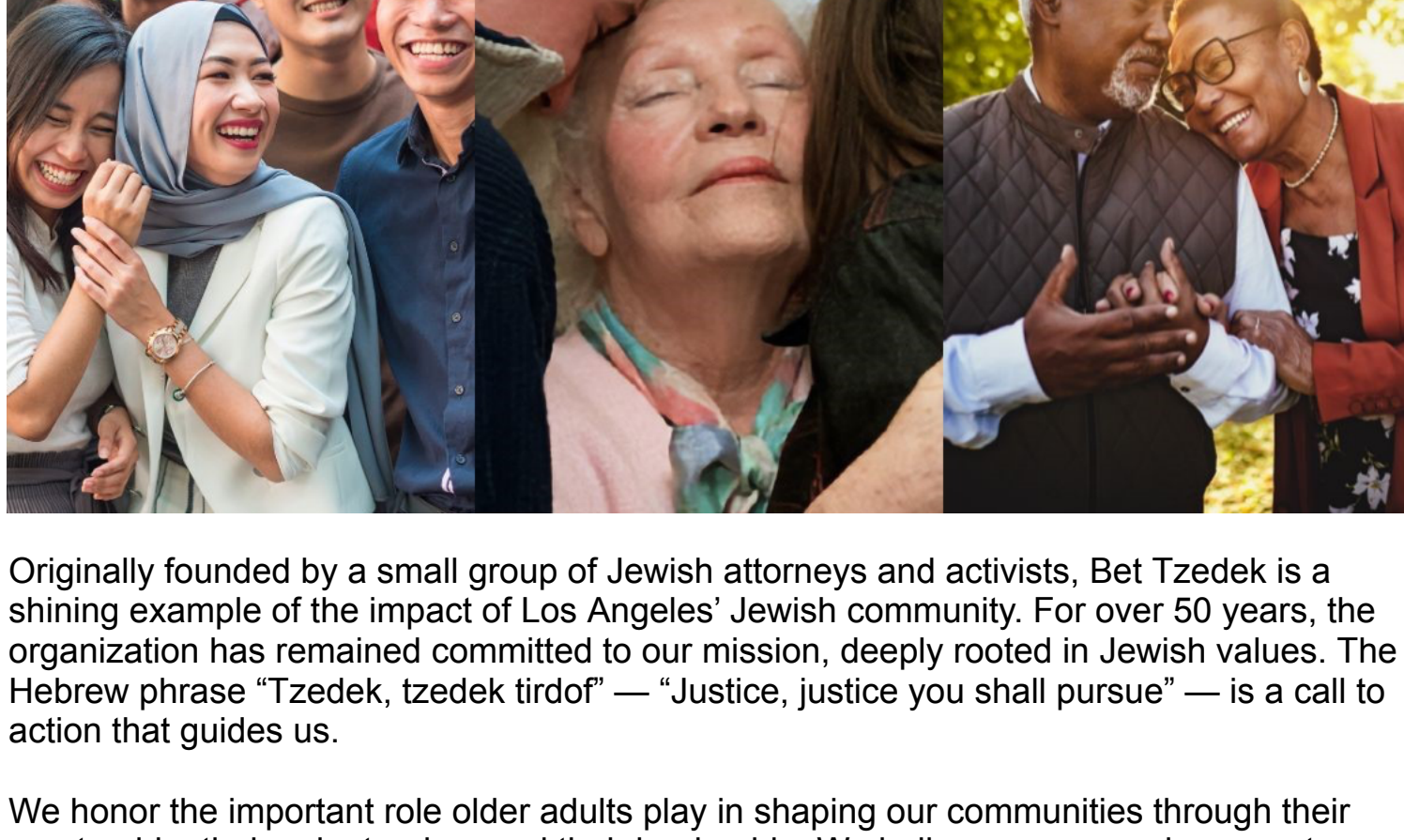


Dear Belinda,

May is the official month of recognition of so many communities. Not only is it Asian American and Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islander (**AANHPI Heritage**) and **Jewish American Heritage Month**, it is also the month we celebrate **Older Americans**. Each of these communities are an important part of Bet Tzedek's reach.



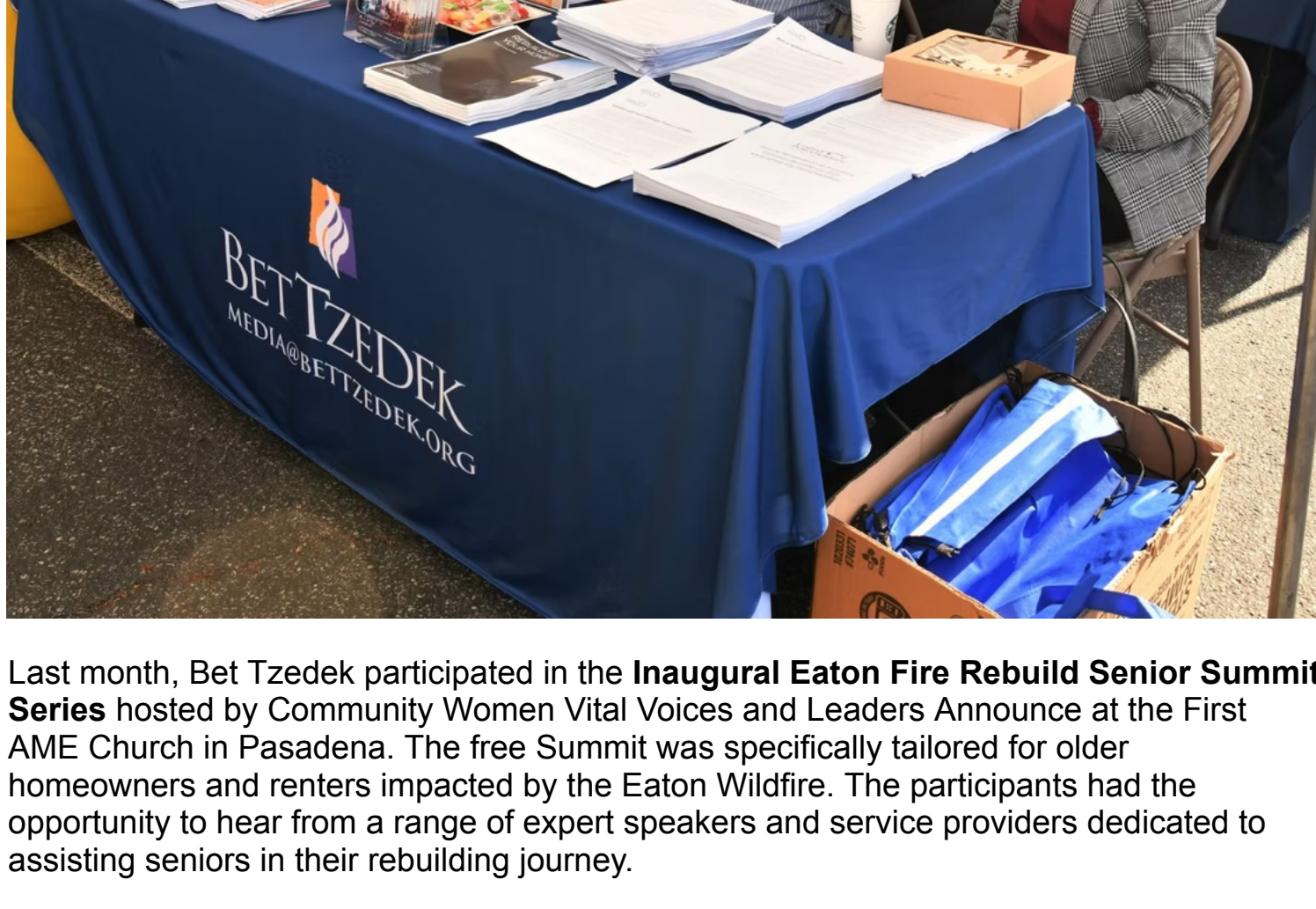
Originally founded by a small group of Jewish attorneys and activists, Bet Tzedek is a shining example of the impact of Los Angeles' Jewish community. For over 50 years, the organization has remained committed to our mission, deeply rooted in Jewish values. The Hebrew phrase "Tzedek, tzedek tirdof" — "Justice, justice you shall pursue" — is a call to action that guides us.

We honor the important role older adults play in shaping our communities through their mentorship, their volunteering, and their leadership. We believe everyone deserves to age with dignity and grace. At Bet Tzedek, we are proud to support older Americans through free legal services like elder abuse prevention work, help accessing public benefits, estate planning, and much more.

Finally, we celebrate the contributions made by the over six million members of the AANHPI community that call California home. Whether originally from Korea, the Philippines, or Pakistan, each AANHPI demographic brings rich and distinctive cultural offerings that contribute to the fabric of Los Angeles, California, and the United States. At Bet Tzedek, we are proud to partner with organizations like Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California to, for example, protect the rights of older AANHPI community members.

Follow along on our social media accounts, found on the bottom of this news digest, to see and revisit our content uplifting our work with these communities throughout this month.

Bet Tzedek Participates in Inaugural Eaton Fire Rebuild Senior Summit Series

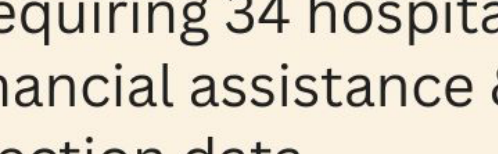


Last month, Bet Tzedek participated in the **Inaugural Eaton Fire Rebuild Senior Summit Series** hosted by Community Women Vital Voices and Leaders Announce at the First AME Church in Pasadena. The free Summit was specifically tailored for older homeowners and renters impacted by the Eaton Wildfire. The participants had the opportunity to hear from a range of expert speakers and service providers dedicated to assisting seniors in their rebuilding journey.

The event featured a "Vendor's Village," highlighting a variety of services including opting in for the debris removal coordinated and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, how to apply for a Small Business Administration loan, and sign-ups for housing counseling. The Summit also covered legal guidance, health concerns, and environmental questions related to the Eaton Fire Rebuild process.

Thank you to our team at Bet Tzedek for participating and serving our community!


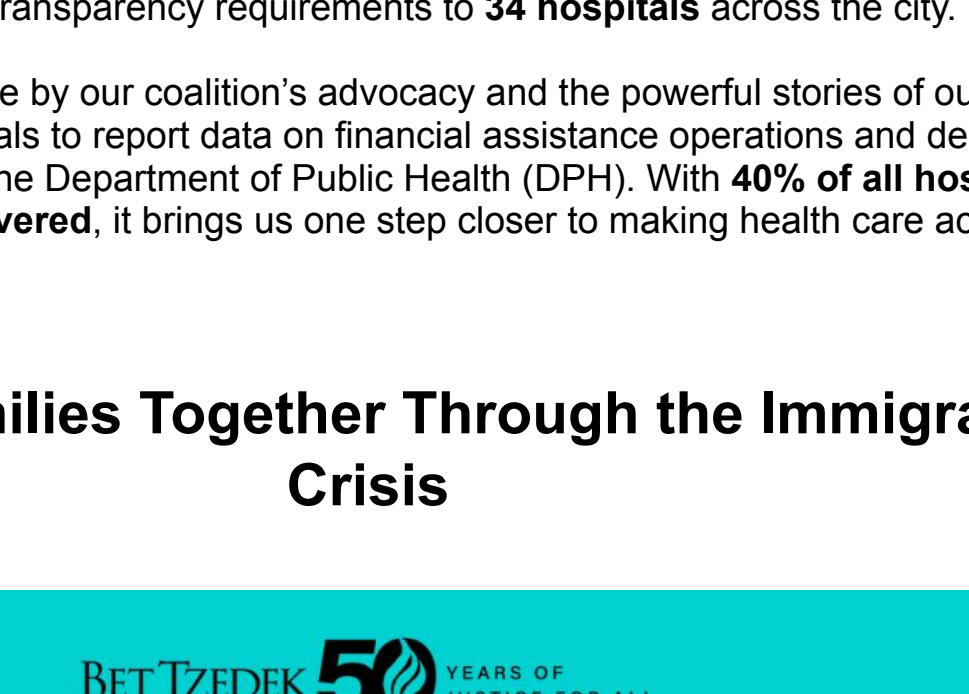
Victory for Medical Debt Transparency



Victory for Medical Debt Transparency!

L.A. City Council passes new motion requiring 34 hospitals to report financial assistance & debt collection data.

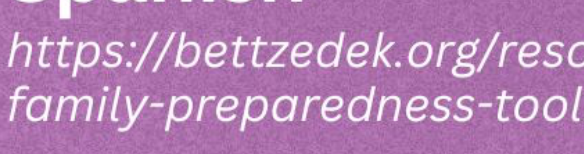
This win, made possible by Bet Tzedek's advocacy and the powerful stories of our clients, expands access to aid for more eligible patients across L.A.


