
From the ground up: Supporting Immigrant Communities



Vision

- Participate in a state-wide campaign that will prevent ICE from entering schools
- Build with schools, communities, advocacy groups, higher education, legal
- Assist schools in embracing policies that will protect and support immigrant and refugee students and families

Why Are We Focusing On Schools?

- Schools can play a critical role in helping to end the criminalization, detention, and deportation of students and families.
- “Sensitive Location” – Schools should be safe havens that embrace all students and families regardless of citizenship or origin
 - Plyler v. Doe, 1982
 - Raids at or near schools mean families are afraid to send their children to school
- Often teachers are the first ones to witness the impact of increased enforcement measures by ICE

Why are we focusing on schools, cont.

- Heading into more uncertain time for immigrant & refugee communities
- Need to build stronger protections and safe areas (make schools more than sensitive locations)
- Solidarity city/solidarity schools

Problems Immigrant Families Face in Schools

- Policing, metal detectors
- Insufficient access to counseling and culturally competent counseling
- Overcrowded classrooms
- Lack of interpreters and translation services
- Unable to volunteer in schools
- Strong language education policies
- Knowing how to support students + families

Our Demands

- Assign a specific office and specific administrators to counsel and assist our immigrant students, other students who lack the privilege of citizenship, and staff, on a strictly confidential basis.
- Support student and staff privacy by refusing to release information regarding the immigration status of our students and community members unless forced to do so by subpoena or court order.
- Refuse to assist immigration authorities regarding deportations or raids, and not allow immigration authorities on our campus without a warrant.
- Train and restrict school/campus Police from inquiring about immigration status and collaborating with ICE.
- ** For Institutions of Higher Education - Standardize and make fair in-state tuition policy by applying the same requirements for residency to all admitted students, regardless of immigration status.

Responses to Raids & Detentions

- School District Resolutions
- Public Statements from Educators
- Letters to Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Community Petitions

School District Resolutions

Durham Public School District

- Summary: young people should be granted prosecutorial discretion
 - Honor sensitive locations policies
 - Release detained Durham youth
 - Suspend ice actions in community
- School staff and principals work with/support families who express concerns
- City council unanimously endorsed resolution and school board voted to pass it

School District Resolutions, cont.

San Francisco Unified School District

- Board adopted resolution in 2007:
 - Students should not be treated differently on basis of undocumented status
 - Staff will not ask about status
 - Any ICE visit must be forwarded to the superintendent's office for review
 - Requests for documents by ICE should be forwarded to legal office
- In 2009, they passed another resolution after learning that employees and agents of the city and county of San Francisco had been reporting undocumented students of the school district to ICE without providing youth with due process.

Public Statements/Letters to DHS

Prince George's County Public Schools, Maryland

- Educators, administrators and county allies denounce immigration raids
- CEO of the school district sent an open letter to DHS

Arlington Public Schools, Virginia

- Sent a letter out to the families

Community

- 280 educators, National Education Association, American Federation of Teachers and United We Dream Network write a letter calls for Obama to stop the immigration raids calls for immediate review of removal orders

Additional ways to protect students and communities in Pennsylvania

- School presentations
- Trainings for school staff (counselors, teachers, etc.)
- Know your rights workshops
- ** Become a “Welcoming Campus” (Higher Education)

Next Steps

- Creating a Campaign Plan in January-February 2017
- Inviting more students and parents to get involved
- Inviting educators to get involved
- Coming Soon:
 - Schools K-12 ICE Out of Schools Toolkit
 - Higher Education “Welcoming Campuses” Toolkit

Thank you!
ICE Out of Schools has been
Endorsed by:



CAUCUS OF

**WORKING
EDUCATORS**

PHILADELPHIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Know Your Rights Know the Process



Who can stop you?

- Local Police
- PA State Trooper
- Immigration Officer



WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF THE POLICE STOP YOU ON THE STREET?



Should you give your name?

- If the police ask you for your name, you must give your full name to them.

It's PA LAW!

- Do not give a false name. That is a crime.

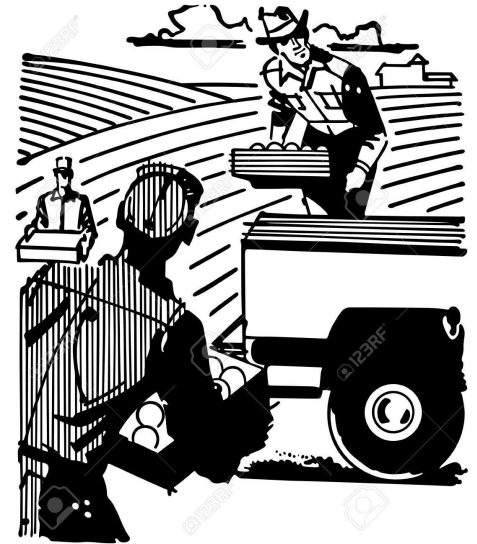
You have the right to remain silent.

- Give your full name.
- Say, “I have the right to remain silent and not answer your questions.”
- Give the officer the card which says, “*I am choosing my right to remain silent.*”

What if the police ask for identification?

- Only show real Identification.
- No ID? say “I don’t have any identification with me.”
- Never show a fake identification.
- Never carry fake papers.
- Do not carry or give over papers from your country of origin, such as a Passport.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF THE POLICE COME TO YOUR HOUSE OR WORKPLACE?



Can police enter your house?

Yes, if they have a search warrant.

- Do **NOT** open the door
- Ask to see the **search warrant**
 - Ask the officer to slip the warrant under the door.
 - Ask the officer to put warrant against the window



A valid search warrant must have:

- Address of the home.
- Name of person they are looking for.
- Signature of a judge.



If no valid warrant:

- **DO NOT** open the door.
- Say, “I do not agree to a search without a valid warrant.”
- Write down the officer’s name and badge number.
- Stay in your house.
- Remain calm.



If There is a valid warrant:

- You must allow the officer into your home.
- Do not answer any questions— you have a right to remain silent.
- Do not provide the officer any false documents.
- Call the United We Dream Hotline 1-844-363-1423 and report the raid.



**WHAT IF THE POLICE
COME TO YOUR WORK?**

Can Police search your workplace?

Yes, if they have a search warrant.

- Must be signed by judge.
- Must name the workplace that will be searched.
- Your boss must give permission for the police to enter.

What should you do?

- Remain calm!
- Do NOT run away.

Same Rights Apply

- You have the right to remain silent.
- Ask why you are being stopped.
- Give the police officer your name.
- Do not provide any false or foreign documents.
- Do not provide false information.

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY



**HOW MIGHT YOU BE ABLE TO HELP
SOMEONE OR THE FAMILY OF
SOMEONE WHO IS IN DEPORTATION
PROCEDURES?**

You *may* be able to stop your deportation case

- How?
 - Work with a lawyer.
 - Prove that you have strong ties to family and communities in the United States.
 - Support from your community.

Working Together to Stop Deportation

- Organize a public event to say “*Stop Separating Families*”.
- Get the word out!
 - Share stories with the media
 - Use Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- Contact local and national organizations.
- Tell your story.



Advocating For Yourself

- Community Support.
- Petitions.
- Public events and press conferences.
- Sanctuary Churches.

Reports of ICE Detaining Students

- Charlotte, NC: 6 students in North Carolina claim that they were picked up on the way to school, including standing as bus stops
 - Yefri Sorto- Hernandez
 - Wildin David Guillen Acosta
- Atlanta, Georgia
 - Kimberly Pineda Chavez