Practicing Solidarity during ICE Raids

Rapid Response Network: Witness, Accompany and Advocate

Why are we building these teams?

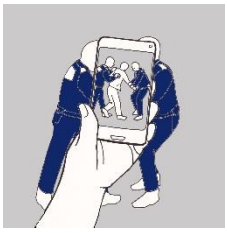
We want to create a way for people of faith to respond to the fear and anxiety in our community as a result from the upcoming increase in immigration enforcement and the new round of raids. **Victims of an immigration raid can't leave their home or workplace to seek sanctuary in a congregation, so we are bringing the congregation and the community to them!** ***If you want to join:*** *lorena@faithinactionba.org*

What does the Rapid Response Team do?

Simple → the faith community will be wherever ICE shows up

When we get a call that a raid is happening in our city, we will call the teams to the site of the raid to hold a prayer vigil, film the raid on phone cameras, and be a presence for the family. *The raids can happen in the early hours of the morning and throughout the day, so we need people who are committed. In order to start a team in a city, we need at least 40 people ready to act.*

Verify the raid: There is a lot of fear and anxiety, so some of the calls maybe false alarms. We will help verify whether a raid is actually happening before rumors create mass hysteria.
IF IT IS an Immigration RAID then:



Moral and Legal Observers: Our teams can document what's happening during the raid, gather information to support the legal team, and also to better tell the story of how these raids are taking place. We know the power of prayer, so we will also bring prayer on site at the time of the raid.

- **Take video and pictures of vehicles and the agents,**
- **Take notes: Time, location, how many agents, what is being said and the tone, describe any violent actions and/or racist, xenophobic, condescending words, what is happening, did they take people? etc.**
- **Do not engage**

1) **Connect the Victims to Legal Resources and the Accompaniment Team**: After immigration officials have left (or if the team arrives after the raid is done), the team will talk to the family to be a presence for them. Get information about what happened, the names of who was detained, and then connect the family with the local legal network to make sure the detainees have legal representation. Also make sure that they are connected to the **Accompaniment Team** to support them in the process.
2) **Connect to our Movement**: The stories about the impact ICE raids have on families can be lifted up to continue to push for change. Make sure we hold vigils at ICE and at our Congresspersons offices to support the victims, and to stop the persecution of immigrant families.

What does the Accompaniment Team do?

This is a long term commitment to be present for the victims and involved in the work. These congregations teams will work to support the victims with pastoral presence and their needs—rides, connecting to social services, food, making appointments, housing, etc. Also work to organize vigils and public actions to support their case, to connect them to the movement to tell the stories, as well as to go with them to court hearings and other proceedings.

This is a project of: Faith In Action Bay Area, PICO and The Archdioceses of San Francisco in collaboration with Pangea Legal Services, California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance.