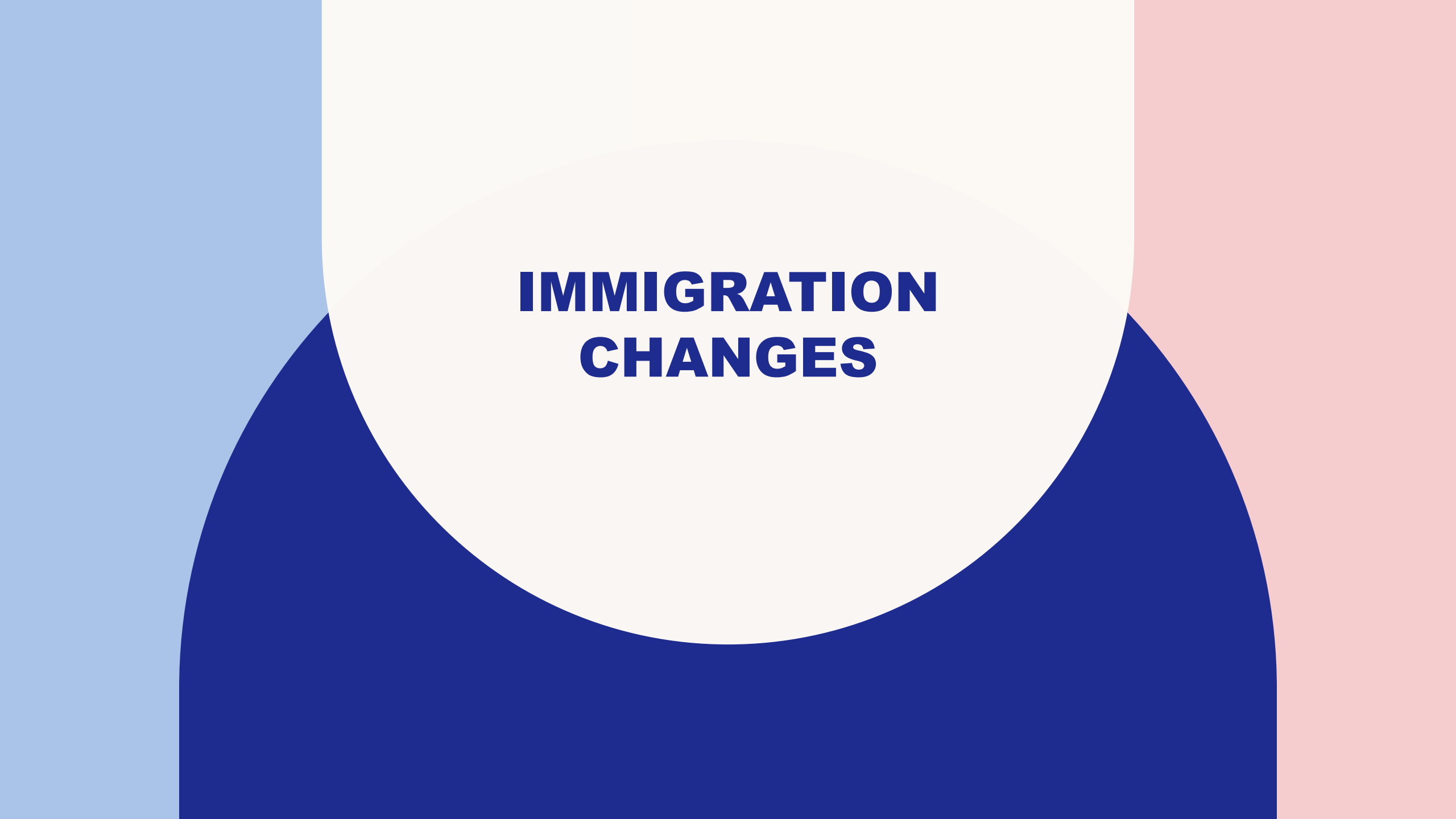
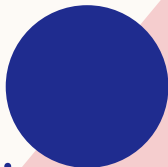


The background features a large white circle in the center, partially overlapping a light blue rectangle on the left and a light pink rectangle on the right. A dark blue shape, resembling a large arch or a wide smile, is positioned at the bottom, framing the white circle.

