

#PROTECTIMMIGRANTS

June 18-21 Days Of Action

COVID-19 continues to present a looming disaster in immigration detention. Currently, tens of thousands of people, including thousands of asylum-seekers and over a hundred families, are stranded in tinderbox-like conditions in detention facilities operated by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), where physical distancing is impossible, and soap and sanitizer come at a steep premium.

All people should have the same access to care and safety - and immigrants and asylum-seekers must not be treated as an afterthought.

COVID-19 remains a potent threat to people in immigration detention, with rapidly increasing numbers of immigrants and asylum-seekers as well as facility staff testing positive for the coronavirus. Meanwhile, ICE continues to obfuscate the number of people tested, the number of confirmed cases, and the protocols it claims to be following to protect people under its care and custody. [Public health experts predict](#) that, unless ICE drastically reduces the numbers of detained immigrants in its care, anywhere from 72 percent to nearly 100 percent of detainees could contract COVID-19, endangering detainees and overwhelming hospital capacity.

The continued detention of immigrants and asylum-seekers in the U.S. during a deadly pandemic is a human rights crisis. Even before COVID-19, the arbitrary detention of immigrants and asylum-seekers in inadequate conditions with negligent medical care violated human rights and caused untold human suffering. ICE has a well-documented history of medical abuse and neglect. Since the onset of the pandemic, ICE facilities have failed to provide detainees with sufficient soap and sanitizer, neglected to facilitate physical distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within crowded facilities, and continued to transfer detainees between facilities at grave risk to their health. Individuals in detention have tragically died of COVID-19 complications.

As our country grapples with its deep-seated racial discrimination, over-policing, and state-sponsored killings of Black people, it's critical to highlight that the immigration detention system, too, harms and punishes Black and brown immigrants disproportionately – and that the immigration and criminal detention systems are similarly rooted in racism.

From June 18 through 21, activists across the country are increasing the pressure on ICE to act. As states address the public health and humanitarian challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, ICE and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) must release immigrants and asylum-seekers in detention. Governors and other state and local officials must urge ICE to immediately and substantially reduce occupancy in their states' facilities that detain immigrants and asylum-seekers, in the name of human rights, civil rights and social justice, and public health.

- **Thursday-Friday, June 18-19, marking Juneteenth:** Days of listening, learning, action and solidarity
- **Saturday, June 20, World Refugee Day:** Day of community-building and solidarity with people seeking safety
- **Sunday, June 21, Father's Day:** Day of writing

Activists are encouraged to engage in:

- **Learning:** Webinars and virtual discussions, reports and explainers, and interactive tools
- **Taking action:** Email, call, and write
- **Raising awareness:** In communities and on social media with #ProtectImmigrants

Note: Actions and resources in this toolkit are NOT exclusive to organizations participating in the Days of Action. This toolkit seeks to uplift and amplify work being led across the country.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18 – FRIDAY, JUNE 19
Days of listening, learning, action & solidarity

LEARN MORE

Webinars

Reenvisioning and Rebuilding the Immigration Justice Movement:

A Guided Discussion about Anti-Blackness in the Immigrants' Rights Movement through a Policy and Practice Perspective

Friday, June 19th | 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ET

Hosted by the Haitian Bridge Alliance, Immigration Hub, and Amnesty International USA

Moderator: Janvieve Williams Comrie, Executive Director of AfroResistance

Guerline Jozef, President of the Haitian Bridge Alliance (HBA), also known as "The Bridge"

Fatou-Seydi Sarr, Founder and Executive Director of the African Bureau for Immigration and Social Affairs (ABISA)

Ola Osaze, Project Director, Black LGBTQ+ Migrant Project (BLMP) – a project of Transgender Law Center

Opal Tometi, Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter and former Executive Director of the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI)

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ILRC: Make Your Voice Heard: Resources for Non-Citizen Protesters

Join us this Thursday for this free webinar for noncitizen protesters! This webinar will be CA-focused and will feature speakers from the Undocublack Network, the ACLU, and the ILRC.

