Call for Papers

*Journal of Family Strengths*

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Immigration & Families

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Published by CHILDREN AT RISK, Prairie View A&M University, and the Texas Medical Center Library and edited by the CHILDREN AT RISK Institute, the Journal of Family Strengths (JFS) serves to inform policy and practice affecting children and families by providing applicable research to practitioners, child advocates, policymakers, and the public on timely children and family issues. Providing practical case studies and research on the transformative potential of program and policy change, JFS issues provide a strengths perspective centered on improving services that promote and sustain family systems.

Immigrant youth are expected to be one third of all U.S. children by 2050. Immigrant families and their children have distinct characteristics and experiences that have significant implications for placing children at risk of negative life events such as human trafficking and/or homelessness, and or involvement with the child welfare and justice systems. Subsequently, this special issue is dedicated to issues related to the intersection of immigration, associated risks, and family strengths. Although documentation of experiences of immigrants with justice and child welfare systems has increased over the last five years, there remains much to be documented to facilitate an understanding of the challenges that immigrant families face and their strengths in overcoming risks. For example, the need for placement and care for unaccompanied, refugees, and immigrant children has grown exponentially and placed a strain on the already under-resourced child placing and foster care systems. These youth are often less considered for adoption or are viewed as being at high risk of delinquency.

This special issue will provide a space for both scholars and practitioners/professionals to discuss and explore the attributes of immigrant families that contribute to placing children at risk (e.g., immigration status, country of origin), correlation to negative life events (e.g. human trafficking) impact of system involvement (e.g., child welfare or justice) on immigrant families and their children and identify policy or program recommendations to address the unique issues related to immigration and families (e.g., settlement communities, etc.).

The *Journal of Family Strengths* is available online in an open-access format and is available to child advocates, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers across America. It has been accessed in 167 countries in 2020, with approximately 28,000 downloads.

We encourage interested authors to submit an abstract or letter of interest to the managing editor at jfs@childrenatrisk.org by January 14. If the abstract is approved, full manuscripts will be due April 29. To view past issues of the journal or to submit a manuscript, please visit jfs.childrenatrisk.org.