IMMIGRATION CHANGES

FOODSHARE POLICY CHANGES

Certain non-citizens are eligible to receive FoodShare benefits if they meet all other eligibility requirements and, in some cases, complete a five-year waiting period or meet additional conditions. These non-citizens are described as “qualified non-citizens” for federal public benefits purposes.



Additionally, Foreign-born Members of a Tribal Nation are not categorized as qualified non-citizens but are still eligible for FoodShare.

The new federal requirements limit eligibility for FoodShare to the following groups: U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, lawful permanent residents (LPRs) including Amerasians, Cuban and Haitian entrants (CHE), and Compact of Free Association (COFA) citizens.

**A PERSON WHO HAS ONE OF THESE
IMMIGRATION STATUSES IS NO LONGER
ELIGIBLE FOR FOODSHARE.**

- **CONDITIONAL ENTRANT**
- **REFUGEE OR SPECIAL IMMIGRANT**
- **ASYLEE**
- **PERSON PAROLED FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR**
- **PERSON GRANTED WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL**
- **VAWA SELF-PETITIONER**
- **FOREIGN-BORN MEMBER OF A TRIBAL NATION**
- **TRAFFICKING VICTIM OR THEIR FAMILY**

A member with one of these immigration statuses who lives in a household with other eligible individuals will become a prorated deemer. Because the non-qualified person lives in the household, it is assumed they share resources and food and a proportional (prorated) share of the deemer's income and expenses is still used to determine the household's eligibility.

The new non-citizen eligibility criteria apply to new FoodShare applications on or after July 1, 2026. For households already receiving FoodShare, these policies apply at their next renewal after July 1, 2026, or when immigration status is reverified due to a reported change or reverification required by another benefit program during the certification period, whichever is earlier.

MEDICAID CHANGES

5

Certain non-citizens are eligible to receive health care benefits if they meet all other eligibility requirements and, in some cases, complete a five-year waiting period or meet additional conditions. These non-citizens are described as “qualified non-citizens” for federal public benefits purposes.

Section 71109 of H.R. 1 (2025) eliminates Wisconsin’s ability to claim Medicaid funding, which is known as federal financial participation (FFP), for many adult non-citizens currently eligible for health care. FFP may only be claimed for adults in the following groups: U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, lawful permanent residents, Cuban and Haitian entrants, and Compact of Free Association citizens.

The Children’s Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 includes an option for states to provide health care coverage to children and pregnant people who are lawfully residing in the United States. Section 71109 of H.R. 1 (2025) did not change the ability for states to claim FFP for these lawfully residing pregnant people and children.

Starting October 1, 2026, non-citizen adults with one of these immigration statuses are no longer eligible for the Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus programs listed below:

- Conditional Entrant
- Refugee or Special Immigrant
- Asylee
- Person Paroled for at Least One Year
- Person Granted Withholding of Removal
- VAWA Self-Petitioner
- Foreign-born Member of a Tribal Nation
- Trafficking Victim or their family
- Amerasians

These changes apply to the following Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus programs:

- BadgerCare Plus
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Medicaid
- SSI-Related Medicaid
- Special Status Medicaid
- Institutional Medicaid
- Home and Community Based Waiver Medicaid
- Medicaid Purchase Plan (MAPP)
- Katie Beckett Medicaid
- Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid
- SeniorCare
- Medicare Savings Programs
- Family Planning Only Services
- Tuberculosis-Related Medicaid

THE NEW NON-CITIZEN ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA APPLY TO NEW HEALTH CARE APPLICATIONS ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2026. FOR HOUSEHOLDS ALREADY RECEIVING HEALTH CARE, THESE POLICIES ALSO APPLY STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2026.

Lawfully present children younger than 19 years old, young adults under 21 years old who reside in an Institution for Mental Disease, and pregnant people, including those in the statuses listed above, remain eligible for health care benefits.



BACKDATED ELIGIBILITY

Adult non-citizens in impacted statuses may apply for backdated coverage for the months preceding October 2026. Current backdating eligibility rules apply.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Eligibility for Emergency Services is not changed by H.R. 1(2025). Non-citizens who are no longer in a qualifying status and experience a medical emergency may qualify for Emergency Services. They must apply for Emergency Services in order to receive this coverage.

