Immigrant Rights and Protections

June 2025

Defending Immigrant Rights, Supporting Families, and Advancing Justice



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Immigrant Rights and Protections

In alignment with our mission to build power in communities most impacted by systemic oppression, Liberty Hill Foundation joins the immigrant community of Los Angeles County in demanding the dignity, protection, and respect we all deserve. Our city has long been a home for immigrants who have helped shape and enrich our communities, schools, workplaces, and neighborhoods. The diversity of our immigrant communities is what makes Los Angeles such a vibrant, resilient, and unique place.

We stand in unwavering solidarity with our partner organizations across the region who are speaking out, organizing, and protesting the inhumane and violent apprehension and detention of immigrants, and the unlawful violations of their civil rights.

In February 2025, Liberty Hill joined our partners at *We Are California* to amplify their "No Hate, No Fear, Immigrants are Welcome Here" campaign and elevate their *Know Your Rights* workshops— offering vital information and resources to help immigrant communities and families understand and protect their constitutional rights.

We know that this work does not begin or end with any one moment or action. Our partners remain on the frontlines every day—defending immigrant rights, supporting families impacted by unjust enforcement, and building long-term strategies to advance justice.

Liberty Hill supports a wide range of organizations who are tackling these issues head on. If you would like more information on how Liberty Hill funds grassroots organizing at scale, or if you would like to <u>donate</u> to support our efforts to direct funds where they are most needed, please contact <u>donorrelations@libertyhill.org</u>.



Below is a list of organizations doing critical work at the intersection of immigrant rights and racial justice across Los Angeles County.

<u>CHIRLA</u>

The Coalition of Humane Immigrant Rights Los Angeles (CHIRLA), founded in 1986, has a long history of working to protect and advance immigrant rights in the Los Angeles and greater southern California region. They are an anchor organization in the fight for immigrant and refugee rights. They offer a variety of services including providing legal support services to families and individuals navigating the immigration legal system.

In response to Immigration Customs and Enforcement (ICE) raids in the region, CHIRLA has been partnering with other immigrant rights groups in LA to launch the Los Angeles Rapid Response Network (LARRN) to protect and support migrant families. This network trains volunteers, attorneys, and educators to respond to and verify reports of ICE activity in the Greater LA area. Callers to the hotline get connected to legal aid, immigrant resources, and support services. LARRN works to protect vulnerable families, educate communities, and fight against private immigration jails.

CHIRLA has also been leading direct actions in alignment with other local organizations and labor rights institutions such as SEIU California, marching in protest of the unlawful detention of immigrants, and holding press conferences demanding the release of detained immigrants and activists. Their legal team is working to connect with individuals and their families who have been unlawfully detained.

Immigrant Defenders Law Center

Immigrant Defender's Law Center is a social justice nonprofit legal firm offering free legal defense for the Southern California region. This includes legal representation to individuals navigating the immigration legal system, including deportation defense. Founded in 2015, they have over a decade of experience providing immigration legal defense, facilitating asylum and family reunification cases. While originally focused primarily on legal defense, they have expanded their work to include policy and advocacy work that addresses the underlining gaps and systemic injustices that provide barriers to citizenship and access for both immigrants and refugees. They have also expanded to provide additional referral support services for mixed-status families as they navigate the legal system and contend with the economic blowback of having family members detained. They are hosting a Rapid Response Legal hotline to respond to families affected by ICE raids in Los Angeles.

Detained Immigrant Bond Fund – CLUE

Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE) is an organization that works to bring together both clergy and lay individuals from a variety of faiths to protect marginalized communities. They are based in the Los Angeles area; however, their work expands beyond just the city and county. They have worked to elevate issues impacting immigrants and refugees for decades through trainings and actions, aligning with low-wage worker protection campaigns and supporting coalitions that align with their commitments to economic justice. They also provide trainings, resources and network building for clergy to position faith-based institutions as sanctuary resources for immigrants, refugees and their families. They have established the Detained Immigrant Bond Fund to support individuals with posting bond and getting them released from detention.

California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance (CIYJA)

The California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance focuses on empowering immigrant youth and young people systems impacted to become advocates for themselves and their peers for abolitionist system change work. The organization came together over 12 years ago to rally support around the DREAM Act and to serve as a vehicle to mobilize youth people statewide. Since that time, they have continued to expand and develop youth-led strategies to work at the intersection of immigration and the criminal justice system. They have organized rallies and marches to advocate for the closure of youth and immigrant detention centers, advocate for the release of unlawfully held immigrant youth and continue to build connections across networks of youth organizing in California. In Los Angeles County, they provide leadership and mobilization training to young people in the Southeast region of the County in areas such as Bell, South Gate, and Cudahy.

