



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE  
Original Storefront (1971)  
952 Seneca Avenue  
Ridgewood, Queens

# IMPACT 21



CATHOLIC  
MIGRATION  
SERVICES

# 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

Fifty years ago, Catholic Migration Services was created in response to Pope Saint Paul VI's call to the global Catholic community to support those around the world who seek refuge away from their home countries. To commemorate this anniversary, I would like to highlight a few key milestones that laid the foundation for the efforts that Catholic Migration Services continues today.



- In **1986**, with the assistance of over 10,000 volunteers, we helped over 20,000 immigrants from sixty-eight countries attain legal status under the National Amnesty Program.
- In **2005**, we launched the Immigrant Tenant Advocacy Project to address housing abuses, secure dignified living conditions and provide free legal services to immigrant tenants.
- In **2009**, we added the Workers' Rights Program and established "Linea Laboral" to provide information and free legal advice and representation to low-income immigrant workers.

The last two years will be remembered not just for the devastation of COVID-19, especially in immigrant communities who faced the brunt of the virus' health and economic impact, but also for Catholic Migration Services' tenacious response. Our staff, themselves facing personal challenges of the pandemic, transitioned to remote work and continued to deliver significant results for the communities we serve.

Among Catholic Migration Service's many achievements in 2021, we provided immigration legal advice to 1,079 New Yorkers, recovered more than \$500,000 in unpaid wages for immigrant and low wage workers, aided nearly 1,000 tenants seeking to avoid eviction, and distributed \$165,000 to 500 families most in need.

I am incredibly proud of our work and look forward to brighter years and for the health, safety and prosperity of the communities we serve, all of our staff, and our supporters. Thank you for your interest in Catholic Migration Services.

Very Reverend Patrick J. Keating, Esq.  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

# MISSION

**We “welcome the stranger in our midst,”** by empowering underserved immigrant communities in Brooklyn and Queens regardless of religion or ethnicity.

**We provide high quality legal services,** know-your-rights education, and advocacy to immigrants to advance equality and social justice in a changing and diverse population.





