

# STANDING WITH IMMIGRANTS: HOW YOU CAN TAKE ACTION



## A GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY ALLIES OF THE LOUISIANA ORGANIZATION FOR REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS (LORI)

The immigrant community is under attack. With a surge of anti-immigrant bills, policies, and executive orders threatening the rights, safety, and dignity of our neighbors, now is the time for action. Uncertainty cannot lead to inaction. Our strength lies in solidarity, and every voice counts. Here's how you can stand with immigrants and help protect our communities.

### 1

Speak Out & Amplify the Truth

- **Challenge Misinformation:** Call out harmful rhetoric and share fact-based narratives about the contributions and rights of immigrants.
- **Use Your Platforms:** Share immigrant stories, advocacy efforts, and urgent calls to action on social media, in workplaces, and at community gatherings.
- **Engage the Media:** Write letters to the editor, call into radio shows, and support media outlets that amplify immigrant voices.

### 2

Show Up & Mobilize

- **Attend Rallies & Events:** Stand in solidarity at protests, town halls, and community meetings. Numbers matter.
- **Be a Witness:** If you see immigration enforcement actions or racial profiling, document what you observe and share responsibly with advocacy organizations.
- **Volunteer with LORI:** Offer your time to help with community outreach, legal clinics, or direct support services.

### 3

Advocate for Policy Change

- **Call & Email Legislators:** Demand that local, state, and federal representatives reject anti-immigrant policies and support protections for immigrant communities.
- **Engage Your Faith & Civic Groups:** Urge your churches, unions, and professional organizations to take a stand and issue public statements of support.
- **Push for Local Protections:** Advocate for city and state policies that prevent collaboration with ICE and uphold immigrant rights.

## Be a Safe Ally & Community Defender

**Know Your Rights & Share Them**

Educate yourself and others on immigrant rights and what to do in case of an ICE encounter.

**Create Safe Spaces:**

Offer sanctuary, legal resources, and emotional support to those impacted.

**Check in on Your Neighbors**

Fear and uncertainty isolate communities—your support can make all the difference.

## Support Immigrant-Led Organizations

- **Donate:** Provide financial support to organizations like LORI that are on the frontlines of advocacy, legal aid, and community defense.
- **Offer Resources:** Connect immigrants to housing, employment opportunities, legal aid, and emergency assistance.



# Serving the *community* As an Ally

As a U.S. citizen, you have rights and privileges that allow you to take action in ways that immigrants—especially those who are undocumented or have uncertain status—may not be able to. Here's how you can legally stand up for your immigrant neighbors and protect their rights.

## Know & Assert Your Rights as a U.S. Citizen

- ✓ You have the right to record and observe ICE actions.
- If you witness an immigration raid or enforcement action, you can legally record as long as you do not interfere.
- If you see someone being stopped or detained by ICE, ask if they need help and if they want you to document what's happening.
- Share any evidence with advocacy organizations, not social media, to prevent retaliation against the person detained.
- ✓ You do NOT have to answer ICE's questions.
- If approached by ICE, you are not required to provide information about others.
- Do not sign any documents on behalf of an immigrant unless reviewed by a lawyer.
- ✓ You can enter government buildings that immigrants may avoid.
- Accompany immigrants to courthouses, city halls, or other locations where they may feel unsafe.
- Serve as a "court support" witness if an immigrant is attending a legal proceeding.

## Help Stop Unlawful Detentions & Raids

- ✓ ICE must have a valid warrant signed by a judge to enter a home.
- Do not let ICE in unless they show a judicial warrant (NOT an administrative ICE warrant).
- You can educate immigrants to not open the door and instead demand to see a warrant slid under the door.
- If ICE enters unlawfully, document it and report to legal aid groups.
- ✓ Inform local authorities about their legal right NOT to cooperate with ICE.
- Many local law enforcement agencies do not have to comply with ICE detainers, which are requests and not legally binding.
- Urge city officials to adopt "sanctuary" policies that prevent local resources from being used for immigration enforcement.
- ✓ Monitor ICE activity and report abuses.
- If ICE is conducting raids, document locations and report to immigrant rights groups.
- Do not spread unverified information, as false alarms can create panic.



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## Assist with Legal & Emergency Support

- ✓ Be a legal observer at immigration court hearings.
  - U.S. citizens can attend court hearings to show support and hold the system accountable.
  - ✓ Help immigrants prepare emergency legal plans.
- Assist with power of attorney documents for childcare and financial decisions in case of deportation.
- Connect immigrants with trusted immigration attorneys (never "notarios" who pose as lawyers).
  - ✓ Provide transportation to legal or medical appointments.
- Immigrants may be afraid to drive due to the risk of being stopped and questioned about their status.
  - ✓ Help translate and fill out paperwork.
- Many legal forms and applications are in English, and a citizen's assistance can be critical.

## Push for Pro-Immigrant Policies & Hold Officials Accountable

- ✓ Call your elected officials and demand action.
  - Urge them to oppose anti-immigrant bills and support protections like DACA and asylum rights.
  - Ask your mayor, governor, and sheriff to refuse cooperation with ICE.
    - ✓ File complaints against officials violating immigrants' rights.
  - If you witness unlawful profiling, racial discrimination, or abuse, file a complaint with the appropriate oversight agencies.
    - ✓ Support lawsuits challenging anti-immigrant policies.
- Many legal organizations challenge harmful laws—your advocacy and donations can strengthen these efforts.

## Be a Trusted Ally & Community Defender

- ✓ Know your rights AND share them.
  - Carry Know Your Rights cards and distribute them to immigrants in your community.
    - ✓ Offer to be an emergency contact for undocumented neighbors.
  - In case of detention, immigrants need someone they trust to handle their affairs.
    - ✓ Ensure immigrants know their rights in the workplace.
- Employers cannot retaliate against immigrant workers who demand fair wages or report unsafe conditions.
  - ✓ Create Safe Spaces.
- Churches, schools, and businesses can declare themselves "sanctuary spaces" and refuse to cooperate with immigration enforcement.

\* Take Action Now →

**Speak up. Show up. Step in.**  
**U.S. citizens have unique legal protections that allow them to stand in the gap for immigrants in ways that others cannot. Use your voice, your rights, and your resources to fight back against anti-immigrant attacks and keep our communities safe.**