Federation Initiatives Supporting the Financial Needs of Immigrants
Research Whitepaper on Citizenship Loans

- Contracted by the Anne E. Casey Foundation to do extensive research on citizenship programs in NYC and MD

- Looks for scalability of citizenship loans as well as optimal client flow and process

- Scan of citizenship products offered by CDCUs around the country, underwriting, loan terms, required documents and accepted IDs
Northwest Area Immigrant Asset-Building Initiative

- National partnership with Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR)
- Integrate legal/social services with credit union products and services, access to immigrant service organization clients
- Relational loan leading to clients becoming banked
- Three finalists in WA, OR and IA
- One year pilot concluding in June 2015
National Partnership with International Rescue Committee

- IRC responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Offices in over 40 countries and 22 US cities.

- Connecting IRC clients with CDCUs across the country, sites in CA, AZ and NYC/NJ area planned.

- Clients predominantly refugees from war-torn countries, victims of violence.
Why Do This?

- More humanitarian/immigrant service organizations recognize need for financial programming
- Costs for citizenship has nearly tripled since 1999 from $225 to $680; cost of citizenship for a family of three living at 2013 federal poverty level could cost an equivalent of 10% of their annual income
- Changing demographics: 1 in 20 immigrant in the 1960s from Europe; 1 in 8 today with younger migrants from Latin America and Asia, representing 13% of the total U.S. population
- Immigrants most likely to be unbanked, with 18.9% of households unbanked