



May 26, 2021

President Joseph Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

The Buffalo Niagara Partnership, on behalf of its members who employ over a quarter million people in the region, support efforts to improve our nation's immigration system. As outlined in our 2021 Advocacy Agenda, refugees and H-1B workers have been an asset to the Buffalo Niagara region, and expanding opportunities for them will strengthen our economy.

The BNP appreciates your administration's recommitment to refugee resettlement. Refugees help offset the effects of population decline in Buffalo Niagara and across New York. Additionally, refugees provide the region with valuable workforce players and make meaningful contributions to our community, economy, and culture. We opposed previous efforts to hinder resettlement and welcome your return to a policy that reflects the humanitarian need and economic benefit of refugee resettlement.

As your administration looks to improve the immigration system, the BNP encourages you to also pursue H-1B reforms that will help employers recruit and retain more high-skill workers. As businesses across the nation face labor shortages, H-1B reform could help ensure our economy's workforce needs are met while making the United States a magnet for global talent. The BNP encourages your administration to increase the H-1B visa cap.

Please continue to support immigration reforms that will strengthen the American economy. Our region is better for the contributions of refugees and H-1B workers, and the BNP will continue to advocate for reforms that expand opportunities for them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dottie Gallagher", is written over a light gray circular stamp.

Dottie Gallagher
President & CEO
Buffalo Niagara Partnership

CC: Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Rep. Brian Higgins
Rep. Chris Jacobs
Rep. Tom Reed