

JCRC STANDS WITH OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



*Jewish Community
Relations Council*

The Greater Boston Jewish community stands firmly with our immigrant neighbors. We are helping by:

OFFERING SANCTUARY

For families who have run out of options to stay together, some congregations are taking the courageous step of opening their doors as a refuge, supported by additional, nearby congregations. **This requires two volunteers to stay with the family 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, until the family is able to safely leave Sanctuary.**

STANDING UP FOR THE UNJUSTLY DETAINED

Our clusters are raising money for bond and connecting individuals to legal resources (undocumented people are not entitled to lawyers). So far, we have **bonded 90 people out of immigration detention, and housed over 50 people targeted for deportation.**



PROVIDING ACCOMPANIMENT AT ICE CHECK-INS AND HEARINGS

We are organizing people to attend check-ins with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement), to which undocumented people are terrified to show up. In the last few months, many undocumented individuals have been unexpectedly served with notices of deportation. We work with these individuals and families on strategies to fight deportation and show that they are not alone in their fight. **So far, we have supported over 550 people at immigration court hearings.**

ADVOCATING FOR THE SAFETY AND DIGNITY OF OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS

Our clusters, as well as many other local Jewish organizations (including ADL, AJC, JALSA, JVS, and JFS), **support the inclusion of basic protections for immigrants in the state budget.**

Families marked for deportation are fighting to stay together—families in our communities, and families searching wherever they can for a lifeline. We are organizing synagogue and young adult leaders in our Jewish communities to build up an arsenal of resources for them.

JCRC, in partnership with the Beyond Bond & Legal Defense Fund (BIJAN), has been responding to the urgent needs of court accompaniment, legal support, bond money and places to stay while working on their cases.

We have also been working with congregations to form several clusters in Eastern Massachusetts to support families resisting separation and deportation by taking refuge in local churches.

TO LEARN MORE OR GET INVOLVED in Sanctuary, Accompaniment or Providing Legal Services, contact Rachel Lewis, JCRC Senior Synagogue Organizer, at 617-457-8653 or rlewis@jcrcboston.org.

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