Resources for Civic Participation, Advocacy and Community Involvement

PCC’s Resources

Office of Dispute Resolution: PCC’s Office of Dispute Resolution provides centralized and consistent oversight to address complaints and grievances from all constituency groups: students, employees and community members.

Access and Disability Resources (ADR): ADR works to open Pima Community College’s educational opportunities to the entire community, including those with disabilities, by supporting the creation of a College environment without physical, social, or academic barriers.

Equal Employment Opportunity/ Affirmative Action / Americans with Disabilities Act: The EEO/Affirmative Action and ADA office serves as a resource to all members of the College community, by providing advice, counsel, and training related to applicable College policies and practices, as well as related federal and state laws. This office is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable anti-discrimination laws, both federal and state.

Adult Basic Education for College & Career – Special Programs
PCC Adult Basic Education for College and Career (ABECC) also offers programs for specific groups of people, including the following:

Pima Community College AmeriCorps Program: PCCAmeriCorps is an AmeriCorps program where members serve in our Adult Basic Education Learning Centers. AmeriCorps members gain valuable work skills, earn money for education, and develop an appreciation for the spirit of service. AmeriCorps members assist staff, tutor students, and create service learning projects. AmeriCorps members are eligible for a modest living stipend while serving and benefit from an educational award upon completion of service. Learn more about the AmeriCorps Program.

Civics and Student Leadership Program: The Civics and Student Leadership program works with you, your instructors and community leaders to integrate civic learning and engagement throughout Adult Basic Education.

Refugee Education Program: If you have entered the United States with legal refugee status, the Refugee Education Program (REP) offers you an English-language learning program. Instruction is designed for students from the lowest literacy levels through college entrance levels. Courses focus on practical English skills that help you function independently on the job and in daily living. Instructors are certified in Adult Education by the State of Arizona.

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Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship: PCC provides educational support for individuals seeking United States citizenship, offering classes in civic engagement, history and government.

Civic Participation

How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?

1. If you know your legislator, find their emails in the roster of State Senators and State Representatives.
2. If you do not know your legislators:
   - Find the legislative district you live in by entering your address and zip code located at the lower left corner.
   - After you find your district, return to the ALIS Homepage and click the blue text "Click to see the members" link in the middle of our home page. Find the district you are looking for to identify your legislators.

3. Governor
4. Attorney General
5. Superintendent of Public Instruction
6. State Senators
7. U.S. Senators
8. Elections and Voting
9. Secretary of State
10. State Treasurer
11. State Mine Inspector
12. State Representatives
13. U.S. Representatives
14. Corporation Commission

Advocacy Resources

American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona: The ACLU-AZ is a non-governmental, not-for-profit, public interest legal organization that seeks to preserve and ensure constitutional rights and principles found in the Bill of Rights. The ACLU-AZ principally addresses issues involving challenges to a government law, policy or practice affecting the constitutional rights - that is, the civil liberties and civil rights - of a significant number of people arising in Arizona.

Dream Educational Empowerment Program (DEEP): designed to address the barriers that undocumented immigrant youth face as they pursue higher education.

Immigration Law Clinic-University of Arizona: At University of Arizona Law's Immigration Law Clinic, law students provide legal assistance to immigrants under the supervision of
clinical faculty. The clinic provides two types of services to the immigrant community in Southern Arizona: Deportation Defense and Immigration Consultations.

**International Rescue Committee-Tucson:** The International Rescue Committee (IRC) serves refugees and communities victimized by oppression or violent conflict worldwide. Within the Tucson community, IRC empowers survivors of violent conflict, persecution, and oppression to rebuild their lives and regain self-reliance.

**Iskashitaa Refugee Network:** serves United Nations refugees and asylum seekers who have been resettled in Tucson from over 30 ethnic groups across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. We assist them in self-sufficiency and citizenship through innovative, food-based programming, which is also a part of our overarching mission to reduce food waste and increase food security throughout our entire community.

