



ITServe Alliance

Empowering Local Employment

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023



ABOUT ITSERVE ALLIANCE

Founded in 2010, ITServe Alliance is the largest association of Information Technology Services Organizations functioning across the United States. Established with the objective of being the collective voice of all Information Technology companies functioning with similar interests across the United States, ITServe Alliance has evolved as a resourceful and respected platform to collaborate and initiate measures in the direction of protecting common interests and ensuring collective success.

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VINAY MAHAJAN

PRESIDENT, ITSERVE ALLIANCE



1. What drew you to ITServe?

In 2016, my inner self was not happy with routine business transactions and was looking for volunteer work that could make me happy. ITserve was a God-sent opportunity. It was a group, where we had similar issues, challenges, and a lot of information exchange based on the experiences of many. It became like a family and my passion.

2. As the current President, what is your vision for ITServe.

In my vision, I see ITServe creating a multiplier effect on society including economy and community. I see ITServe taking many initiatives including the protection of the interests of small businesses in IT, creating local employment, providing STEM education for underprivileged communities, and taking many other CSR initiatives.

In this process, ITServe will touch millions of lives and empower local employment and empower local communities. Our members have realized the value and strength of collective effort, knowledge sharing, networking. They have a big heart to give back to the community. I see ITServe and its members making big contributions to technology, innovation, and startup ecosystem and ensuring that we maintain US supremacy in technology.

3. What are some of the major accomplishments under your leadership.

ITServe is attracting a lot of new members and we hope to grow to 21 Chapters with 2,500 members by the end of the year. The Minneapolis Chapter was launched in March. Members trust that ITServe will protect its members against unfavorable regulations. ITServe's many legal efforts helped to simplify High Skill immigration. We have launched many new CSR initiatives this year including STEM Training and Internships for College and High School Students. ITserve is taking lobbying to the next level and is working with lawmakers very closely to introduce an ITServe Bill called HIRE ACT focused on high-skilled immigration and training. ITServe has launched ITServe Services which will focus on members' benefits including Insurance, M&A, and, Payroll Services.

4. Can you share some of the major challenges you have faced thus far and how you manage them.

The first Quarter has gone very well thanks to all the help from GB, EB, Chapter Presidents, and Core Teams, as well as all the members and the sponsors. The Chapters and National team are working on high momentum with Chapter Meetings, Kick Offs, with Regional Meetings lined up throughout the year. Challenges on the horizon include our members facing 221 G, FDNS site visit, and Immigration Fee increase. ITServe has hired General Counsel Jonathan, and he is addressing all these concerns. Looming recession is another worry and we are trying to prepare for through education offered to members and working on internal cost control at ITserve.

5. At the end of your presidency, how would you want to be remembered by ITServe and the successive leadership and members?

I am a volunteer and would like to be remembered as a passionate and dedicated ITServe Volunteer. ITServe is very fortunate to have hundreds of volunteers, who are giving many precious hours to this great collective cause.

6. Any other thoughts, you want to share with ITServe members/It industry members

My message to ITServe members is that - You are all Ambassadors of ITServe. Wherever you go, you should talk about the great work ITserve has done in simplifying the highly skilled immigration, which has benefited the whole IT Industry, including our members and their employees and all others in the IT Sector. You should talk about the excellent work ITServe is doing in CSR and specifically on STEM education. Let society know about the significant contributions we are making. Let each of us be a proud member of ITServe Alliance.



SIVA MOOPANAR

DIRECTOR - POLICY ADVOCACY
COMMITTEE (PAC)

1. As the Director of ITServe Alliance Policy Advocacy Committee (PAC), enumerate the objectives:

Enhancing local employment and Innovation are the primary objectives of ITServe's Policy Advocacy. Innovation is very important for job creation and the economic growth of a country. We want the best and the brightest from around the world over here which triggers the technology revolution and jobs. Our country should be on top of the world for several hundred years.

2. Are there any hurdles to achieving your objectives and how ITServe overcomes?

Yes, we have obstacles, not blaming anyone, but we are achieving them via Social Media campaigning, liaising with Government, STEM education, CSR activities, litigation etc.

3. What are some of the initiatives you have led as the Director of PAC?

a. We initiated the HIRE ACT bill (High Skilled Immigration Reform for Employment), introduced at the Congress in December 2022. Innovation, STEM education, and avoiding brain drain are the highlights of the bill.

- Remove the STEM graduates of U.S Master's Degree and/or Ph.D. holders from the H1B CAP quota and make it unlimited to retain the top talent & innovation in the Country.
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Program to promote the "American Ingenuity Account" to fund State-administered grants for STEM education and worker training.
- Enhance the current H1B CAP Quota limits - at least 65,000 to 130,000/ year.

b. With the support of ITServe leadership and members, we established "ITServe Connected PAC".

4. Recently, several IT groups have laid off thousands of employees. What are the efforts made to ensure that they do not lose their visa status, and this prevents deportation?

Small and medium-size IT Service companies in the US played a vital role in hiring and upskilling most of the tech Talents who got laid off during the 2000 Dot.com burst and the 2009 great recession. These valiant efforts from our member companies not only avoided brain drain but also several hundreds of those talents became entrepreneurs and created millions of jobs in this country.

Considering that in mind we sent letters to President Biden and the Legislatures, requesting to extend the grace period for the laid-off talents to 180 days, to stay in this country.

5. This week, during a meeting with Indian American leaders, Senator Charles Schumer, Senate Majority Leader assured that the Green Card backlog will be cleared soon. He believes highly skilled workers such as physicians should be given direct Green Cards instead of H1 or J1 visas and he will work on making it happen. Your comments?

ITServe has continuously supported to remove the Green Card backlog for high-skilled immigrants and will do so in the future as well. They have been waiting for several years to get GC and some of them are going back to their home country, which is a huge loss to our country. Not only that but their kids are also getting affected. When they turn 21 years old, either they must switch to a student visa or go out of the country.

ASHOK DANDAMUDI

DIRECTOR - PUBLIC RELATIONS
& MEDIA (PR & Media)

1. What is your role as the Director of PR for ITServe?

As the Director of Public Relations for ITServe, I am responsible for directing and overseeing the operations and publicity campaigns for ITServe Alliance, which is a very fast-growing organization, which includes collaborating with the PR team to plan and execute publicity campaigns.

2. Could you share some of the initiatives/plans you have for sharing information/data and keeping members UpToDate on the programs and opportunities ITServe offers.

Utilizing all possible social media platforms, we have been doing outreach to the existing and potential members. The monthly E-Newsletter has been a great way to communicate with our members regarding the programs, initiatives and efforts of the national and Chapter leadership and the organization as a whole.

3. As the Head of PR, a major role is to project ITServe among the media and help with visibility for the organization. How do you plan to reach out to the media?

In addition to what I have shared above, we are in the process of reaching out to ethnic and mainstream media for coverage of national and local Chapter news regarding ITServe. There are lots of events/programs being organized by ITServe and our effort is to have them reach the media, and help with coverage.

4. What are your plans to make the larger American community and the vast majority of IT Businesses learn of the organization and its initiatives/plans/programs?

ITServe is a volunteer-based organization. All of its members and leadership devote their time, resources and skills for the benefit and growth of the organization and its growing membership. We want to use all possible channels, the social media, digital platforms, print, and electronic media, both national and mainstream and ethnic media, for making the members, IT industry, and the larger society aware of what we are, what our accomplishments are and our future goals are. We want to make ITServe known to the whole world.

A portrait of Ram Nandyala, a man with dark hair wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera. The background behind him features colorful, overlapping circular patterns in shades of blue, green, and orange.

RAM NANDYALA

Director - New Chapters Launch &
Member Benefits

1. As the Director of the Benefits & New Chapter Kickoff's for ITServe, how do you help launch new Chapters

With my team Praveen Chinta as kickoff chair, we worked on the Minneapolis Chapter from scratch to collect the company names, vetted the companies as per our bylaws and formed a 40 members group to launch the Chapter on March 25th, 2023. This is the very first in 2023.