Bet Tzedek is proud to share that the L.A. City Council voted to pass the medical debt ordinance, expanding transparency requirements to **34 hospitals** across the city.

This win, made possible by our coalition's advocacy and the powerful stories of our clients, requires hospitals to report data on financial assistance operations and debt collection activities to the Department of Public Health (DPH). With **40% of all hospitals in the county now covered**, it brings us one step closer to making health care accessible to all Angelenos.


Keeping Families Together Through the Immigration Crisis



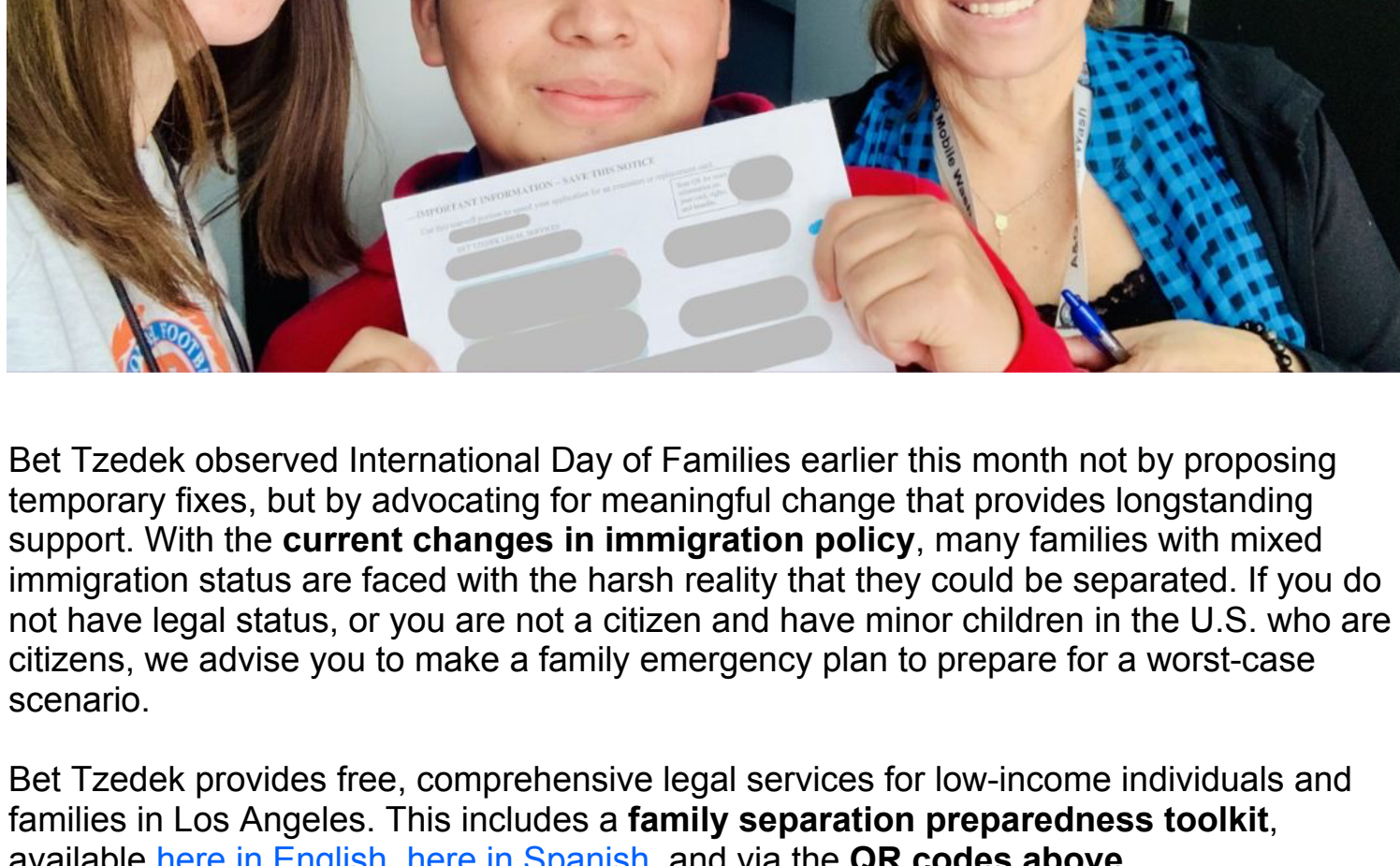
Family Separation Preparedness Toolkits



English
<https://bettzedek.org/resources/family-preparedness-toolkit/>



Spanish
<https://bettzedek.org/resources/family-preparedness-toolkit-spanish/>



Bet Tzedek observed International Day of Families earlier this month not by proposing temporary fixes, but by advocating for meaningful change that provides longstanding support. With the **current changes in immigration policy**, many families with mixed immigration status are faced with the harsh reality that they could be separated. If you do not have legal status, or you are not a citizen and have minor children in the U.S. who are citizens, we advise you to make a family emergency plan to prepare for a worst-case scenario.

