

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

- ☐ Yes, I want to support the work of ASISTA for the next year and receive free technical assistance, early training notification, free access to non-OVW webinars, free membership in the VAWA Updates and Experts list serves, and ASISTA Practice Advisories.

Please choose your membership type

- ☐ Grantees of the federal Office on Violence Against Women or under state STOP programs: Free Membership, unlimited technical assistance

Please indicate Grant Program

- ☐ NONPROFIT

☐ \$150/year

- ☐ PRIVATE

☐ \$250/year

- ☐ My organization has special needs. Please contact me to set up an individual contract for my organization.

Non-member technical assistance rates:

Non-profit: \$150/hour

Private: \$240/hour

Minimum ½ hour

Payment Information:

- ☐ I have enclosed a check or money order in the amount indicated above.

- ☐ Please charge my credit card in the amount of _____

Credit Card Type (please circle one): Visa Mastercard Discover

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

For our referral services:

Do you provide direct legal assistance to clients?

Would you like us to refer clients to you?

Do you provide pro bono services for clients?

Do you provide legal services for a reduced fee?



www.asistahelp.org

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Email: questions@asistahelp.org

ASISTA



Immigration Assistance

ASISTA seeks to enhance the security, independence, and full participation in society of immigrant and refugee survivors of gender-based violence by promoting integrated holistic approaches and educating those whose actions and attitudes affect women who experience violence.

To do this we,

- Provide comprehensive, cutting-edge technical assistance and resources to those assisting noncitizen survivors of violence in the immigration law arena;
- Train lawyers, domestic violence and sexual assault advocates, law enforcement personnel, and civil and criminal court judges; and
- Work closely with Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials to ensure the law is implemented as Congress intended.

www.asistahelp.org

Expertise

Our Co-Directors

ASISTA is led by our founders, attorneys Gail Pendleton and Sonia Parras-Konrad, national leaders in immigration remedies for survivors of crimes.

Before co-founding ASISTA, **Gail Pendleton** co-founded the National Network to End Violence Against Immigrant Women and worked at the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild (NIPNLG) for twenty years. She serves as liaison with Citizenship & Immigration Services (CIS) on immigrant survivors' issues, and received the 2001 Human Rights Award from the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

Sonia Parras-Konrad has represented immigrant survivors of crimes of violence since 1997. Sonia founded MUNA legal clinic for immigrant survivors where she worked as the Director for 12 years, and LUNA, an innovative domestic violence and sexual assault agency providing services to Latinas by Latinas. In 2008, Sonia represented more than 70 immigrants detained during one of the largest raids in U.S. history, obtaining approvals in many U visa cases. Sonia is the co-chair of the NIPNLG and supervised the immigration legal clinic for survivors at Drake University School of Law from 2011-2012. In 2009, Sonia received the AILA Michael Maggio Pro Bono Award for her work on the Postville raid.

ASISTA is a non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Iowa and tax exempt under section under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. *Contributions to ASISTA are tax deductible.*

We wish to specially thank the federal Office on Violence Against Women of the U.S. Department of Justice, which supports our work on behalf of their grantees.

Knowledge

Technical Assistance

ASISTA offers technical assistance on:

- VAWA Family Petitions
- U and T Visas
- Adjustment of Status
- Deportation or removal proceedings

We do this by:

- Administering and participating in VAWA Experts and VAWA Updates list serves
- Offering individualized help to organizations, individual practitioners and government officials.
- Coordinating amicus support for cases at the AAO, BIA and federal court

Advocacy

Through national and DC-based work, ASISTA:

- Advocates for public policy changes that help immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking and stalking.
- Works with CIS and other relevant agencies to resolve individual case problems and to improve system policies and practices.

Training

ASISTA provides local and national targeted and multi-disciplinary training for domestic violence and sexual assault advocates, lawyers, judges and law enforcement personnel.

Resource Clearinghouse

Our resource clearinghouse, housed on our website, is accessible to all, and includes:

Samples	In-depth articles
Best practice tips	Fact sheets
Case Law	Amicus briefs
Specialty Packets	Resource Materials
Government Memoranda	

Expansion

Our New Staff-Attorneys

Cecelia Friedman Levin is currently ASISTA's staff attorney in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Prior to her work with ASISTA, Cecelia was a supervising attorney at Washington Empowered Against Violence (WEAVE) in Washington, DC where she represented survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in civil and immigration cases. Cecelia also worked as an immigration staff attorney at Ayuda in Washington, DC where she represented low-income immigrants in a variety of defensive and affirmative immigration applications.

Hisham Leil has practiced immigration law for nearly fifteen years. In private practice from 1997 to 2007, he joined Western Massachusetts Legal Services in 2007. As lead attorney for the immigrant justice project, he directed the efforts of several partner agencies to provide legal services to hundreds of immigrant victims of domestic violence and other crimes, many of whom were facing imminent deportation from their families.

Our Board of Directors

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