2. How many more Chapters are in the pipeline

While we are working on many others, the next Chapters are expected to be In Baltimore, MD and Denver.

3. How many members are needed and the guidelines to start a new Chapter

We expect a minimum of 25 members to be able to launch a new Chapter

4. What are the challenges in connecting with help establish new Chapters

New companies need to understand more about the benefits by joining our fast-growing organization. Everyone wants to know, by joining ITServe, what are the benefits they can avail. Explaining and educating the benefits and convincing others to be part of the organization is the main challenge. In addition, coordination with the local team and preparing for launch with Speakers and sponsors are the biggest task for any Chapter launch

5. Anything else you want to share with the readers?

Nothing - we are a growing organization and have a lot of potential to tap; and shoulder each other with our success stories.

ITServe Alliance Inc., PAG (Policy Advocacy Group) Updates

LITIGATIONS FILED:

A. 221(g):

ITServe General Counsel, Mr. Wasden has filed the lawsuit against the Dept. of State (DOS) to resolve all the pending 221(g)s issued by U.S Consulates overseas and compel the DOS to address and resolve through a policy change and communicate to all the consulates globally to that effect.

Thanks to ITServe's initiative, U.S Consular offices in India have now removed all the prohibited items from 221(g) letters w.r.t Client letters, itinerary & employee-employer relationship pursuant to Federal Courts decision. However, there are several 221(g)s issued in the past requiring the above, besides the 221(g)s issued for Administrative Processing. ITServe is planning to file an addendum to the already filed 221(g) litigation with the additional 221(g) denials in the next several days. Please feel free to email PACAdmin@itserve.org, if you have any 221(g)s to address and resolve.

B. EXTENSION OF GRACE PERIOD FROM THE CURRENT 60 DAYS TO 180 DAYS:

As you all know, USCIS has allowed the non-immigrants who are on H1b visas, got laid off due to the recent unprecedented job losses allowed to remain in the country for 60 days and seek alternative employment to continue their stay. This period of 60 days is too short in the current environment, hence ITServe has requested the Administration to extend this current grace period of 60 days to 180 days for the laid-off H1B workers to find alternative employment, continue their stay, and support their families. We have sent letters to President Biden and the Legislatures to that effect and hoping to hear from them soon.

Small and medium-sized IT Service companies in the US played a vital role in hiring and upskilling most of the tech Talents who got laid off during the 2000 Dot com burst and the 2009 great recession. These valiant efforts from our member companies not only avoided brain drain but also several hundreds of those talents became entrepreneurs and created millions of jobs in this country.

ITServe Alliance Inc., PAG (Policy Advocacy Group) Updates

COMMENTS ON PROPOSED H1B FEE INCREASE:

(<https://www.uscis.gov/newsroom/news-releases/uscis-issues-proposed-rule-to-adjust-certain-immigration-and-naturalization-fees>)

As you all are aware, USCIS issued a proposed rule to adjust certain immigration and naturalization fees which will have an adverse effect on member companies and their ability to take on those extra costs. Our legal counsel has done extensive research on the proposed fee change and submitted the comments with the relevant data on behalf of ITServe on March 13, 2023. We hope USCIS will consider those comments submitted based on the facts and the historic data presented in either minimizing the fee adjustment or remaining unchanged. Please stay tuned for more updates on this initiative in the coming days.

PERM DENIALS:

We have been hearing recently that a lot of PERM cases have been denied in recent days. ITServe is proactively collecting data from the member companies to evaluate and decide the course of action. Please visit the following link and submit the data requested to help us to evaluate and take on these unjust practices, as appropriate.

