



EMERGING LEADER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY, 2021-2023  
**Addressing the Holistic Needs of Newcomer Immigrant Students**

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<b>Host Organization:</b>	La Puerta Abierta
<b>Location:</b>	Philadelphia, PA
<b>Dates:</b>	September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2023
<b>Salary:</b>	\$60,000 / year, plus benefits

### **Stoneleigh Emerging Leader Fellowship**

The [Stoneleigh Emerging Leader Fellowship](#) is a two-year, full-time, hands-on position for early career professionals. Fellows work collaboratively with a host organization and the [Stoneleigh Foundation](#) to execute a project that advances the missions of these organizations and enhances Fellows' professional skills and leadership development. Fellows are also supported by a cohort of peer Emerging Leaders who participate in Foundation programming.

### **The Project: *Addressing the Holistic Needs of Newcomer Immigrant Students***

Newcomer immigrant youth are at increased risk for educational disengagement, and they struggle when local educational and community systems fail to address their complex needs. Obstacles to engagement include a history of disrupted education before arrival in the U.S., language barriers, a lack of reliable adult support in the home, and other compounding psycho-social stressors. Furthermore, schools often struggle to present measurable outcomes that align with the real needs of this vulnerable population.

To address this challenge, the Fellow will work with [La Puerta Abierta](#) to launch an integrated network of services and supports for newcomer immigrant youth in Philadelphia to strengthen their engagement in school and community life. Specifically, the Fellow will:

- **Conduct information gathering** on the current educational approaches to supporting newcomer immigrant students.
  - *Identify and mobilize a cohort of immigrant students and other key stakeholders* who will participate in and help guide the process of outreach and engagement.
  - *Conduct listening sessions with immigrant students* to gather their insights and input on specific challenges of school life.
  - *Research best practices* around the country on school and community-based supports to enhance the academic and social-emotional success of newcomer immigrant youth.
  - *Develop an overview of the local community resources and supports* that are currently available for newcomer immigrant youth.
- **Work with school stakeholders and community providers** to strengthen their support of newcomer immigrant youth.

- *Provide professional development and collaborative learning seminars* for providers and school personnel.
- *Identify community-school partners* who are positioned to invest in an evidence-informed network of accessible and flexible services and supports.
- *Help introduce new models of integrated services and supports* in schools.
- *Develop and disseminate findings and best practices* through policy papers, regional workshops, and conferences.

## Candidate Qualifications

Candidates should have completed a graduate degree between 2018 and 2021 or have an undergraduate degree with equivalent professional experience. Candidates should also be bilingual (in English and Spanish), have a specific interest in working with Latinx migrant youth, and have the ability to cultivate and manage key relationships with a variety of community and system stakeholders.

*We strongly encourage a diverse pool of candidates to apply, including women, people of color, people who identify as LGBTQ, people with disabilities, and people who have lived experienced of housing insecurity, and/or system involvement. We invite candidates to include in their cover letters a statement about how their unique backgrounds and experiences might contribute to their perspectives on and execution of the Fellowship Project.*

## Application Process

Please submit the following materials to [info@lpa-theopendoor.org](mailto:info@lpa-theopendoor.org) by COB, **December 18, 2020**. Please contact La Puerta Abierta's executive director, Cathi Tillman, ([cathi.tillman@lpa-theopendoor.org](mailto:cathi.tillman@lpa-theopendoor.org)) with any questions.

- A resume or CV
- A writing sample or work sample
- Three names, emails, and contact information for references from someone who has employed, taught, or supervised you in a volunteer context
- A cover letter articulating why you would like to participate in the Fellowship, how it will advance your professional goals, why this project interests you, and what prior experience and training you bring that prepares you to lead this Fellowship project

Candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted directly by La Puerta Abierta. One final candidate will be recommended to and interviewed by the Stoneleigh Foundation in January 2021. In March, Stoneleigh staff will present recommended candidates and projects to its Board of Directors.

## About La Puerta Abierta

[La Puerta Abierta](#) provides pro bono individual and family counseling for youth and families who cannot access services elsewhere due to language, economic, legal and social barriers. Using a community-centered, service-learning model of care, La Puerta Abierta works and learns alongside those who are impacted by lack of documentation and displacement of family members. We also collaborate with other social service providers, gently shifting attitudes and service delivery practices to be more responsive to the complex experiences of our immigrant community members.