

THE IMMIGRANT ADVISORY TASK FORCE: FOR A MORE INCLUSIVE, PROSPEROUS FUTURE

The information we used to create our report also informed our proposal to form an Immigrant Advisory Task Force (IATF). Through focus groups, interviews, and meetings, we learned that immigrants want to get involved in the Greenville community, but often aren't sure how, and that immigrants face difficulties accessing services (especially transportation) and information. We also learned that communities that assist immigrants in realizing their full potential are more vibrant thriving socially and economically. Establishing an Immigrant Advisory Task Force would help immigrants access and share information and contribute even more to the Greenville community.

We believe that an Immigrant Advisory Task Force is one of the most effective ways to ensure that immigrants' voices are heard in our local governments, and we know that incorporating immigrants' voices into our community dialog is fundamental to creating a prosperous, inclusive community.

IATF MISSION & VISION

Mission

To inspire and encourage immigrants' involvement in local government and to advise the Human Relations Council of issues relating to the immigrant community.

Vision

For a community where all residents are respected and accepted.

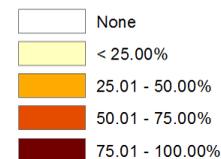


Hispanic or Latino Householders as a Percentage of All Householders

This map illustrates the number of Hispanic or Latino householders as a percentage of the total number of householders (for all ethnicities and races) in each census block in Pitt County.

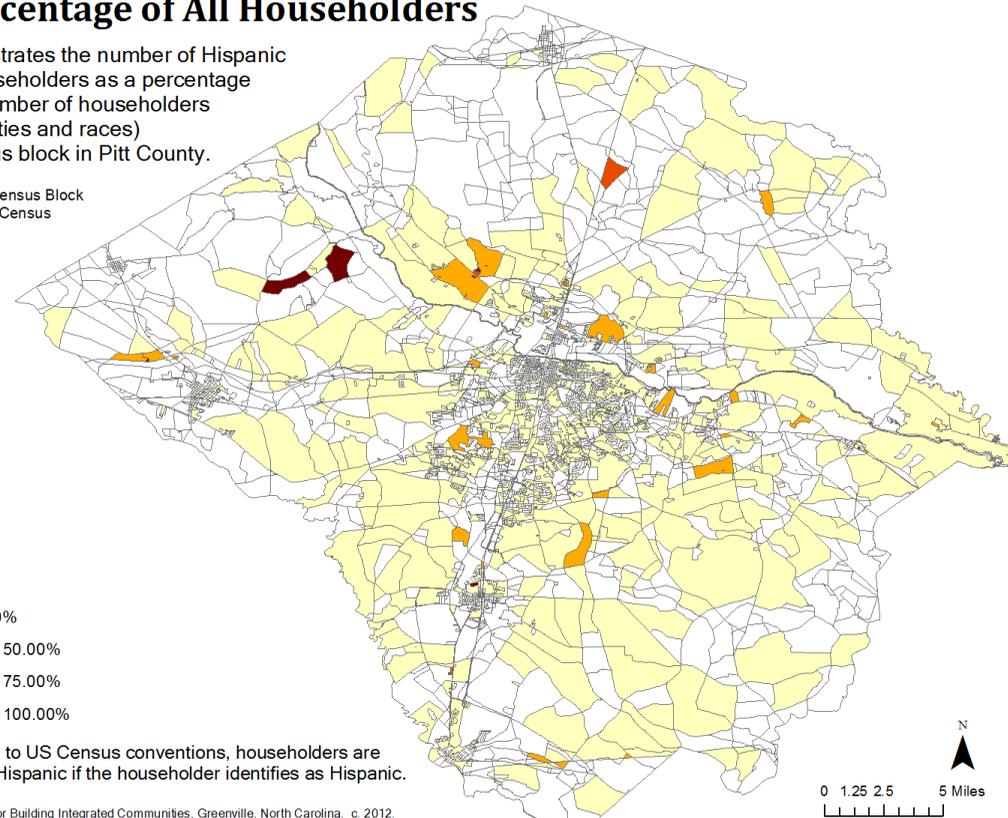
Map display unit: Census Block
Data source: 2010 Census

Legend



Note: According to US Census conventions, householders are assumed to be Hispanic if the householder identifies as Hispanic.

This map was created for Building Integrated Communities, Greenville, North Carolina. c. 2012.



IATF GOALS

The following goals for the IATF were developed according to the issues and/or concerns established by BIC stakeholders:

Information Provide information on city/county programs and services to residents.

Connect Establish better relations with law enforcement agencies (Greenville Police Department, Pitt County Sheriff's Office, and NC State Troopers).

Experience Help improve relations among city/county diverse populations.

Celebrate Create ways to promote cultural understanding and awareness in the community, especially of the contributions made by immigrants.

Future Work with immigrant youth in an outreach effort designed to integrate them into the community and provide them with the tools they need to become future community leaders.



GREENVILLE BIC: A CITIZEN-DRIVEN INITIATIVE

BIC is a joint venture between Greenville residents, the City of Greenville, the Greenville Human Relations Council, and UNC-Chapel Hill. City and UNC-CH staffs have been available to provide technical support and information, but the process has been citizen-driven. We are a group of community stakeholders, including: community and religious leaders; representatives from immigrant and refugee communities; educators from PCC and ECU; and city and county staff from a variety of departments such as the Sheriff's, Police, and Emergency Services. We have combined our experiences and expertise, as well as the information immigrant residents kindly shared with us, to create our report and recommendations.

BIC PARTICIPANTS

There are many people who have been instrumental to the Building Integrated Communities Process in Greenville:

Cassandra Daniels and the Greenville Human Relations Commission, former Mayor Dr. Patricia Dunn, Mayor Pro-Tem Rose Glover, Dr. Donald Spell, Rhonda Brown, Janice Fisher, Interim Chief of Police Joe Bartlett, Sgt. Cam Coburn, Byung Lee, Javier Castillo, Juvencio Rocha Peralta, Rev. Bob Hudak, Shannon Terry, Varinia Soler Bravo, Stephanie Grey, Marvin Arrington, Laura Searfoss, Council member Calvin Mercer, Angela Cumbo, Paulette White, Amanda Hopkins, Franchine Philpot Pena, Dina Quran, Kafa Darawsheh, Gloria Boota, Rev. Moses Perez, Dr. Misun Hur, Miki King, Christine Cliff, Sejal Zota, Dr. Hannah Gill, Dr. Mai Nguyen, Lydian Altman, Margaret Henderson, Anisha Steephen, Meghan Andrew, The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

For further information or to request a copy of the complete IATF proposal or BIC report, contact:

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OVERVIEW OF THE IMMIGRANT ADVISORY TASK FORCE PROPOSAL AND THE BUILDING INTE- GRATED COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE



September 5, 2012

Prepared by

**Building Integrated
Communities Initiative
Greenville, NC**

GREENVILLE'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES AND THE BUILDING INTE- GRATED COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES

In response to Greenville City Council's approval of the National League of Cities' "Building an Inclusive Community" initiative, the Human Relations Council joined the Building Integrated Communities (BIC) project. We started work in May 2011 to examine the challenges that immigrants and refugees experience and to take a look at our region's efforts to build a community that welcomes newcomers and helps them adjust to life in their new home. This initiative is a collaborative process where all residents of Greenville and Pitt County work together to build a cohesive community. We have met five times, conducted interviews and focus groups, examined US census data, and researched promising practices. The results of our work together have been 1) the creation of a report on immigrant communities in Greenville; 2) the development of a proposal for an Immigrant Advisory Task Force; and 3) the strengthening of community, professional, and personal relationships as we have worked together.