April 25, 2014: House Speaker Boehner reported that he could not get the House to budge on immigration reform. Nevertheless, in Illinois many Republicans announced their support for immigration before the Chicago Club.

July 18, 2014: Immigration reform continued to make headlines focusing on the humanitarian crisis of thousands of unaccompanied minors and mothers with young children from Central America who were detained at the border in overcrowded, inadequate facilities. The Obama administration sought funding to remedy the situation. The US House still refused to move on immigration. Demands continued to be made by immigration rights groups and immigrant families for Obama to stop or slow down deportations.

October 17, 2014: Most unaccompanied immigrant children and teens apprehended after crossing the U.S./Mexico border were going to their deportation hearings, according to the federal agency overseeing the nation’s immigration courts. Between July 19 and Sept. 30, 85 percent showed up for first appearances in court, according to the U.S. Executive Office for Immigration Review. Fewer were being apprehended at the border. Republican gubernatorial candidate, Bruce Rauner met with Latino business leaders and clergy at a gathering in Chicago’s Little Village and stated that he would support immigration reform and work for more state contracts for minority-owned businesses, with greater access to capital.

November 21, 2014: President Obama, announced his plans for executive action to address a broken immigration system and failure of congressional action. The biggest and most controversial part of his plan will allow up to 5 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States to apply to live and work here temporarily without threat of deportation. They have to be the parents of US citizens or legal residents and have lived in the US for at least 5 years. The intent is to keep families together, a "focus on deporting felons, not families." Most Americans support the idea of what the president is doing but not necessarily the way he is going about it; however, past presidents in recent decades carried out similar executive actions addressing immigration. Republicans are threatening to fight this executive measure. We shall see what happens.

January 15, 2015: On January 14, 2015, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 236-191 to block President Obama’s immigration policies by passing a series of amendments that gut most of his executive actions regarding immigration. This includes Obama’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. These amendments are part of the Department of Homeland Security funding bill and are not expected to pass in the Senate, but if they did, Obama would veto the bill.

February 19, 2015: House Speaker, John Boehner, said that he is prepared to allow funding for the Department of Homeland Security to lapse at the end of this month in a dispute over President Obama’s immigration executive action. The department’s funding runs out on February 27. Additionally, a US
district judge in Texas made a ruling on February 16 halting President Obama’s immigration initiative to protect millions of undocumented immigrants. The expanded program was scheduled to begin on Wednesday. Some are saying that the judge’s ruling is on shaky ground. It’s possible the Department of Justice will seek an emergency order that allows the president’s immigration programs to go into effect while the ruling is appealed. Twenty-six states are suing to block the administration’s eligibility requirements for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Immigrant rights groups, however, are encouraging undocumented eligible for protection (under DACA and the newer expanded version) to continue working on their applications.

In Illinois, Governor Rauner’s proposed budget eliminates the $6.67 million funding for Immigration Services Line Item under the Department of Human Services. This money goes to The Immigrant Family Resource Program, which provides assistance and information for families working toward self-sufficiency, and The New Americans Initiative, which promotes US citizenship and provides help with citizenship applications. Other proposed budget cuts to services also will hurt immigrant communities.

March 2015—In Illinois, Governor Rauner’s proposed a budget eliminating $6.67 million funding for Immigration Services Line Item under the Department of Human Services. This money is for The Immigrant Family Resource Program, which provides assistance and information for families working toward self-sufficiency, and The New Americans Initiative, which promotes US citizenship and provides help with citizenship applications. Other proposed budget cuts to services would hurt immigrant communities.

April 2015—Governor Rauner restored funding for immigrant services and other social service grant programs; however, he is proposing to defund them entirely in the next fiscal year.

May 2015—US House of Representatives voted against a provision that would allow immigrants without permanent legal status to enlist in the military. Federal immigration officials, facing a decision on the legality of the detention centers housing women and children, made an announcement about improving conditions for detainees. Hispanics will play a large role in the 2016 presidential election.