PERM DATA: <https://forms.gle/mwXiAqeU1nXXmAcz8>

SIMEIO SOLUTIONS & 50/50 CASE:

(\$4,00 fee refund – change of status of employees from OPT to H1B)

ITSEVE is awaiting final judgment as the deliberations were complete on both sides. Facts and merits are on our side. If we are successful, it will be a game changer for the industry as a whole and will help businesses to stay focused on creating more employment than being stuck in administrative matters of filing amended petitions within the H1B approval period and save on the related costs etc.,

UPCOMING LITIGATION INITIATIVES:

FDNS Site visits are another major issue that we are facing in recent months. It has caused enormous inconvenience and scare among employees and employers. Our legal Counsel is planning to file litigation on these unjust practices based on the facts in the coming weeks. Please stay tuned for more details in this regard to be made available to all the members.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

Please signup to be an advocate at <https://itserve.org/advocacy> and feel free to enter the information related to your relationships with the MOCs (Member of Congress) or with their legislative staff to work with them, advance ITServe's agenda and seek their support on various causes and issues from time to time.

Below Link Only for: Seattle, Phoenix, Bay Area, Los Angles, Dallas, Houston, Austin, Charlotte, New England & Raleigh

Payment Link

[paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=77CXBHWLD2694](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=77CXBHWLD2694)



Support our initiatives and motivate us by generously contributing!

Below Link Only for: North East, Atlanta, Florida, Detroit, Philadelphia, Chicago, DMV, Columbus, St. Louis & Minneapolis

Payment Link :

[paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=9BV3V55AAY4UQ](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=9BV3V55AAY4UQ)



For Donors of 5K & above:

- Appreciation Flyer in the Chapter Group.
- Donor on Banner @ Synergy 2023 with Photos.
- Photos in Synergy Conference Journal.
- Photo on ITServe Website throughout the year.

ITServe Alliance Inc., CONNECTED PAC (Political Action Committee)

ITServe established "CONNECTED PAC" an organization that receives and disburses financial contributions to political campaigns in support of or against candidates, ballot measures, or proposed bills.

CONNECTED PAC Board is spearheaded by the following team of CEOs who are knee-deep into the issues of concern, taking them head-on to address and help make a difference. ITServe's CONNECTED PAC is approved by FEC (U.S Federal Election Commission) and can support the lawmakers through PAC's contributions wherever they are needed.

— “ —

- Sateesh Nagilla – Board Chair
- Gopi Kandukuri – Board member
- Amar Varada – Board member
- Siva Moopnar – Board member
- Kris Gadde – Board member
- Murali Bandlapalli – Board member
- Jayanth Challa – Board Member
- Mahesh Sake – Treasurer
- Sunil Savili – Joint Treasurer

— ” —

“ — | Contribute Now | by Donation

CONNECTED PAC accepts the members' contributions can only be accepted by personal checks and any one individual can donate a maximum of \$5000 / year. ITServe requests its members to contribute to the best of their ability to support the PAC initiatives.

Write Checks in favor of ITServe Alliance Inc, and "CONNECTED PAC" in the check memo at the bottom left corner.

Mailing Address: 8951 CYPRESS WATERS BLVD,
SUITE 160, DALLAS, TX 75019

Exceptions:

- (a) ONLY Personal Account Checks (no business checks allowed),
- (b) Maximum Contribution: \$5,000 /year
- (c) U.S Green Card Holder and/or U.S Citizens.

IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE



01. LOBBY DAY

We have had two successful virtual lobby day events in 2021 & 2022, and we had overwhelming participation by ITServe membership across the board and lawmakers and their legislative staff who are involved in immigration matters. We have now scheduled for an in-person lobby day-2023 in Washington D.C (Nation's Capital) on July 19, 2023. It is going to be an exciting opportunity to reach out to lawmakers in both Houses and stay tuned for more details to be made available in the next couple of weeks' time.



02. GOVCON DAY (Government Contracts)

ITServe is hosting a "Gov Con" Day event on July 20, 2023, next day after Lobby Day in Washington D.C where members joining the lobby day can participate. This event is an opportunity for ITServe members to learn about Government contracting and explore new business opportunities. GovCon Day event will feature a variety of speakers, which includes Govt. officials, industry experts, and successful government contractors etc. This event will cover topics related to Govt. Contracting qualifications, regulations, best practices, processes, and how to win Govt. contracts etc.,



Congratulations - Minneapolis Chapter

The launching of the Minneapolis Chapter on March 25th, 2023 was yet another milestone in the history of ITServe Alliance, a strong member-focused community within the IT industry. The addition of the 20th Chapter to our fast-expanding professional Group is a testament to the strong foundation and the enthusiasm we have been able to generate among leaders in the IT Industry. It was heartening to see the hard work, planning, and organizational skills of the National Team supported by the Minneapolis Chapter Core team, who put together a magnificent event, where we experienced the warmth and professionalism of all participants. We will continue to progress and reach every part of the nation, representing the collective interests of all IT industry professionals.