Filipino Migrant Center

The Filipino Migrant Center, founded in 2010, works to support the Filipino community in the South Bay region of Los Angeles County. Since their inception, they have operated as a Filipino immigrant led organization and have worked to uplift the needs of the immigrant community, providing legal support services for individuals seeking to apply for visas or asylum. FMC released a statement condemning the unlawful apprehension and detention of Los Angeles areas immigrants by ICE. They have been working to advocate for increased resources for the Long Beach Justice Fund to encourage the city of Long Beach to increase access to legal resources for families and individuals who are facing deportation and detention orders. They reached an organizational milestone in 2024 with the opening of their physical location in Long Beach as dedicated space to host their immigrant support services and several of their other programs including their youth leadership development programming. During this time, FMC has been playing a critical role in providing necessary services for individuals seeking referrals for citizenship and work to connect members with legal referrals. They have also hosted several Know Your Rights workshops to inform community members of their legal protections and are able to provide resources in both English and Tagalog.

<u>SALVA</u>

Located in Palmdale region of Los Angeles County, SALVA seeks to provide direct support and services to the immigrant, migrant and farmworker population residing in the Antelope Valley region of the county. SALVA has been working to protect immigrant populations during this time through providing direct mutual aid, operating a food bank and a Spanish-language radio station to provide timely and important information to the immigrant and day-laborer population in their region. They have served as trusted messenger and key resource for immigrants and refugees in Lancaster and Palmdale and have operated a local ICE rapid response network, deploying staff to reported incidents of ICE activity. SALVA also has been serving as a hub for immigration support services, providing legal referrals and visa and immigration applicant support services in a region with minimal support service infrastructure.

Garment Worker Center

Garment Worker Center works to uplift the power of garment workers to transform the fashion industry in Los Angeles. They work at the intersection of immigrant and labor rights and seek to ensure that immigrant workers are protected, have access to safe working conditions and livable wages. GWC supports their member base by working in partnership and coalition with other local agencies to ensure members are connected to immigration support resources. In direct response to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement actions in Los Angeles, they are elevating confirmed cases of seizure and detention of garment workers. They have identified individuals and families within their member base who have been detained. They launched <u>a fund</u> to provide bond relief for the 14 detained members to facilitate their immediate release.

Instituto de Educación Popular del Sur de California (IDEPSCA)

IDEPSCA utilizes a popular education framework to organize, mobilize, and empower disenfranchised communities through its programming and advocacy. IDEPSCA especially works to support day laborers and domestic workers through their Day Laborer Program, Mujeres en Accion and Worker's Health Program. Their programs seek to provide resources, information and advocacy for workers both in and outside of the workplace to ensure equitable, safe and just environments. During this time of heighten targeting of their core member demographic, they have been working to elevate information about Immigration Customs and Enforcement visits on their social media networks, providing resources to immigrant populations about their civil rights and advocating for members of their organization who have specifically been detained. They have been actively advocating for local municipalities to provide protection for day laborer centers around the County and activating their member base to reach out to their local elected officials.

TODEC

TODEC, based in the Inland Empire region of Southern California, works to ensure that immigrant communities can thrive economically, educationally, and socially. The organization provides immigration legal services and serves as a key advocacy, organizing, and communications hub for the region. While TODEC supports a range of intersectional and cross-cutting policy issues, immigration reform and protection remain central to its mission. As many immigrants from Los Angeles County have moved to Riverside and San Bernardino counties in search of affordability and opportunity, TODEC plays a significant role in supporting these communities with critical support. In a region with limited community-based infrastructure, TODEC is a trusted institution providing essential education and outreach, including Know Your Rights workshops. The organization also operates a 24-hour hotline to ensure that community members have access to urgent information and support at any time.

Al Otro Lado

Al Otro Lado provides direct cross-border legal support services to refugees, immigrants and deportees in both the United States and in the Tijuana area. Al Otro Lado approaches their work with a trauma informed lens, recognizing the mental and emotional impact that immigrants face as they navigate a convoluted legal system, inhumane detention facilities and enforcement practices. They provide direct legal support services to immigrants facing detention and deportation orders. They have also worked to engage in litigation to protect the civil and human rights of immigrants and are advocates for just immigration reform policies. While they work bi-nationally, they also have working operations in Los Angeles, given its high concentration of immigrant population and border proximity.

LA Voice

LA Voice is an inter-faith organization seeking to bring together a diverse, multi-racial constituency of organizations to advocate for social justice with focus on organizing around civic engagement, immigration and citizenship issues, criminal justice reform and housing justice in Los Angeles County. LA Voice operates across all five of the Los Angeles County districts and convenes PICO California, a network of faith-based partners who organize equity and justice. LA Voice operates a rapid response network to support families under the threat of deportation. They have been staunch advocates for immigration reform policies, elevating the need for more equitable pathways to citizenship and work to uplift the voice of Los Angeles' immigrant population. They have been activating their member base of inter-faith congregations to join protests, host prayer vigils and denounce the illegal seizure and arrest of immigrants across Los Angeles County.