Overview

At this critical time when hundreds of thousands of people are taking to the streets to affirm that Black Lives Matter, the right to join in any type of protest is critical to a functioning democracy. Whether you are calling out institutional racism, police brutality, or ICE, this webinar will provide special considerations for noncitizens thinking about participating in protests. In particular, we will provide information on best practices for noncitizen protesters, potential immigration consequences stemming from a criminal arrest or charges, and how immigrant rights work intersects with the Black Lives Matter movement.

Details

Thursday, June 18, 2020

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Pacific Daylight Time

[Registration Deadline](#): Thursday, June 18, 2020

MCLE is NOT being offered for this webinar.

Presenters

[Grisel Ruiz](#), Supervising Attorney, ILRC

[Luis Ojeda](#), Regional Organizing and Program Manager, ACLU of Northern California

[Maria Romani](#), Immigrants' Rights Policy Attorney, ACLU of Northern California

[Andrés Kwon](#), Policy Counsel and Senior Organizer, ACLU of Southern California

[Kai Martin](#), DMV Chapter Member, Undocublack Network

Celebrating World Refugee Day – [Film Screening & Live Q&A on "Little Rebel"](#)

Thursday, June 18th 5pm - 6pm PST

Register [here](#) for the webinar

[Little Rebel](#) follows the extraordinary story of Isatou Jallow – a remarkable West African woman from The Gambia, and now Seattle resident. Since seeking asylum in the USA (2012), Isatou has pursued graduate degrees at the University Washington/UW Law School while she continuously advocates for women, asylees/ refugees and people with disabilities. Isatou is currently a Fulbright Scholar and working towards her PHD at the University of Washington.

Info session and live Q&A includes guest speakers Isatou Jallow, Aimie Vallat (Film Director), Denise Bell (Amnesty Researcher on Refugees and Migrant Rights), and Leno Rose-Avila (human rights activist)

Interactive Tools

Human Rights First (HRF) & Harvard College Data Analytics Group

[Detained in Danger: The COVID-19 Pandemic Inside ICE Facilities](#)

Freedom for Immigrants

[COVID-19 Detention Hotline & Immigration Detention Map](#)

Center For Migration Studies

[COVID-19 Migration-Related Developments](#)

Government Accountability Project

[Modeling COVID-19 and impacts on ICE detention facilities](#)

Videos

Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES)

[Detained with COVID-19](#)

[Lawyers talk about conditions in detention with COVID-19](#)

[COVID-19 Hits Detention](#)

[Two Fathers Trapped in Detention during COVID-19](#)

[Family Separation 2.0](#)

Physicians for Human Rights (PHR)

[COVID-19 Threats to Detention Center/Prison Populations](#)

Fordham Law School Feerick Center & Immigration Advocacy Project

[The Fight to Defend the Health and Safety of ICE Detainees: Litigation, Organizing, and Advocacy](#)

Explainers, Blogs & Fact Sheets

[Alternatives to Detention & COVID-19](#)

HRF

[Immigration Detention and COVID-19 Timeline: Administration Fails to Heed Warnings, Worsens Spread of Coronavirus](#)

Oxfam America

[Supporting undocumented communities amid the COVID-19 pandemic & 5 ways President Trump's xenophobic agenda has accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

[Ending 287\(g\) Nationwide](#)

Reports

Amnesty International USA "AIUSA"

['We are adrift, about to sink': The Looming COVID-19 Disaster in United States Immigration Detention Facilities](#)

[Family Separation 2.0: "You aren't going to separate me from my only child"](#)

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

[Averting an Imminent Catastrophe: Recommendations to US Local, State and Federal Officials to Covid-19 in Jails and Prisons](#)

Women's Refugee Commission (WRC), Freedom for Immigrants & PHR

[Recommendations for Safe Release Procedures from Immigration Detention During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

[Flattening the Curve: Why Reducing Jail Populations is Key to Beating COVID-19](#)

ACLU, HRW & National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC)

[Justice-Free Zones: U.S. Immigration Detention Under the Trump Administration](#)

American Immigration Council

[The Impact of COVID-19 on Noncitizens and Across the U.S. Immigration System](#)

Center for American Progress

[Data on the Coronavirus Outbreak in Immigration Detention Offer More Questions than Answers](#)

Detention Watch Network

[Courting Catastrophe: How ICE is Gambling with Immigrant Lives Amid a Global Pandemic](#)