Congratulations to the newest ITServe Chapter and we look forward to launching many more Chapters in the coming months and years.

MEETINGS UPDATES

2023 Board Introduction & Synergy Kickoff

At the highly successful Board Introduction and Synergy Kickoff event held on January 24th 2023, the new leadership assumed charge. In addition, Rajesh Damarapati and Ravi Nimmagadda shared their expert knowledge on the Recession: Slowdown, Shifts, and Transformation, Understanding the Present Market: Trends, Potential Winning Strategies, and Opportunities.

Webinars

Her Empire: Women in Leadership

On March 8th, International Women's Day, the women leaders of ITServe organized an impressive webinar on Her Empire: Women in Leadership. Sheela Murthy was the first guest speaker on this series, which is designed to feature Highly Accomplished Women Entrepreneurs to honor their contributions.

January 20th, 2023

At the much-anticipated Immigration Webinar held on January 20th, 2023, the Speaker was Santosh R. Somireddy, Esq., who shared valuable knowledge on Immigration Updates, Preparing for FY 2024 H-1B Cap, Immigration Compliance During the Recession, Tips for Safeguarding your Business during the Recession, and Handling other issues of importance.

February 1st, 2023

At the Immigration Webinar held on February 1st, 2023, Attorney Bhanu B. Ilindra shared valuable information on Upcoming CAP season, Do's and Don'ts, Processing of H4 EADS and L2 EADS., Immigration Updates, 221(G)s in the light of ITServe's 2010 Neufeld Memo.

MEETINGS UPDATES

February 6th, 2023

A Webinar with ITServe General Counsel Jonathan Wasden was organized on February 6th, 2023. He provided education on 221G-Litigation plans and other litigation issues.

February 8th, 2023

At the Immigration Webinar organized on February 8th, 2023, Attorney Prashanthi Reddy shared insights on H-1B layoffs and detailed process of H-1-B registration.

February 15th, 2023

During the Immigration Webinar held on February 15th, 2023, Attorney Jon Velie shared insights and provided valuable information on immigration law and policy matters.

February 16th, 2023

Webinar on Nizambad IT-HUB Infrastructure by Govt. Telangana (TS) India It was a unique event for ITServe members to collaboration with the Government of Telangana, India on February 16th, 2023, which was well received and appreciated by the participants.

February 21st, 2023

Webinar on How Small Businesses Can Impact Local Community Through CSR held on February 21st, 2023, Terrence Clark, Mark McCormick, and Michelle Campbell shared insights on how small businesses can make a positive impact on their local communities through corporate social responsibility initiatives.

February 21st, 2023

Immigration Webinar with Gunjan Rekhi held on the February 21st, 2023 on H-1B CAP Season, How to Avoid RFEs in the first place, Alternatives to H-1B, the speaker for the day was Gunjan Rekhi.

MEETINGS UPDATES

Chapter Meetings

Austin Chapter

An in-person Austin Chapter Kickoff Meeting was held on January 10th, 2023, and was attended by the national leadership and members of the local Chapter. The Core Team Introduction was provided by the Austin Chapter President Hari Bachina. The Speakers at the event were Andrew Long and Prashanthi Reddy, who shared insights on H-1 Registrations, H1B Cap Season, RFEs, In house Projects, Dos and Don'ts for H1-B Season, Mindset/Habits/Action Steps to Skyrocket Your 2023 Results.

St. Louis Chapter

At the St. Louis Chapter Kickoff Meeting held on January 11th, 2023, attended enthusiastically by dozens of members and national leadership, the keynote speaker was Joe Garritano, who shared insights on Financial Management.

