



SUPPORT AFGHAN ALLIES WITH PARS EQUALITY CENTER

Who We Are: Pars Equality Center is a nonprofit organization that provides legal and social services, predominantly to the Middle Eastern immigrant community. Pars Equality Center is seeking legal volunteers to assist in its newly created Afghan Support Project (ASP).

Background: The fall of Afghanistan to the Taliban in August 2021 has triggered a humanitarian crisis. It is estimated that 550,000 Afghans have been displaced, and many are reaching out to organizations in the U.S. asking for help. Los Angeles County alone expects to welcome 5,200 Afghan refugees to begin settling immediately.

Volunteer Tasks: Our office needs help screening thousands of requests for assistance from those most afraid, including women's rights activists, journalists, and individuals that have worked along the US during the war. Volunteers are needed for various components of ASP, and for UCLA's Public Service Challenge, we are offering two opportunities, one remote and one on-site.

Option 1 - Screenings: Volunteers are needed immediately to make screening calls to potential Petitioners, who are based in the U.S., seeking Humanitarian Parole for their family and friends that are still in Afghanistan. Each screening takes 15-45 minutes and includes basic intake questions as well as explaining to Petitioners what documents and information needs to be collected. Volunteers will be assigned no less than 5 intakes to be screened and can be conducted on their own time or hours. This volunteer opportunity is remote and can be completed at any time by November 1, 2021.

Option 2 - Humanitarian Parole Clinic: Volunteer law students can also participate in our Humanitarian Parole Clinic, whereby individuals screened and determined eligible will receive assistance in completing a Humanitarian Parole application for any person seeking entry into the United States. This event will be on site and will take place as follows:

Date: Friday, October 29, 2021, 10AM – 3:00 PM

Location: Pars Equality Center
4954 Van Nuys Blvd, Suite 201
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403.

Should you have any questions, please contact the managing immigration attorney, Olivia Soofi at osoofi@parsequalitycenter.org or at 818-616-3091 ext. 103.