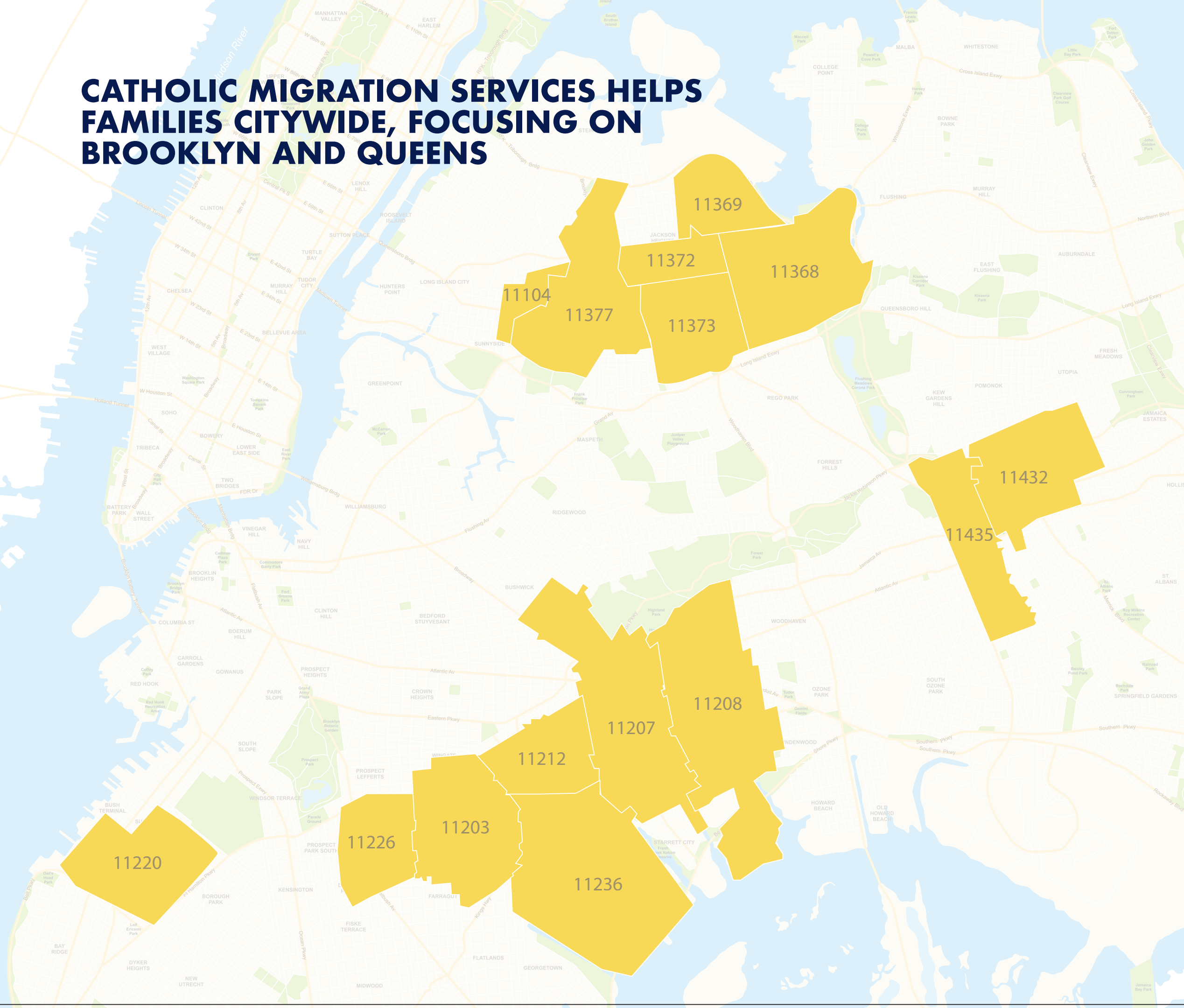
# OUR TEAM

**Abigail Monaco** Volunteer, Jesuit Volunteer Corps.  
**Aida Ocasio** Office Assistant  
**Alice Davis** Supervising Attorney  
**Amy Collado** Tenant Organizer  
**Andrea Sanchez** Paralegal  
**Aviva Schaffer** Senior Staff Attorney  
**Caitlin Wright** Immigration Counselor  
**Carlos Ortiz** Tenant Organizer  
**Christopher Holtz** Supervising Attorney  
**Daniel Casement** Volunteer, Jesuit Volunteer Corps.  
**David Colodny** Senior Counsel  
**Ellen LaCarrubba** Executive Assistant  
**Emma Foti** Paralegal  
**Erin Fitzgerald** Director of Finance and Operations  
**Emma Ziegler** Volunteer, Mercy Volunteer Corps.  
**Ghada Ghannam** Law Fellow  
**Isadora Jaffee** Law Graduate  
**Jeanne Sanon** Senior Immigration Counselor  
**Joan Anzalone** Immigration Counselor  
**Jonathan Cohen** Managing Attorney  
**Jose Leon** Supervising Attorney  
**Kimyetta Robinson** Director of Development  
**Lea Vega** Volunteer, Mercy Volunteer Corps.  
**Lorena Lopez** Tenant Organizer  
**Lynn Neugebauer** Supervising Attorney

**Magdalena Barbosa** Director of Legal Services  
**Mariam Magar** Senior Staff Attorney  
**Marisol Canales** Supervising Immigration Counselor  
**Marlon Campeche** Staff Attorney  
**Michael Shannon** Senior Staff Attorney  
**Michelle Vazquez** Immigration Counselor  
**Michael Holland** Volunteer, Ignatian Corps.  
**Nancy Pardo** Executive Assistant  
**Nanette Morales** Office Assistant  
**Very Rev. Patrick J. Keating** Chief Executive Officer  
**Raluca Oncioiu** Managing Attorney  
**Rebecca Rybaltowski** Outreach Assistant  
**Samantha Lyons** Senior Staff Attorney  
**Samantha Pascal** Naturalization Coordinator  
**Sarah Hainbach** Staff Attorney  
**Stephani Suero** Paralegal  
**Thomas Power** Senior Staff Attorney  
**Xiomara Bustamante** Immigration Counselor



# CATHOLIC MIGRATION SERVICES HELPS FAMILIES CITYWIDE, FOCUSING ON BROOKLYN AND QUEENS



# SERVING PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD



- Mexico
- Ecuador
- Colombia
- Haiti
- Venezuela
- Jamaica
- El Salvador
- Dominican Republic
- Honduras
- Guatemala
- China
- Guyana
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Peru
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Bangladesh
- India

\* Partial List



# IMMIGRATION



Our **Immigration Program** helps families make a home here in the United States.