Dallas Chapter

At the Dallas Chapter Kickoff Meeting held on January 11th, 2023, the speakers were Kyle Hitchcock, Thomas V. Allen, Bhanu B. Ilindra, Santosh Somireddy, Jon Velie, and D Chand Parvathaneni, who shared insights on Recession Proofing For Your Business & Compliance in Immigration During Recession.

Charlotte Chapter

Charlotte Chapter Kickoff Meeting was held on Jan 17, 2023 with Joseph Kallabat as the main speaker. The meeting provided an opportunity for networking, and everyone had a memorable experience attending the deliberations.

MEETINGS UPDATES

Phoenix Chapter

The Phoenix Chapter Kickoff Meeting organized on January 17th, 2023 was a great occasion for the members to network, share their knowledge and learn from one another.

Houston Chapter

The Houston Chapter Kickoff Meeting was held on January 18th, 2023. Matt Bell was the keynote speaker, who shared insights on Business Marketing in the Post-Pandemic Era: Why Content Marketing has become Mission Critical for B2B CEOs.

Chicago Chapter

The Speaker for the Chicago Chapter Kickoff Meeting held on January 18th, 2023 was Kranti Ponnamp, who shared insights on Maximizing Growth in IT Consulting.

Bay Area Chapter

At the Bay Area Chapter Kick-off Meeting, held on January 18th, 2023, participants learnt new skills and insights on IT Industry, in addition to having an opportunity to networking with members from the Region.

Atlanta Chapter

Atlanta Chapter Kick-off Meeting was held on January 26th, 2023. Speakers at the event were Sundeeep Singh and Srinivas Ramineni, who shared their expertise on Business Insights & Perspectives Beyond Staffing and HIB CAP 2024, and Employer Compliance.

MEETINGS UPDATES

New England Chapter

The New England Chapter Kick-off Meeting was held on January 31st, 2023. Speakers were Srinivas Ramineni, Durga Rao, Bhanu B. Ilindra, and Sunila Bali. They educated the participants on Ethical considerations for H1B Employers, Cap 2024, FDNS, and Issues at the Consulates, RFEs, Inhouse Projects, Site Visits, Dos and Don'ts for the H1B Season, Compliance in Immigration During Recession, FDNS Site Visits and 221(G)s.

Columbus Chapter

At the Columbus Chapter 2023 Kick-off Meeting held on February 7th, 2023, the speakers for the were Shaundretta Boykins, Sam Shihab, and Durga Rao, who shared with the audience their insights on how to scale your business.

Houston Chapter

The speakers at the Houston Chapter Monthly were Terry Buske, Anil Gandhi, Shravan Nagapuri, Bhanu B. Ilindra, and Sunila Bali. They spoke about Acres on Diamonds, Tax Season 2023, Life Insurance for Small Business Owners, and Immigration Updates.

Raleigh Chapter

The Raleigh Chapter 2023 Kickoff Meeting was held on February 16th, 2023 in Cary, North Carolina, and was attended by several members of the IT Serve community.

DMV Chapter

The speakers at the DMV Chapter Kick-off Meeting on February 19th, 2023 were Robert (Bob) Castle, Bhanu B. Ilindra, Santosh R, and Somi Reddy. They offered insights on Leading High-Performance Technology Teams and Immigration Panel.

MEETINGS UPDATES

Austin Chapter

At the Austin Chapter Monthly Meeting held on February 16th, 2023, the speakers were Lance J. Giambelluca, Kavitha Akula, Prasanthi Reddy, Thomas V. Allen, and Sunila Bali. They educated the participants on The Anatomy of Recession. An experts panel on Immigration discussed about H-1B CAP: Tips and Hacks, How to Avoid PERM Audits, Multiple Registrations, and, Avoid Denials.

Florida Chapter

The Speaker at the Florida Chapter 2023 Kick-off Meeting held on February 17th, 2023, was T Y Penserga, which was well received by the members.

New England Chapter

The New England Chapter Monthly Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn on February 22nd, 2023, and was attended by several members of the Chapter.

