

## Unbound Philanthropy

*Presents*

# Providing Sanctuary for Women, Children & LGBT Refugees: New Political Asylum Opportunities in the United States

### Speakers:

Karen Musalo, Center for Gender and Refugee Studies  
Aaron Morris, Immigration Equality  
Wendy Young, KIND (Kids in Need of Defense)  
Lindsay Harris, Tahirih Justice Center

Moderated by Taryn Higashi, Unbound Philanthropy

### **October 18<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

The right to political asylum is rooted in longstanding international and U.S. laws, and new opportunities have emerged to extend this protection to some of the most marginalized populations. In recent years, advocates have used cross-cutting strategies to push the boundaries of the refugee definition so that it has begun to include – among others – women survivors of gender-based violence, sexual minorities, HIV+ individuals, and abused and abandoned children.

The recognition of such individuals as legitimate refugees is an important victory for human rights, but it also makes this protection available to individuals from countries – such as Mexico – that have historically been excluded from asylum protection. Although these developments are encouraging, there is the risk that these hard-fought victories can be lost in the current environment.

We invite you to a briefing that will provide an overview of the key issues, with a focus on ongoing national strategies to expand the refugee definition. Speakers will address the critical connections between well-established international human rights norms and the evolution of protection for women, sexual minorities, children, and other similar populations.

**Location:**      **The Ford Foundation**  
320 East 43rd Street, Level B Board Room  
New York City

Please RSVP to Jeremy Dirac at [jdirac@unboundphilanthropy.org](mailto:jdirac@unboundphilanthropy.org) by October 14<sup>th</sup>