Migrating families need support and committed advocates to navigate the complex and challenging process of resettlement.

# IMPACT

- **1,079** New Yorkers received legal services
- **250** people became U.S. citizens
- **103** people from Haiti and Venezuela obtained Temporary Protected Status (TPS)
- **62** young immigrants renewed their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status



# STORY



Jessica's service  
in the Marines  
helped her  
parents qualify for  
**Parole in Place,**  
a program that  
allowed her family  
to legally stay in  
the United States.

When Catholic Migration Services first met José and his family, his 18-year-old daughter, Jessica, had joined the Marine Corps after graduating from high school.

As a U.S. citizen serving her country abroad, Jessica was concerned that her parents were at risk of deportation.

They had no legal status in the U.S. If her parents were deported, who would care for her two younger sisters, one of whom is epileptic?

Jessica's service in the Marines helped her parents qualify for Parole in Place, a program that legally admitted them to the U.S. and enabled Jessica to petition for them to receive green cards.

In September 2021, Catholic Migration Services successfully filed the necessary petitions and applications.

José is now a legal permanent resident. His wife's application is still being processed and we are waiting for it to be approved. Jessica is now planning to spend more time at home with her family.





# HOUSING



Our **Tenant Advocacy Program** advises and represents hundreds of people each year to prevent evictions, stop rent-overcharge, force landlords to provide repairs and essential services, and help seniors and the disabled to obtain exemptions from rent increases.

# IMPACT



● **1,286** people benefited from legal assistance

● Defended **949** evictions

● Improved living conditions for over **40** households

# STORY



"Community is everything! Without people around you for support, you can even lose your house. Catholic Migration Services came through for us when we needed it most," said **Karma Tsewang**, who faced eviction from his home in Woodside, Queens, along with seven of his neighbors.

With the support of Catholic Migration Services, Karma and his neighbors obtained a financial benefit from their landlord of over **\$300,000.**

Catholic Migration Services kept thousands of people safe in their homes during the COVID-19 pandemic by preventing an estimated 220,000 eviction cases from advancing.

Throughout the pandemic, low-income New York City communities endured financial and other hardships. The community organizers at Catholic Migration Services continued supporting tenant associations in Queens to improve their living conditions.

At 94-25 57th Avenue in Queens, organizers helped tenants compel their landlord to address leaks, broken windows, and roach and rat infestations. When the landlord responded with harassment, CMS organizers stood by the tenants to end the unlawful treatment.

Galvanized by the need for governmental action for tenants, and with the support and training from CMS organizers, leaders from the 57th Avenue tenant group participated in **cacerolazos** (pot-and-pan protests), press rallies, banner drops, virtual townhall meetings, and submitted testimony to the New York State Legislature.

After advocacy from CMS organizers, community partners, and tenants throughout New York City, New York State implemented the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), providing a **\$2.4 billion lifeline** to thousands of tenants, and extended the Eviction Moratorium until January 15, 2022. In addition to these efforts, Catholic Migration Services also helped over 100 tenants submit ERAP applications and continues its work to ensure tenants can live in safe, dignified and affordable homes.



# WORKERS' RIGHTS



Using legal and legislative advocacy, our **Immigrant Workers' Rights Program** helps low wage and immigrant workers to assert their rights, and achieve dignity in the workplace.