Charlotte Chapter

Dr. Kendrick Carroll was the keynote speaker at the Charlotte Chapter Monthly Meeting organized on February 22nd, 2023 at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites.

Chicago Chapter

The Chicago Chapter Monthly Meeting was a great success and discussions on several areas of interest to the IT Industry were made.

Northeast Chapter

During the Northeast Chapter 2023 Kickoff Meeting held on February 23rd, 2023, Pavel Leokumovich, Summi Verma, Thomas V. Allen, Gunjan Rekhi, Prashanthi Reddy, Bhanu B. Ilindra, and Santosh Somireddy provided education on Economy, Investments and expectations for entrepreneurs, in addition to a panel discussion on Immigration related topics.

MEETINGS UPDATES

Atlanta Chapter

The Atlanta Chapter Monthly Meeting was held on February 23rd, 2023. Speakers at the event were Meher Lanka and Sunila Bali, who shared their insights on APM's Perspective on IT Consulting Services, H1B CAP 2024, & 221G.

Phoenix Chapter

Ashley Kelly, Jose Yanez, Cionte Prater, Tifanie R. Lewis made the monthly meeting of the Phoenix Chapter held on February 23rd, 2023, a great success.

Bay Area Chapter

The Bay Area Chapter Monthly Meeting held on March 1st, 2023 had Ani Chaudhuri, Pat Patel, Umesh Vaidyamath, Harsha R , and Sanjiv Gupta as speakers, who educated the participants on: How to prepare one's business for sale, Ways to find quality companies, and, Best ways to increase valuations.

Los Angeles Chapter

The Los Angeles Chapter 2023 Kick-Off Meeting was held on March 2nd, 2023 and was organized successfully with the likes of great minds.

Austin Chapter

Jon Velie, Prashanthi Reddy, Santosh R. Somi Reddy were the speakers at the Austin Chapter Monthly Meeting on March 7th, 2023. They spoke about 221G Issues, Site Visits, In House Projects, H1B Filings, PERM Audit Triggers, F-1 to H-1 filing tips, USCIS memos on speculative employment.

MEETINGS UPDATES

Columbus Chapter

Deepak K Sharma, Santosh R, Somi Reddy, Giri Devanur were the speakers at the Columbus Chapter March Monthly Meeting held on March 8th, 2023. They spoke about Breaking Barriers In Sales and answered queries by members on Immigration during the Q&A.

Dallas Chapter

The speaker at the Dallas Chapter Monthly Meeting on March 8th, 2023 was Bob Sanders. He provided valuable education on Evaluating, Attracting and Retaining Top Sales Talents.

Seattle Chapter

The Seattle Chapter Kickoff Event on March 8th was a great success and was attended by several local Chapter members, providing opportunities for networking.

DMV Chapter

At the DMV Chapter Monthly Meeting held on March 15th, 2023, Durga Rao and Guc Ozenci provided education on Scaling-up Business, DMV Startup & Ecosystem.

Detroit Chapter

During the Detroit Chapter 2023 Kickoff Meeting organized on March 18th, 2023, Congressman Shri Thanedar, Durga Rao, and Naresh R. Jasotani were the guest speakers. They addressed the audience on Scaling-Up Business, Blockchain Beyond Basics, ChatGPT, and LLMs.

MEETINGS UPDATES

Philadelphia Chapter

Deepak K Sharma was the main speaker at the Philadelphia Chapter Kickoff Meeting on March 21st, 2023. He shared insights on Breaking Barriers in Sales.

St. Louis Chapter

The St. Louis Chapter Monthly Meeting held on March 21st, 2023 at the Signature Banquet was executed as planned and was a grand success.

Chicago Chapter

The Chicago Chapter Monthly Meeting was held on March 23rd, 2023. The event had speakers such as Thomas Gonzales, Sean Cahill, Dr. Surya Ganduri. They spoke about Alternative Investments and Transformative Leadership.

Northeast Chapter

The Northeast Chapter Monthly Meeting was organized on March 23rd, 2023. Alex Baydar, Gregory Manto, and Durga Rao spoke about Private Equity & Private Debt, and, Scaling-Up Your IT Business.

