

## **Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition**



# **TOOLKIT FOR COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO ICE RAIDS**



Understand the detention and deportation process

Tools and contacts for community support and action

Additional resources, attachments and handouts



**Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition would like to acknowledge the following organizational members and allies for their contributions to the creation of this guide:**

American Civil Liberties Union,  
Northern California

American Immigrant Lawyers

Association of Northern California

Arab American Anti-Discrimination  
Committee, San Francisco Chapter

Arab American Legal Services

Asian Law Caucus

California Immigrant Policy Center

Canal Alliance

Casa de Maryland

Centro Legal de la Raza

Detention Watch Network

International Institute of the East Bay

Immigrant Legal Resource Center

La Raza Centro Legal

Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights

National Immigration Law Center

National Lawyers Guild,  
San Francisco Chapter

National Network for Immigrant  
and Refugee Rights

St. Peters Housing Committee

Eunice Cho

Rosy Cho

# About the Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition (BAIRC)



## **BAIRC Mission**

BAIRC is a broad-based coalition of individuals and organizations working to build a unified voice for immigrant rights that transforms and improves the lives of immigrants. We do this by forging strong, working relationships between member organizations, advocating for just public policies, raising public awareness about the rights and living conditions of immigrants, and increasing the capacity of member organizations to work on immigrant issues.

## **BAIRC History**

The Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition (BAIRC) was formed by representatives of approximately 25 immigrant rights organizations in Northern California that began meeting on a monthly basis in the fall of 2001. They came together soon after September 11th, motivated to respond to the anti-immigrant backlash that emerged after the World Trade Center attacks. In forming BAIRC, the founding organizations sought to build a sustainable, cross-ethnic and strategically linked movement that could present a fuller picture of the threats to immigrants' rights and nurture collaboration.

## **BAIRC Vision**

BAIRC envisions a world where immigrants and their families lead lives filled with dignity and justice, regardless of immigration status.

## **BAIRC Members**

AIDS Legal Referral Panel ~ Alameda Health Consortium ~ American Civil Liberties Union - Immigration Rights Project ~ Arab American Resource Committee ~ American Friends Service Committee ~ Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice ~ Asian Law Caucus ~ Bay Area Parent Leadership Action Network ~ California Coalition for Women Prisoners ~ California Immigrant Policy Center ~ Catholic Charities CYO ~ Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) ~ Chinese for Affirmative Action ~ Chinese Progressive Association ~ Comite de Padres Unidos ~ Community Voices Project ~ Day Worker Center of Mountain View ~ Filipinos for Affirmative Action ~ Immigrant Legal Resource Center ~ Immigrants' Rights Clinic ~ Stanford Law School ~ Independent Living Resource Center ~ Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights ~ International Institute of the East Bay ~ La Raza Centro Legal ~ Law Center for Families ~ Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights ~ Love Sees No Borders ~ Mujeres Unidas y Activas ~ Multi-Lingual Service Council ~ Muslim Community Association Legal Clinic ~ Narika ~ National Center for Lesbian Rights ~ National Lawyers Guild, SF Bay Area ~ National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights ~ Northern California Immigrant Worker Freedom Ride Coalition ~ Partnership for Immigrant Leadership & Action ~ Services, Immigrant Rights, Education Network ~ St. Peter's Housing Committee ~ Teachers 4 Social Justice ~ United Way of the Bay Area ~ Voluntarios de la Comunidad





## About this Guide

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At the end of 2006, and in the beginning of 2007, immigrant communities throughout the country experienced a spike in the number of raids conducted by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). These raids traumatized immigrant communities. ICE agents arrived at people's homes in the early hours of the morning (5:00 or 6:00 am), oftentimes without the proper warrants or corresponding paperwork and in some Bay Area communities, they falsely identified themselves as police. People were questioned and picked up at BART stations and bus stops and even at their workplace. By April 2007, more than 1,000 individuals had been detained and one-third of these had been deported from the Bay Area alone.

BAIRC calls for an immediate end to the immigration sweeps. They separate families, leaving children without parents. They increase the distrust immigrant communities have of local authorities, and undermine the efforts of Congress to create a new and humane immigration law.

Members of the Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition (BAIRC) created this information toolkit as a resource to individuals and organizations seeking to take action against the raids, work with their locally elected officials, and inform immigrant communities about their rights.

*BAIRC encourages all individuals, groups, and organizations to actively oppose ICE activities by meeting with city officials, state and federal legislators, and local police authorities to:*

- ◆ *urge local authorities to voice their opposition to ICE activities and seek an end to ICE terror tactics*
- ◆ *document how raids impact communities – immigrant and non-immigrant alike*
- ◆ *become informed about local laws that may facilitate the collaboration between ICE and local law enforcement*

**If you know of any ICE activities in your community, please contact BAIRC at (510) 839 - 7598.**

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