

HCIR • SUMMER OF DEMOCRACY

SODA 2026 SEASON REPORT.

Five virtual sessions — **June 24 to August 26, 2026** — that equipped immigrant communities through Know Your Rights trainings, policy briefings, and coalition-strategy conversations. This is the season's record.

5 SESSIONS

100+ ATTENDEES

8 PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS



[HICIR.ORG](https://hikir.org)

THE SEASON AT A GLANCE

ONE SUMMER, ONE ARC.

SODA — the **Summer of Democracy** — is HCIR's free virtual summer series. The 2026 season ran **five sessions across nine weeks**: three Know Your Rights trainings that moved from the workplace to healthcare to homes and schools (Part I), then two strategy webinars that turned protection into power — policy analysis and narrative strategy (Part II). More than 100 attendees and eight partner organizations built it together.

5	100+	3	2	8
SESSIONS	ATTENDEES	KNOW YOUR RIGHTS	STRATEGY WEBINARS	PARTNER ORGS

• PART I · KNOW YOUR RIGHTS TRAININGS

• PART II · STRATEGY WEBINARS

01 KYR – LABOR & ECONOMIC JUSTICE JUNE 24	02 KYR – HEALTHCARE & PUBLIC SERVICES JULY 8	03 KYR – SAFETY, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES JULY 30	04 IMMIGRATION POLICY – WHAT CHANGED & WHAT MATTERS NOW AUGUST 12	05 NARRATIVE, STRATEGY & BUILDING POWER AUGUST 26
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THE SESSIONS • PART I

KNOW THE RIGHTS.

01

JUNE 24

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS – LABOR & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

"Workplace Power and Protection"

LEAD PARTNER

Hawai'i Workers Center

FOCUS

- Wage theft, retaliation, unsafe conditions
- Rights regardless of immigration status
- How to safely report and document abuse

★ OUTCOME

Participants can identify violations and take action safely.

PART I • KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

02

JULY 8

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS – HEALTHCARE & PUBLIC SERVICES

"Access Without Fear"

LEAD PARTNERS

O'ahu Rapid Response Coalition (ORRC)

Social Medicine Hawai'i

FOCUS

- Right to interpreters and language services
- Access to care regardless of status
- Privacy protections — what can and can't be shared

★ OUTCOME

Participants understand how to access services and advocate for others.

PART I • KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

THE SESSIONS • PART I → PART II

THEN BUILD THE POWER.

03

JULY 30

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS – SAFETY, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES

“Protection Across Home, School, and Community”

SPEAKERS • CHILD & FAMILY SERVICE

Trevor Davis

Kateryna “Ilys” Rayberg

FOCUS

- Domestic violence protections for immigrant survivors
- Rights of immigrant students and families
- Safe spaces – schools, shelters, community organizations

★ OUTCOME

Participants gain confidence navigating sensitive, high-risk situations.

PART I • KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

04

AUGUST 12

IMMIGRATION POLICY – WHAT CHANGED & WHAT MATTERS NOW

“From Legislation to Lived Reality”

LEAD PARTNERS

Aparna Patrie, Esq. • Patrie Law Associates, LLLC

Rico Ocampo • FIRM Action

FOCUS

- Key legislative updates post-session
- Federal vs. state and local dynamics
- What communities should actually pay attention to

★ OUTCOME

Participants left with a clear, actionable understanding of this year’s policy landscape.

PART II • STRATEGY WEBINAR

THE SESSIONS • PART II

WINNING BEYOND THE POLICY FIGHT.

05

AUGUST 26

PART II • STRATEGY
WEBINAR

NARRATIVE, STRATEGY & BUILDING POWER

"Winning Beyond the Policy Fight"

LED BY

John Miyasato, Center on Civic Engagement

Lisa Gibson and the Indivisible Hawai'i team

FOCUS

- Messaging that resonates — especially locally
- Using data and storytelling effectively
- Coalition strategy and alignment

★ OUTCOME

Partners left with tools to influence public opinion and policy.

WHAT THE SEASON BUILT

EIGHT ORGANIZATIONS, ONE SUMMER.

Every session was co-led with partners across the coalition — mahalo nui loa.

Hawai'i Workers Center

O'ahu Rapid Response Coalition

Social Medicine Hawai'i

Child & Family Service

Patrie Law Associates

FIRM Action

Center on Civic Engagement

Indivisible Hawai'i

MAHALO NUI LOA

INFORMED. PREPARED. CONNECTED. EMPOWERED.

Mahalo to the more than 100 of you who showed up this summer –
and to the eight partner organizations who led it with us.



[HICIR.ORG/SODA](https://hikir.org/soda)