CARECEN

The Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) empowers Central Americans and all immigrants by defending human and civil rights, working to transform immigration and education policy, and

fostering leadership and civic engagement to build a more just society. CARECEN provides immigration legal support services to individuals seeking to apply for visa, asylum, deportation defense, citizenship applications, family reunification petitions etc. They also operate a day laborer center in Los Angeles County connecting employers with day laborers and providing necessary worker protections for the primarily immigrant day laborer population. CARECEN has been actively producing Know Your Rights resources in both English and Spanish and elevating the ICE Rapid Response Network contact hotline in Los Angeles, sharing these resources and information across multiple social media platforms. Their legal defense team has been on the frontline of protecting unlawfully detained immigrants in response to the recent ICE raids, seeking to gain entry to detention facilities to connect with clients.

National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON)

NDLON partners with frontline organizations to support day laborers and low-wage immigrant workers by strengthening their organizing efforts, leading strategic campaigns, and advancing policies that uphold labor rights, immigrant justice, and racial equity. NDLON worked quickly to mobilize members and partners organization to protest the presence of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in Los Angeles and has been actively generating and elevating media to keep members and the community informed about ICE activity and about their rights. They have been working to provide resources in both English and Spanish to keep community informed and activated. While they work nationally, their Los Angeles County presence has allowed them to be deeply engaged and connected to the impact of ICE activity in Los Angeles. They have been instrumental in elevating and advocating for pieces of policy reform to protect immigrant rights and civil liberties including challenges to policies that made possible municipal enforcement's cross sharing of biometric data with the Departments of Homeland Security. They launched a legal defense fund to support organizing and advocacy as well as direct legal representation for day laborers who have been arrested and detained.

Organizando Arraigados en la Abolición, Liberación, y Empoderamiento (ORALE)

ORALE is a grassroots organization led by and for undocumented individuals in Long Beach, organizing to dismantle systems of incarceration and deportation through community-driven abolitionist strategies that center healing, liberation, and empowerment. ORALE is organizing intergenerational immigrant members to advocate for immigration justice and legal reforms. They have mobilized deportation defense campaigns for community members and worked to connect individuals with the Long Beach Justice Fund to support resources for deportation defense. Beyond that, they have approached their work with a holistic framework, seeking to center healing and wellness for their members, utilizing art practice to preserve culture and oral histories. Finally, they are committed to power building and training through their Escuela De Liderazgo Comunitario, where they train members on organizing principles, contributing to their commitment to advance an immigrant-led movement.

Pomona Economic Opportunity Center

PEOC is an immigrant-led day laborer center with a commitment to grassroots organizing models. They seek to empower immigrant populations in the Pomona area to advocate for immigrant and economic justice reforms. PEOC offers citizenship and immigrant support services for those seeking to apply for naturalization and visas. They also host Know Your Rights workshops in the greater Pomona region. PECO has been mobilizing and responding to reports of ICE activity in the Pomona area and advocating to the city for additional immigrant protections. They have mobilized in conjunction with the Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice, Gente Organizada and San Bernardino Community Services Center to <u>raise funds</u> to sustain their rapid response network and to provide legal defense and bond funds for four day-laborers identified in within their community who are currently in detention.

Gente Organizada

Gente Organizada has been organizing youth and parents in Pomona since 2014, being a youth-led and parent led organization focused on the supporting the immigrant and Spanish speaking population of Pomona. Gente Organizada has been part of the local rapid response network to ICE raids and activity in their region, has supported young people and their member bases in organizing and speaking out against the unlawful apprehension and detention of immigrants. They host parent and youth organizing programs that seek to mobilize and activate their members to be advocates for social justice in their communities. They have been instrumental in producing and sharing information for the residents of Pomona about their constitutional and civil rights and are working in coalition with partners in their region to raise funds to support their on-going mobilizations and the deportation defense of community members.

Clean Carwash Worker Center

Clean Carwash Worker Center works to empower and organize carwash workers to advocate for safe and just work environments, adequate wages and provide skills and training support for workers to improve economic mobility. They have been implementing a Worker Outreach Program (CWOP) through partnership with CA's Department of Industrial Relations, which has helped reach countless workers with critical workplace rights. They work to provide timely and accurate information to both employers and workers to stay in compliance with workplace health and safety standards. At this time, they have been activated and mobilize their worker and employer networks to be vocal about how to protect immigrant workers. They have been working in coalition with partner organizations to elevate Know Your Rights information to carwash employees and sharing information regarding ICE activity at local employers across Los Angeles.