

ORGANIZER BRIEF:

ASKS TO GOVERNMENT & ALLIES TO STRENGTHEN PROTECTIONS FOR IMMIGRANT WORKERS

In a matter of weeks, the new administration has authorized numerous executive orders, administrative rulings, and agency actions targeting immigrants and those working in solidarity with them. Mass deportations, detention, and raids are creating fear in immigrant communities across the country. This checklist includes key demands immigrant workers, organizers and advocates can make of elected officials, government entities and other allies as part of a collective response to the attacks on immigrant workers.

This is a crowd-sourced checklist! Please share other demands you have made and/or effective strategies you have seen in your community by emailing cynthia.ward@rutgers.edu.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

- **Be present at raids and document what you see:**
 - Get connected to your community's rapid response network/s.
 - Be present at the scene of a raid.
 - Document: what happens during the raid, who is carrying it out, how many people are detained, and any information about those detained that you can obtain at the scene.
- **Liaise with the consulate:**
 - Have a point of contact at relevant consulates and develop a process for sharing info.

- Contact the relevant consulate after a raid to get the names and A-numbers of anyone detained.
- Share information with families and advocates, as appropriate.
- **Be a strong messenger:**
 - Hold a press conference or issue a statement after a raid outlining any violations of constitutional or other rights that occurred.
 - Provide Know Your Rights (KYR) information and messaging to immigrant communities, including on sanctuary promises laws, workplace protections, policies on info-sharing with the feds, etc.
 - Provide info to employers on [illegal search and seizures](#) and what [they can do if ICE arrives at their place of business](#).
- **Engage state and local agencies with training and public messaging**
 - Produce and widely disseminate agency specific trainings and memos.
 - Expand public messaging by using agency attributes on key documents, e.g. KYR posters on public transit, etc.
 - Provide Immigration Support at Airports, e.g. set aside space (office/storage) and parking spots for immigration legal services providers to support immigrants.
- **Collaborate with other government officials**
 - Connect and collaborate with other government officials (more people making waves increases the more likelihood of getting media attention).
 - Contact allies in the U.S. Senate and House after a raid, tell them what you saw, and ask that they demand accountability from DHS.
- **Support state and local budget line items for immigrant worker defense**
 - Provide resources for KYR programs.
 - Provide resources for legal defense & deportation defense funds.
 - Provide funding for Legal Services to put towards helping people learn how to represent themselves in immigration court, in light of the administration's attempt to freeze those services.
 - Appropriate resources to strengthen state and local labor agencies, including funding co-enforcement efforts.
 - Create a comprehensive "Know Your Rights" campaign to inform residents about immigration protections, nondiscrimination policies, and any other local and state protections.
 - City officials should sponsor and support any state legislation that would increase funding for deportation defense.
- **Support legislative agenda strengthening state and local immigrant support and protections.**

- Examples of such legislation and proposals include:
 - California's law [CA AB450](#) that provides protections during workplace raids.
 - Advocates in NY are pressing their delegation for this [legislative agenda](#).
 - Advocates in NJ are working for the [Immigrant Trust Act](#).
 - LA City Council members recently proposed several initiatives including [Workplace Enforcement](#): Explore having businesses report ICE enforcement actions, such as raids and I-9 audits to the City, as well as expanding immigrant rights information for workers.
- Other ideas include legislation preventing abuse of the Laken Riley Act.
- **Collaborate with worker centers & other non-profits**
 - Share Know Your Rights toolkits and other resources produced by worker centers on your website.
 - Refer workers who reach out to your office to worker centers.

BUSINESS

- Train managers on worker rights & best practice procedures during an ICE raid ([Sample flyer](#)).
- Adopt best practices for workplace raids (e.g. [Employers Workplace raids toolkit](#)).

LABOR

- Use your influence to engage elected officials in pro-active raid response.
- Include KYR trainings in steward trainings.
- Include protections for immigrant workers in your bargaining language.
 - Labor Notes article [here](#)
 - AFL-CIO Memo [here](#)
- Become a Sanctuary Union.
 - ARISE webinar slides [here](#)
- Engage members in community defense, e.g. setting up a 'fight back' workgroup.
- Provide trauma-informed training and mental health support to those on the front lines working with immigrants.

ATTORNEY GENERAL & POLICE

- Issue directives on immigrant state and local law enforcement procedures, e.g. [NJ Immigrant Trust Directive](#).
- Train officers on potential retaliatory abuse of Laken Riley Act.

COUNSULATES

- **Provide One-Stop Shop Resources**
 - Central source of information and referrals.
 - Common in places with few civil society resources.
 - Examples in Omaha, Atlanta, and Raleigh,
- **Participate in Direct Defense**
 - Be present at raids.
 - Intervene via direct diplomacy.
 - Liaise with elected officials.
 - Examples in NYC, Dallas, Chicago, Houston, and Milwaukee.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

- Fund deportation defense funds.
- Fund stipends to fund ICE Raid Hotlines.
- Fund co-enforcement organizing groups.

COMMENTS IN CHAT (intergrated above)

Edward Ortiz

Know Your Rights: Calls for a comprehensive "Know Your Rights" campaign to inform LA residents about immigration protections, nondiscrimination policies, and the City's Sanctuary Ordinance using City facilities and community partnerships.

Workplace Enforcement: Explores having businesses report ICE enforcement actions, such as raids and I-9 audits to the City, as well as expanding immigrant rights information for workers.

Funding for Legal Services: Looks for funds to put towards helping people learn how to represent themselves in immigration court, in light of the Trump's attempt to freeze those services.

Immigration Support at LAX: Asks LAX to set aside space (office/storage) and parking spots for immigration legal services providers to support immigrants.

Support for State Legislation: Calls for the City of Los Angeles to officially sponsor and support any state legislation that would increase funding for deportation defense.

From Diana, Wind of the Spirit, Immigrant Center, NJ to Everyone:

In New Jersey we are working hard to pass the Immigrant Trust Act. From the local level we are passing resolution in support of ITA

15:10:23 From Lee Diaz to Everyone:

The local union I work for has also collaborated with our counsel to draft a side letter to introduce to our members and employers to protect non-citizen workers. I can't share a copy of the language but can speak about it.

15:12:22 From Edgar Ortiz to Everyone:

We helped created this resource in California in case it's helpful for anyone in other states:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BF7Fp042nx_BDkvHOHTDG-JT11rJFt1787CIK4c2FmU/e dit?tab=t.0

iris they/elle/ella/el - tuwu: 

Reisy Veloz: 

15:14:54 From Sylvia Martinez to Everyone:

Replying to "what are those mental health resources that you me...":

please email me and I can share the resources. sylvia.martinez@seiuhcil.org

15:15:58 From Adam Kader Arise Chicago to Everyone:

Forgot to include our worker toolkit in the document. Here you go! Arise Chicago
Worker Toolkit

English: <https://www.arisechicago.org/immigrantrights>

Spanish: <https://www.arisechicago.org/derechosdeinmigrantes>