operations. The grant will be

**Save the Date:
 Ayuda Welcome Breakfast
 A free event to all guests**

The event is both a fundraiser and a friend-raiser

used to support the direct legal, social, and language access programs we provide to low-income immigrants in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

“Ayuda is grateful to the Cafritz Foundation for its generous and longstanding support of our mission. We thank the foundation for its vision and for valuing Ayuda’s work on behalf of low-income immigrants seeking justice,” says Paula Fitzgerald, executive director.

You can read the [full statement here](#).

As a friend-raiser, the event seeks to expand Ayuda’s network of friends and potential supporters. As a fundraiser, the Welcome Breakfast encourages individuals who have come to know Ayuda to make a donation of any amount to the organization.

The event will take place Thursday, September 20, 2018 from 8:00-9:30 am at the Hamilton Live! in Washington, D.C.

If you are interested in becoming a table host, please contact event coordinator, [Laura Trask](#) or [read more here](#).

Drink Rosé, Support Ayuda

Beau Thai Mt. Pleasant has chosen Ayuda as its NGO of choice for this year's Battle of the Rosés!

The rundown: Each restaurant will be donating 10% of their rosé sales in July to charity! 5% to their charity of choice & 5% to the charity of the restaurant that sells the most rosé.

So get out and enjoy a nice cold rosé at Beau Thai Mt. Pleasant and help support vulnerable immigrants in the DMV!