BADGERCARE PLUS PRENATAL PROGRAM

Eligibility for the BadgerCare Plus Prenatal Program is not changed by H.R. 1 (2025).

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

Immigrant clients have been receiving notification of the changes, and also Notices of Decision regarding their cases when the changes go into effect.

If a client calls or comes to the office, ask them if they have had any changes in status. If so, ask for paperwork or other information. Is your SAVE access current? Run their information through SAVE to check their status. Please print the results and send to ECF.

If your SAVE status is not current, please send to your lead or the PRT. Paul Unger, Heidi Van Landingham and Jackie Benford can also help.

Paul and Jackie have been working on a state report. We have been updating cases that are on the report. Some have no changes and will close or stay closed.

You will be seeing a new code for immigrants, 23. This is a permanent resident status. Using it will keep certain clients eligible. There is a proviso in policy stating those immigrants who had a qualifying status of refugee or asylee to not lose their eligibility if their status changes. 23 covers that.

PLEASE DO NOT MAKE ASSUMPTIONS. WE MUST DOCUMENT ALL CASES BASED ON SAVE. WHEN IN DOUBT, ASK QUESTIONS.

QUESTIONS

Is RMA or RCA still available, and if so, how do we refer clients?

Technically, yes. However, we are not seeing any new refugees nor asylees. Please refer these folks to Forward Services.

Are we also extending MAGP for undocumented or refugees individuals?

People who are enrolled in the BadgerCare Plus Prenatal Program are not eligible for postpartum coverage in BadgerCare Plus. (Ops Memo 26-24)

If someone isn't eligible for BC+ or MA due to their immigration status, how do they apply for refugee Medical Assistance?

They have to be a refugee. Only refugees qualify. They would start with Forward Services here in Dane.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN REFUGEE AND ASYLEE?

A legal refugee is a person outside their home country who cannot return because of a well-founded fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group.

An asylee is a person who meets the legal definition of a refugee and has been granted protection (asylum) while already physically present inside the United States or at a port of entry.

Basically, a refugee applies from not a resident of this country and an asylee is already here when they apply.

**WHAT REFUGEE STATUS IS NOW ELIGIBLE FOR FS/HC?
IS THERE ANY? WHAT CAN WE EXPLAIN IS A
QUALIFYING STATUS BESIDES JUST "SEND US YOUR
DOCUMENT TO RUN THROUGH SAVE"?**

A permanent resident alien who has been here for more than five years from their legal date of entry is eligible (coded 01). Former refugees and asylees who have obtained permanent resident status are also eligible (coded 23). Cuban/Haitian immigrants (code 11) are also eligible. COFA Citizens: Residents from the Compact of Free Association nations, which include Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (coded 22).

ALL OF THESE MUST BE VERIFIED THROUGH SAVE!

WHERE TO FIND THE CORRECT NUMBER ON A CARD AND HOW TO APPLY IT TO THE SCREEN.

It varies from card to card. INS updates the permanent resident (“green cards”) every few years. The number is generally in the center. The number is nine digits, broken into three sets of three, with hyphens. You may also see a visa which will say “Upon endorsement serves as temporary I-551 evidencing permanent resident for one year.

Please see the next page.

I/551

EXAMPLES

To the right are examples of “green cards.” I have never seen any of the first three. Number four will sometimes have an eight digit alien number. If you encounter that, start with a zero and the eight digits. Below is Visa serving as a permanent resident card for one year. The third line from the bottom indicates that. The alien number is on the right under registration number. The eight digit rule may apply.



IF SAVE IS UNABLE TO VERIFY REFUGEE STATUS, WHAT DOCUMENT IS BEST TO USE/ASK FOR TO MANUALLY VERIFY?

Always ask for any and all Immigration documents. We don't know what the client has. It's easiest to get it all at once so that we don't have to go back and forth asking for other paperwork.