Government Accountability Project

[Modeling COVID-19 and impacts on ICE detention facilities](#)

Witness at the Border

[ICE Air Exporting COVID: Analysis of the 300 ICE Air 2020 Deportation Flights and Activity Pre/Early COVID \(Jan/Feb\) compared to In-COVID \(March/April\)](#)

[ICE Air: 1,677 Flights While Covid-19 Rages](#)

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SIGN ACTIONS IN YOUR STATE



California

HRF

[Call on CA Governor Newsom to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

AIUSA

[Call on CA Governor Newsom to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Oxfam America

[Call on CA Governor Newsom to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Louisiana

HRF

[Call on LA Governor Newsom to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

AIUSA

[Call on LA Governor Newsom to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

New Jersey

HRF

[Call on NJ Governor Murphy to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

AIUSA

[Call on NJ Governor Murphy to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Oxfam America

[Call on NJ Governor Murphy to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Pennsylvania

HRF

[Call on PA Governor Wolf to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

AIUSA

[Call on PA Governor Wolf to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Texas

RAICES

[Call on Texas Governor Abbott to #FreeThemAll](#)

[Unmask Hate: Social Media Toolkit](#)

AIUSA

[Call on TX Governor Abbott to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Washington

HRF

[Call on WA Governor Inslee to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

AIUSA

[Call on WA Governor Inslee to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

Oxfam America

[Call on WA Governor Inslee to Urge ICE to Free Detained Immigrants & Asylum-Seekers](#)

This is just a fraction of the state-level actions you can take on immigration detention. There are many more actions being driven across U.S. states.

ACTIONS TO TAKE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

The Movement for Black Lives (M4BL)
[Juneteenth Days of Actions](#)

RAICES

(SIGN) [Tell ICE to Release All Immigrants at Risk of Coronavirus](#)

(SIGN) [Tell DHS: End family detention once and for all](#)

AIUSA

(SIGN) [Protect Immigrants and Asylum-Seekers in ICE Detention from the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

(SIGN) [Free Families in ICE Detention and Protect Them During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

(CALL-IN) [Call to Free All families From ICE Detention](#)

(SIGN) [Tell ICE to Free Kelly, A Trans Asylum Seeker in Detention For Over 2.5 Years](#)

TransLatin@ Coalition, NIJC & AIUSA

(EMAIL) [#FreeKelly: Trans Asylum Seeker In Detention For 900+ Days Congressional Outreach Packet](#)

(SIGN) [Tell ICE to #FreeKelly!](#)

AIUSA

(WRITE) [Send a Solidarity Letter to Kelly](#)

(LOBBY) [Call On Congress: Free Detained Immigrants. Support the FIRST Act Now!](#)

(SPONSOR) [Guide to Community Sponsorship](#)

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**PROTECT
IMMIGRANTS
FROM COVID-19.
RELEASE THEM
FROM DETENTION NOW.**

Oxfam America

[DHS: Release Immigrants and Asylum Seekers from ICE Detention Centers to Prevent Outbreaks of COVID-19](#)

FWD.us & Families Belong Together (FBT)

[#PowerOfAFathersLove](#) &
[Social Media Toolkit](#)

FWD.us

[I Stand With Immigrants Initiative: I Am An Immigrant Campaign](#) & [Social Media Toolkit](#)

RCUSA

[World Refugee Day 2020 Toolkit: Celebrating, Protecting, and Standing in Solidarity With Refugees](#) & [Social Media Toolkit](#)

We Are All America

(JOIN EVENTS) [WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2020](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

graphics & samples to promote digital action

GRAPHICS ARE AVAILABLE AT THIS LINK.