Charlotte Chapter

During the Charlotte Chapter Monthly Meeting held on March 23rd, 2023, John L. Walton enlightened the audience with his insights on Business Diversity and Inclusion.

Raleigh Chapter

The Raleigh Chapter Monthly Meeting was held on March 28th, 2023, during which Durga Rao provided critical insights on Scaling-Up Business.

CSR INITIATIVES



School Pantry

pallets:	18
boxes:	864
pounds:	22,464
meals:	18,720

pallets:	4 ½
boxes:	216
bags:	1,080
pounds:	5,400
meals:	4,500



Team Dallas volunteered at North Texas Food Bank and helped pack 28000 pounds of food.

Thanks to all volunteers from Team Dallas for your selfless service

CSR INITIATIVES



ITServe Chicago Chapter as part of the March CSR Activity supported Northern Illinois Food Bank by Food Packing for 45 volunteer hours & donated \$500.

Thanks to all volunteers from Team Chicago for your selfless service

IMMIGRATION UPDATES

H-1B Electronic Registration Process

Prospective petitioners seeking to file H-1B cap-subject petitions, including for beneficiaries eligible for the advanced degree exemption, must first electronically register and pay the associated \$10 H-1B registration fee for each prospective beneficiary.

[Click to Know More](#)



IMMIGRATION UPDATES

Options for Noncitizen Entrepreneurs to Work in the United States

The United States has long been a destination for top talent from all over the world. Our ability to attract entrepreneurs has spurred path-breaking innovation, leading to the creation of jobs, new industries, and new opportunities for all Americans. This online resource provides an overview of some of the temporary and permanent pathways for noncitizen entrepreneurs to work in the United States. This guide also highlights some of the most important immigration-related considerations for entrepreneurs contemplating starting or managing a business in the United States.

[Click to know More](#)

IMMIGRATION UPDATES

International Entrepreneur Parole - Policy Update Alert

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is issuing policy guidance in the USCIS Policy Manual to address international entrepreneur parole.

[Click to Know More](#)



IMMIGRATION UPDATES

USCIS Announces Premium Processing; New Online-Filing Procedures for Certain F-1 Students Seeking OPT or STEM OPT Extensions

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced today the expansion of premium processing for certain F-1 students seeking Optional Practical Training (OPT) and F-1 students seeking science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) OPT extensions who have a pending Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, and wish to request a premium processing upgrade.

[Click to know More](#)

MEMBER BENEFITS

ITServe is providing excellent benefits to members. The benefits team continuously works to enhance benefits for members. Here are some Benefits below that can help:

- ADP Payroll discount of 60%
- MS Office 365 Business basic \$1.8 per month for User MS Office 365
- Business Standard \$12 per month for user
- Comprehensive Smart Pack with Fed and drug test \$72.43 from USA Facts
- No out-of-pocket fee! No retainers or hourly rates for Collection Agency

Please feel free to reach the benefits team by E-Mail: benefits@itserve.org



“SPORTS & WELLNESS” Program at ITServe Alliance

Staying FIT physically and mentally is the key to keeping pace with the fast-paced world we all live in as entrepreneurs. Being fit and healthy goes without saying to make a difference in our professional and personal lives and maintain balance.

As you all know, the pandemic has taught us the importance of being healthy and its impact on our lives, our families, the well-being of the employees, and the overall organization in general. Some of the benefits we envision through these physical activities and staying engaged will:

- Instill discipline, confidence, team bonding & building, co-existence in a fun-filled environment.
- Help to improve both mental & physical health.
- Enhance member engagement at ITServe through sporting events.
- As the saying goes, healthy minds have more and make a positive contribution to their communities.

ITServe is excited to announce a new initiative to help our members relieve some stress from day-to-day activities by introducing a sports and wellness program. The program in the inaugural year will have Badminton, Cricket, Golf, Table Tennis & Volleyball with Yoga. Complete program details will be published soon.

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Please feel free to E-Mail us at PR@itserve.org

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