**LGBTQ Programs at Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation:** In November 2014, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) took over operation of 2 Wingspan programs, the Anti-Violence Programs (AVP) and the Eon Youth Lounge. Wingspan had been southern Arizona’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Community & Resource Center for more than a quarter century when financial considerations necessitated closing their doors.

The *Anti-Violence Programs* offer 24-hour crisis intervention and advocacy to LGBTQ victim/survivors of violence, and intersectional LGBTQ anti-violence activism.

The *Eon Youth Center* is a youth-driven program that works to strengthen Tucson’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit, queer, questioning, intersexed, and straight-ally youth communities by creating social opportunities, providing information and support on health issues, advocating for youth rights, and challenging society’s perceptions of youth as they face institutionalized oppressions that target the many facets of their identities. Eon provides a safe drop-in space for these youth, ages 13-23, and conducts outreach and education throughout the community.

*Camp Born This Way:* is a 4 day/3 night camp for transgender and gender creative children and their families. Camp has traditionally served children ages 5-12 but in 2015 will add ages 13-16. Camp location is kept confidential and private so that families and kids feel safe to be themselves! If you are the parent of a transgender or gender creative child, or you know someone who is, please get in touch with us!

*Puertas Abiertas:* is a social and outreach project for LGBTQ Latinos and allies. The group holds regular meetings, hosts events, forums, and educational and social events,
bringing Latinos together to celebrate their heritage and LGBTQ pride. Puertas Abiertas is open to all and supports all LGBTQ people, their allies, and family.

*Multi-Faith Working Group:* works to strengthen the link between the community and southern Arizona faith communities. Through this effort, the Working Group seeks to expand spiritual opportunities for LGBTQ people and to strengthen their spiritual well-being. The Rainbow Interfaith Community, a group of predominantly Tucson welcoming spiritual communities, is a part of the Multi-Faith Working Group.


**National Immigration Law Center:** Established in 1979, the National Immigration Law Center (NILC) is one of the leading organizations in the U.S. exclusively dedicated to defending and advancing the rights of low-income immigrants.

**Pima Council on Aging (PCOA):** PCOA advocates, plans, coordinates, develops and delivers home-and-community-based aging services for older adults and provides supportive assistance, accurate information, and local resource connections for family caregivers.

**Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN):** We of the Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offer our hearts and hands to provide compassionate and non-judgmental service to those affected by HIV/AIDS. Through education and support, we—as individuals and faith communities—work to build bridges, reduce stigma and sustain hope.

**Tucson Urban League:** The mission of the Tucson Urban League is to advance economic and social prosperity for African Americans and other underserved Tucson area residents by creating access to opportunity through advocacy, community partnerships and programs and services.

**Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA):** SAGA is a non-profit organization that supports and advocates for southern Arizona’s community of trans identities: transsexual, transgender, genderqueer, masculine of center, feminine of center, non-binary, two-spirit, butch, femme, gender fluid, intersex, and ALL of us who are gender fabulous!

SAGA envisions a society in which transgender, non-binary, and gender-creative people are ensured of their basic rights and can be open, honest and safe at home and in the community. We provide support groups, advocacy, community education, and training for businesses, service providers, and community members on how our allies can be supportive and inclusive.

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**Scholarships a-z:** provides resources and scholarships to students, families and educators through online and community interactions, in order to make higher education accessible to all regardless of immigration status.

**Southern Arizona Legal Aid, Inc. (SALA):** SALA's services include legal counseling and advice concerning legal rights and responsibilities, limited services such assistance with completing legal documents, outreach, referrals, self-help clinics and representation in court and in administrative hearings.

**United We Dream (UWD):** organizes and advocates for the dignity and fair treatment of immigrant youth and families, regardless of immigration status.

**YWCA Southern Arizona:** Eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

**Community Involvement (e.g., volunteer opportunities)**

The Volunteer Center at United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona

[VolunteerMatch.org](http://VolunteerMatch.org)