Bet Tzedek provides free, comprehensive legal services for low-income individuals and families in Los Angeles. This includes a **family separation preparedness toolkit**, available [here in English](#), [here in Spanish](#), and via the **QR codes** above.

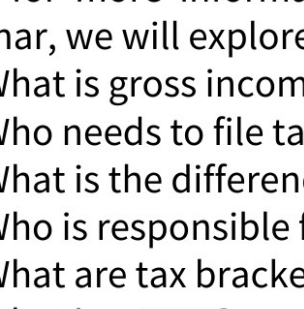
FREE Webinar on Understanding Our Complex Tax System

Join us for a "Know Your Rights" webinar on understanding the U.S. tax system in The Human Trafficking Legal Center's 'Know Your Rights' series on **Wednesday, May 28th, from noon to 1:30 p.m. ET**.

Bet Tzedek's Director of the Low-Income Tax Initiative, **Sara Benowitz**, will be presenting!

See the flyer below for more information.

[REGISTER TODAY](#)



Survivor Leadership Program Presents:

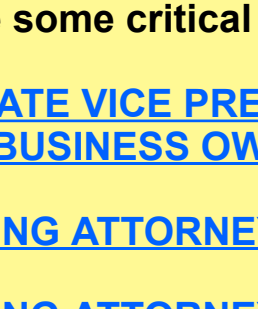
KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
 UNDERSTANDING THE U.S. TAX SYSTEM
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 12 PM - 1:30 PM ET

The next webinar in the Human Trafficking Legal Center's Know Your Rights series will feature Sara Benowitz, director of the Low-Income Tax Clinic at Bet Tzedek Legal Services of Los Angeles. Sara is a staff attorney at Bet Tzedek, where she specializes in tax law. Trafficking survivors in our community have expressed a need for more information on the United States' complex tax system. In this webinar, we will explore questions including:

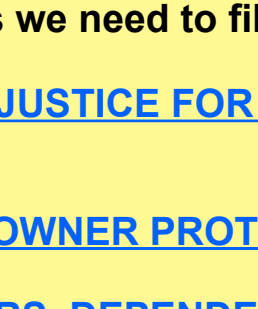
- What is gross income?
- Who needs to file taxes?
- What is the difference between a deduction and a credit?
- Who is responsible for withholding taxes?
- What are tax brackets?
- What is a 1099?
- And More!

[REGISTER!](#)

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/WEBINAR/REGISTER](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register)



HOLLIE NADEL
 Survivor Leadership Program Coordinator, Human Trafficking Legal Center



SARA BENOWITZ
 Director, Low Income Tax Initiative, Bet Tzedek



EVELYN CHUMBOW
 Advocacy & Survivor Leadership Director, Human Trafficking Legal Center

*This webinar will not provide legal advice. The speaker cannot address individual tax questions. If you have tax questions or a dispute with the IRS, please consult with an attorney or visit a VITA Clinic: <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/free-tax-return-preparation-for-qualifying-taxpayers>

Join the Bet Tzedek Team!

Have a passion for helping underserved residents in the community? Please apply for a chance to take a leadership position with dedicated staff and volunteers who help over 60,000 people per year.

Here are some critical positions we need to fill:

[ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT: JUSTICE FOR TAXPAYERS, WORKERS, AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS](#)

[DIRECTING ATTORNEY: HOMEOWNER PROTECTION](#)

[DIRECTING ATTORNEY: SENIORS, DEPENDENTS, AND CAREGIVER SERVICES](#)

[DIRECTING ATTORNEY: ECONOMIC JUSTICE](#)

**See all job listings by clicking the button below*

[APPLY TO JOBS](#)

[PLEASE DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

Have anything you'd like us to add to future newsletters? Respond to this email.

[View this email in your browser.](#)