- We don't think immigrants and asylum-seekers should be locked up and at extreme risk of COVID-19 just for seeking safety in the US, do you @ICEgov & [your governor's handle]? #ProtectImmigrants
- No one should be locked up solely for seeking safety in the US, let alone during a global health crisis. @ICEgov must release immigrants and asylum seekers from detention now! #ProtectImmigrants
- 72%-100% of people in many ICE facilities could contract COVID-19 in three months. That's unacceptable. @ICEgov must free people and all families in immigration detention and protect them from COVID-19. #ProtectImmigrants
- Governors must help protect immigrants and asylum-seekers from COVID-19 and urge ICE to release them from detention now. #ProtectImmigrants Sign the petition today >>> [share governor action link]
- States must call on ICE to release all immigrants and asylum-seekers who are detained solely because of their immigration status. #ProtectImmigrants Take action to make this happen >>> [share governor action link]
- Tell governors across the country that nobody should be locked up solely for seeking safety in the US, especially during a global health crisis. ICE must release people from immigration detention now. #ProtectImmigrants [share governor action link]
- Rooted in racism, the US immigration detention disproportionately harms and punishes Black and Brown immigrants and asylum-seekers, and continued detention during the COVID-19 pandemic places

their health and lives in acute danger. ICE must free people from detention now #ProtectImmigrants >>> [share ICE action]

- ❌ Medical care
❌ Basic hygiene
❌ Physical distancing
ICE facilities lack the resources necessary to protect immigrants and asylum-seekers from COVID-19. They must be released to protect public health. #ProtectImmigrants [share ICE action link]
- Immigration detention is a public health crisis for all of us. We can fix this. Are you with us? #ProtectImmigrants [share ICE action link]
- Stop the spread of COVID-19. Tell ICE to free detained immigrants and asylum-seekers immediately. #ProtectImmigrants Take action now >>> [share ICE action link]
- THREAD: Approximately 25,000 immigrants & asylum seekers across the US are being held in immigration detention facilities where social distancing is impossible and basic hygiene items are severely limited.

As more and more people - both those detained & facility workers - test positive for COVID-19, the risk of major outbreaks is high - putting the wellbeing of detained immigrants and asylum-seekers, detention facility workers, and local communities at risk.

Since May, people have tragically died in ICE custody due to COVID-19 complications. We cannot allow more lives to be lost. Tell @DHS_Wolf and @ICEgov to urgently release immigrants & asylum seekers from detention facilities back to their families & communities. #ProtectImmigrants [share DHS action link]

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

Day of community-building & solidarity with people seeking safety

This World Refugee Day, show solidarity and support in your community with people around the world and in the U.S. who are seeking safety - celebrating their courage and resilience, and recognizing the hardships they face as they seek to rebuild their lives in new homes.

Demonstrate your support

Get creative and decorate your door, your car, your bicycle, design a window poster or yard sign, drop a banner, or chalk your sidewalk with messages of solidarity with refugees, asylum-seekers and immigrants, and call on the U.S. government to free individuals and families held in immigration detention.

Consider sample messages

- I stand with immigrants & people seeking safety
- Refugees & immigrants are welcome here
- Safety and freedom for refugees, immigrants & asylum-seekers

Share on social media

Take a photo or video of how you're building awareness and showing solidarity in your community, and post it on social media.

Use the hashtags:

- #ProtectImmigrants
- #DefendBlackLives
- #RefugeesSaveLives
- #RefugeesForBlackLives
- #40YearsOfWelcome
- #WRD2020

Social sample:

This #WRD2020 marks #40YearsOfWelcome. Refugees, immigrants & asylum-seekers deserve safety and freedom. #ProtectImmigrants now [\[share action link\]](#)

Celebrate welcome

We Are All America

Saturday, June 20, 2020 is World Refugee Day, the time of year when we honor the courage and resilience of refugees--recognizing the hardships they have faced, the new lives they have created, and the positive impact they have on our communities. Even in the midst of a global pandemic, communities are still finding ways to celebrate! National events can be found in Washington, DC. [Map of events.](#)

World Refugee Day Music Festival Online

Join us online this year to celebrate our 4th World Refugee Day Festival! [A FREE community celebration](#) of the immigrant and refugee communities through music, theater, and art. The June 20 event will be shown online free for everyone through [Facebook Live](#).

Each year our partnerships grow, this year they include:

American Red Cross | Artistic Freedom Initiative | Business Center for New Americans | Catholic Charities of NY | CAMBA | HIAS | International Rescue Committee (IRC) | Libertas Center for Human Rights | Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs | Park Slope Parents | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) | Welcome Home Jersey City

The event will feature musicians and artists from Syria, West Africa, Colombia, Venezuela, Cuba, and all over the world--many of whom are revitalizing their artistic lives after resettling here in the U.S.--performing both traditional and contemporary acts.