# IMPACT

- **\$500,000+** in settlements and judgments for low wage and immigrant workers

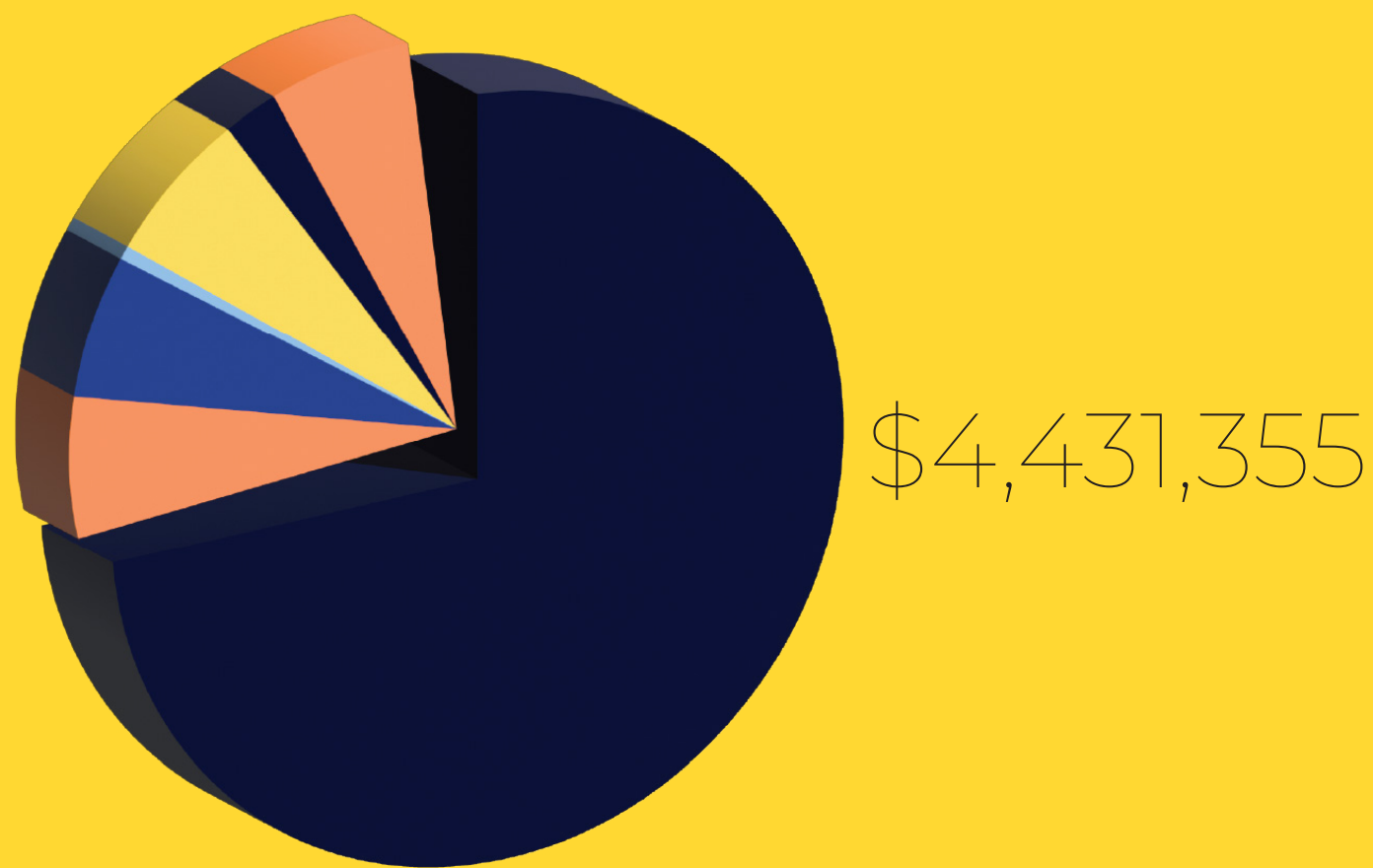
# STORY

At The King of Empanadas, a restaurant in Flushing, Queens, Roberto Moran, Mauricia Aviles, and Yazmin Aviles, worked long hours below the minimum wage and were never compensated with overtime pay.

After several years of litigation that included the employers filing for bankruptcy to avoid paying the workers, Roberto, Mauricia, and Yazmin recovered \$40,000 in settlement of their claims.



# FINANCIALS



- SALARIES AND BENEFITS ● \$3,626,890
- IN-KIND EXPENSE ○ \$276,804
- RENT ● \$264,287
- PROFESSIONAL FEES ● \$259,970
- OTHER ● \$256,183
- INSURANCE ● \$89,780
- COMMUNICATIONS ● \$21,441

\*\*Financial information above is preliminary and unaudited.

# BOARD

- Andrea M. Alonso, Esq.
- Gregory Cerchione, Esq.
- Joseph Corozzo, Esq.
- Craig Eaton, Esq.
- Dawn Hewitt
- Chaumtoli Huq, Esq.
- Vincent Iannelli
- Very Reverend Patrick J. Keating, Esq. (Ex-Officio)
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- Sandra Munoz, Esq.
- Manuel Quintana, Esq., Chair of the Board
- Joseph Rosato, Esq.
- Kaylin Whittingham, Esq.



# IMPACT 21

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