



CALL FOR PAPERS
Im/migrant Well-Being: A Nexus for Policy & Research
2025 Conference

Hosted by: The Im/migrant Well-Being Scholar Collaborative (IWSC)

Conference Organizers: Elizabeth Aranda, University of South Florida – Immigrant Well-

effectively communicating these insights to policymakers, advocacy groups, and the wider community.

Furthermore, the 2025 Conference on Im/migrant Well-Being will spotlight the critical issue of adaptability and resilience among immigrant populations over time and across generations, in the face of evolving state policies and global challenges, such as recent state level immigration policies like Texas' SB 4 and Florida's SB 1718 and social and health crises including media tropes tying immigrants to issues like crime and fentanyl. This focus acknowledges the dynamic nature of immigrant experiences, requiring adaptive policy solutions that are responsive to both current realities and future contingencies. The goal is to set a forward-looking agenda that anticipates the needs and challenges of immigrant populations in the coming years following a presidential election year and as we approach the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026.

The Im/migrant Well-Being Scholar Collaborative posits well-being identified by organizations such as the CDC, NIH, and UN as a critical concept for both creating public policies and analyzing their impact, including the following dimensions of well-being:

- Social well-being, such as studies of social activities, work, or access to social resources;
- Relational well-being, such as studies of families, friendships, or support networks;
- Emotional well-being, such as studies of life dis/satisfaction, emotions, or resilience;
- Psychological well-being, including studies of identity, safety, mental health, or uncertainty;
- Physical well-being, such as studies of stress, dietary and activity habits, or access to medical interventions;
- Economic well-being that centers im/migrants themselves and/or their families, such as access to legal representation, health, food, and housing;
- The intersections of some or all of these forms of well-being as they relate to state violence, such as im/migrant detention, forced expulsion, and raids.

Topics of interest in this conference include but are not limited to:

- Social, relational, emotional, psychological, physical, and economic well-being of immigrants and their families and communities as described above;
- Intergenerational processes and impacts of immigration policies;
- Impacts of state violence, detention, forced expulsion, and raids;
- Intersectional experiences of underrepresented immigrant communities;
- Resilience, identity negotiation, and cultural adaptation across generations;
- Translating research findings into actionable policy recommendations and other examples of "engaged scholarship."

Conference Support and Plans for Childcare and Family Care Resources at the Conference Site: The Collaborative will pay for one hotel room for two nights per selected paper at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel in St. Petersburg during the dates of the conference: February 14-15, 2025 (arriving on February 13). Breakfast and lunch will be provided on both days of the conference.

Understanding the critical role of family care responsibilities in conference participation, especially for early-stage researchers and primary caretakers, the conference is committed to facilitating attendance by individuals with such responsibilities. The conference organizers will establish partnerships with professional childcare providers to deliver onsite services. These services will be designed to be parent-friendly, incorporating breastfeeding support and opportunities for regular check-ins, all offered at subsidized rates to enhance affordability.

Inquiries: Questions should be directed to the conference organizers at cas-iwrc@usf.edu.