World Refugee Day 2020 performers include:

Dramane Ziba | Khuent Rose | Samer Ali and the Takht al-Naghham Ensemble | Dixon Place and National Queer Theater | Children's Museum of Art Craft Instructors | Jei Fabiano | Lauren Olivarez | and more to follow!

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Celebrate welcome

World Refugee Day Car Rally Protest at Karnes Family Detention Center

On this World Refugee Day, June 20, 2020, [Please join](#) Sueños Sin Fronteras and TRAIN (Texas Refugee and Immigrant Network) in solidarity with people detained across the US in a COVID-safe car-only rally at the Karnes County Family Detention Center in Karnes City, TX. We will meet at the Karnes City Lodge parking lot (309 US-181, Karnes City, TX 78118) and then will caravan to the detention center. From there, we will drive up and down the road in front of the detention center, honking and showing support and solidarity for people inside while honoring refugees worldwide.

[AIUSA Guide to Community Sponsorship](#)

First Friends Celebrates World Refugee Day Webinar

Join First Friends of NJ & NY Saturday, June 20th at 7:00 PM to learn the why, the wait, and the worry faced by our refugee sisters and brothers when they must start a new life.

Register [here](#) for our webinar featuring:

Alison Millan, Deputy Director, International Rescue Committee

Mike McLean, First Friends' volunteer

Questions & Answers

[RCUSA World Refugee Day 2020 Toolkit: Celebrating, Protecting, and Standing in Solidarity With Refugees & Social Media Toolkit](#)

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Day of writing

This Father's Day, write cards and letters to ICE Acting Director Matt Albence, local ICE field offices in your state, DHS Acting Secretary Wolf, and to your state governor calling for the release of immigrants and asylum-seekers from immigration detention.

Tens of thousands of individuals continue to be needlessly detained by ICE during a global health pandemic, including fathers forced to flee their home countries because their lives were in danger. Instead of prioritizing their health and releasing them so these fathers can be safe and with their family and community members in the U.S., ICE continues to hold them in detention. ICE must release people held in immigration detention, and governors must reach out to ICE on behalf of detained individuals and urge ICE to release immigrants and asylum-seekers detained in their state.

Consider sample messages

- This Father's Day, I'm writing to remind you of your responsibility for the health and safety of the fathers, families and individuals in your custody and care/state.
- I urge you to immediately release immigrants and asylum-seekers detained in ICE detention facilities, and families must be released together.
- Detained fathers and individuals should be safe and free with their children, families, and community members in the U.S.

Write cards and letters by hand, or make one virtually! [Check out this virtual template.](#)

Mail out

ICE Leadership

Acting Director Matthew Albence
U.S. Immigration and Customs
Enforcement
500 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

DHS Leadership

Acting Secretary Chad Wolf
U.S. Department of Homeland
Security
301 7th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Governors

<https://www.nga.org/governors/addresses>

ICE Local Field Offices

<https://www.ice.gov/contact/ero>

Share on social media

Take a photo of you with your card or letter, and post it on social media.

Use the hashtags:

- #ProtectImmigrants
- #PowerOfAFathersLove
- #CommunitiesNotCages

Social sample:

This #FathersDay is a reminder to #ProtectImmigrants and of the #PowerOfAFathersLove. Fathers and individuals are needlessly locked up by @ICEgov in detention when they should be safe and free with their families & communities in the U.S. #CommunitiesNotCages [share action link]

Continue to send cards/letters to ICE and governors and share on social through the rest of the month.

Celebrate & advocate for fathers

Make sure to check out these resources, campaigns and actions:

RAICES videos and action

[Two Fathers Trapped in Detention during COVID-19](#)

[Family Separation 2.0](#)

[Tell DHS: End family detention once and for all](#)

FWD.us & FBT campaign
[#PowerOfAFathersLove](#) &
[Social Media Toolkit](#)

AIUSA report and actions

[Family Separation 2.0: "You aren't going to separate me from my only child"](#)

[Free Families in ICE Detention and Protect Them During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[Call to Free All families From ICE Detention](#)

Don't Separate Families facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/408545369626373>

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