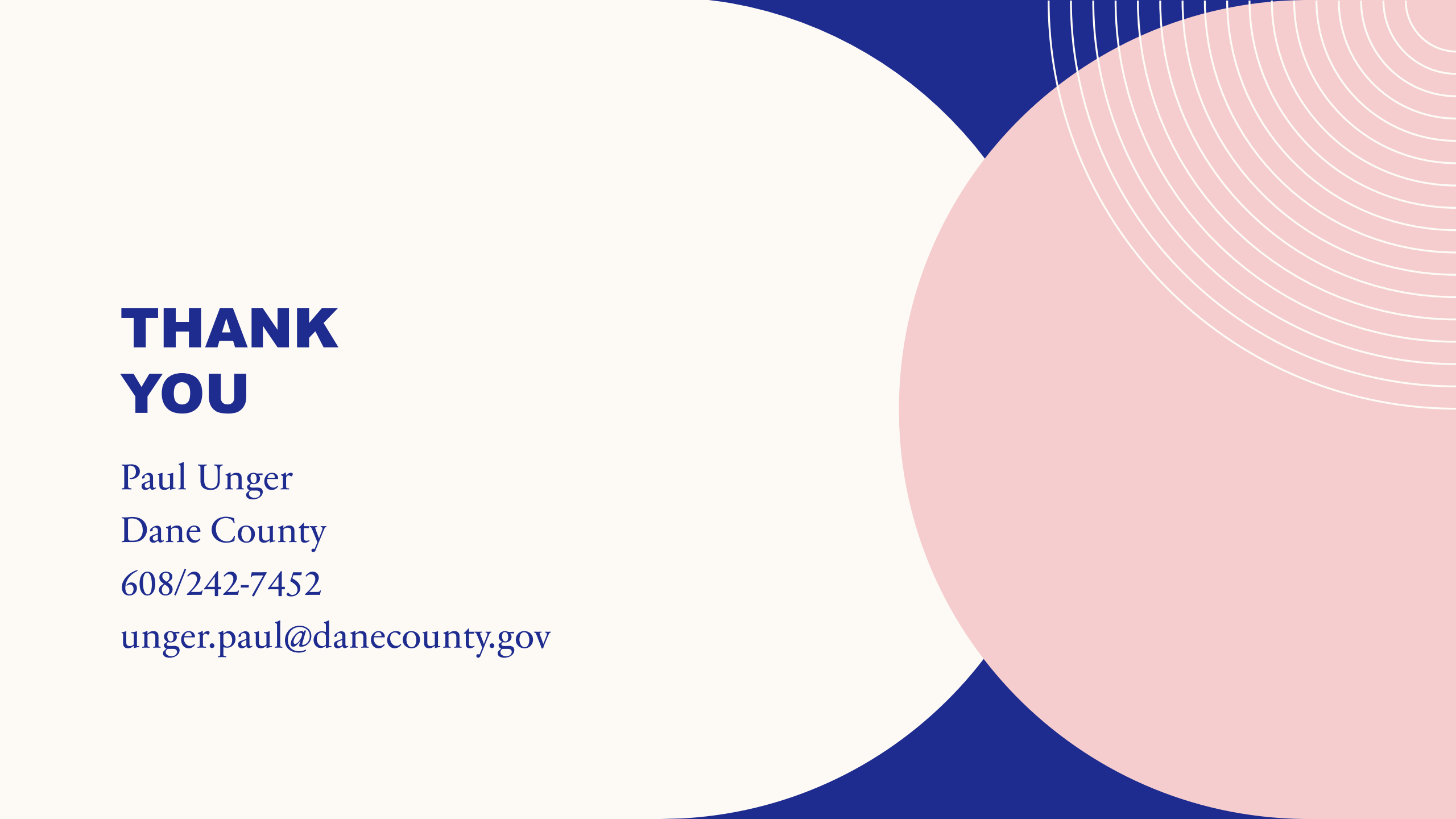
Odds and ends:

Paul Unger is the primary refugee caseworker. There are very few refugee cases in Dane. Any RCA/RMA cases should be with Paul.

Contact Heidi Van Landingham or Jacqueline Benford for help with SAVE. Nicole Cummings, Karla Solis Hernandez and Nicole Cummings are also comfortable with SAVE in a pinch.

We do not have a current resource guide by county for immigrants. It may be a task for the Website Committee.

KEEP YOUR SAVE ACCESS CURRENT!

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THANK YOU

Paul Unger

Dane County

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