

- TO: Mayor and City Councilmember
- **FROM:** Carmen Nichols, Deputy City Manager
- **SUBJECT:** Presentation by Santa Barbara Response Network

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation by Jacqueline Inda, Board Member of the Santa Barbara Network.

BACKGROUND:

Jacqueline Inda, Board Member of the Santa Barbara Response Network (SBRN), will be discussing the Immigration Advocacy Collaborative (IAC), a committee of various key partners responding to the needs of the migrant community and assisting families and individuals directly affected by the recent natural disasters.

The SBRN is seeking the community's support as it identifies needs and gaps in the services provided to migrant families.

Reviewed By:

Carmen Nichols Deputy City Manager

Attachments:

1. Santa Barbara Response Network Newsletter

Approved By:

Gere mela

Michelle Greene City Manager

Attachment 1

Santa Barbara Response Network Newsletter



Santa Barbara Response Network

Santa Barbara Response Network

BIP CONTACT INFO: ADDRESS: Restorative Justice Education Center (RJEC) 429 N. Milpas St. Suite C Santa Barbara, CA 93103

BIP Direct PHONE Line: 805.699.5208

BIP Direct EMAIL: sbBIPoffice@gmail.com

Santa Barbara Response Network (SBRN) is a 501c(3) Tax exempt nonprofit. Our Entity number is: TAX I.D. 3401430

<u>SBRN ADMIN</u> INFORMATION:

SBRN Admin Phone: 805.699.5608 SBRN Admin Email: sbrncommand@gmail.com

SBRN Admin Address:

115 W. Canon Perdido Santa Barbara, CA 93101

WEBSITE:

sbresponsenetwork.org

IMMIGRATION ADVOCACY COLLABORATIVE

In our region, there are hundreds of Latino workers that provide services to care for our elderly and ill people; they are our nannies, gardeners, and ground maintenance workers. They are individuals that do not have legal status to work. Yet they become sole-proprietors of businesses utilizing ITINs for tax purposes. Some lost everything during the natural disasters that hit this region. They are individuals that have no ability to recuperate work supplies, or personal belongings, including any kind of birth record or identification. Others live in daily fear of deportation, as our children sit and watch silently. Our children live knowing that any given day they could hear the knock on the door that will solidify a reality that they may never see a parent or loved one again.

As our Majority-Minority community members are hurting, the social/political divide brings to light the true hate our residents have lived with for decades. While some talk about deporting all "Illegals," others share their hearts in an attempt to show we are all united and that we care for everyone in this great region of cultural diversities. All of this, as our children take in the social new norm. Meanwhile, our Majority-Minority families go deeper into the shadows in order to live as normally as possible in their daily attempts to survive as invisible human beings.

What this translates into is that our families live in isolation from county services, police response aid, and they shift in addresses or identifiable sources in order not to be spotted. Unfortunately, people in the shadows cannot stand against injustice, they are unable to assert their rights because of fear, but we can do something about this.

We as a community feel hopeless and helpless alongside our brothers and sisters that are living in the shadows. Here is what you can do to help. Everyone has a resource/skill/artistic knowledge/or hug to share. Your skill can help someone in crisis. Bring your skill or resource to our collaborative space and share it in order to help build a network of support for others. Some of us have stories to share or belong to other groups that want to organize. Join **our Immigration Advocacy Collaborative (IAC)** and take part in identifying problems or obstacles to overcome so that together we could build a foundation of resilience and build a comprehensive approach for our migrant families. Currently we are identifying needs and gaps in services for migrant families. We are addressing all of our needs to this issue by having our energies focus into the following categories:

- 1) We are developing a crisis/rapid response network.
- 2) We are developing strategies around healing events and vigils. We are also identifying a message that we are all one resilient community and all are welcome. This message might take form as a resolution of resilience local electoral bodies may adopt.
- 3) We are identifying migrant community legal needs and strategies around helping migrant communities prepare.

Doing nothing when your heart calls you to act is binding in a time when we could empower instead of feeding into panic. Don't let the need for perfection hold you back from innovation. Taking action with careful consideration, even when all you do is stand with others, helps to build a community of resilience.

Thank you for your consideration to this effort, Jacqueline Inda SBRN – Board Member | 805-456-8679 | jacquelineinda@gmail.com General info. Or to get involved: <u>sbBIPoffice@gmail.com</u> or at 805 699-5280.

Immigration Advocacy Collaborate (IAC)

Who we are: The Immigration Advocacy Collaborate (IAC) is a committee comprised of various key partners in response to, not only all the mass deportations and the current political climate, but also, in response to all those undocumented families and individuals directly affected by the recent natural disasters.

What we do: IAC hosts a space where people can join in an effort to build a comprehensive system of care in order to respond to the needs of our migrant community under the national administration.

Who we serve: IAC serves the undocumented immigrant families and individuals (of all ages) in the South Santa Barbara County communities.

Key partners:

 Santa Barbara Response Network (SBRN) 	District Attorney's Office
The Mexican Consulate in Oxnard	 Immigration Attorneys
Santa Barbara Police Department	Civil Attorneys
 Santa Barbara Unified School District 	 Community based organizations providing
Sanctuary Alliance	direct services to migrant families.
 Spanish Language Media Sources 	 Lobby advocacy groups that stand for migrant
 Archdioceses of L.A Immigration Affairs 	community needs.
	 Immigration legal defense center/CAUSE

NEEDS WE HAVE IDENTIFIED:

- 1) In this county there is an integrative system of care that tracks families from crisis into resilience. We do this for homeless communities, for veteran services, for families that have 0-5 children; yet we do not have a system of tracing migrant families as they move from one service to another. This leads many families to fall through the cracks. There isn't a handoff of services from start to finish. Agencies do not have a way to do so. This leads families to do all of the running around from agency to agency to try and find services; without knowing what may exist to help them in their time of crisis. Because there are so many fragmented services in this county, families do not know where to call for local help and national call centers add a layer of stress to families as they attempt to navigate where to go to continue to thrive and live within our community. We need a 24-hour hotline where families can call locally, where advocates can call in to ask for a resource when they are holding the hand of a family in crisis, and that this 24-hour hotline also serve to track families that are reaching out for legal services as they move from crisis to resilience.
- 2) We all have been flooded with the visions of children being separated from their families. We have many legal services in this county. Some do bonds, others are for getting families prepared, and others are for screening families for legal representation in immigration status changes and providing costly legal services. None are communicating with each other. We need to build a comprehensive handoff approach to unite all of the legal resources we have. We need to be strategic on how to most support our families from their bond hearing processes, into immigration consultations, though legal migrant visas or status changes, and into legally preparing families separations in a safe confidential resilience-based setting.
- 3) People what to help but do not know how or where to look for information to get involved. Vigils and healing events are needed to show that we are all together and we will all stand united for resilient families in our communities. Everyone has a skill and can actively do something to help someone else. We all can engage local governments with local resolutions or policies that are inclusive of safety and community unity. We need a combined effort to develop a message or unity and resilience that is supported by local advocacy groups and spaces where all of our community can come together to simply say that these are all our children and we all are migrant families; together we stand in unity and healing to create local policy change!

WE CAN ALL DO SOMETHING.

- If you are a service provider or entity, you can become a partner and use your entity to innovate a system of care within the **CRISIS/RAPID RESPONSE COMMITTEE OF OUR NETWORK**. If you want to hold someone's hand in crisis, or you have basic needs resources to share, you may also join this committee.
- If you are a part of a social justice group, you can join us in the COMMUNITY HEALING COMMITTEE OF OUR
 NETWORK and have your organization help us create events of wellness and compassion that will unite us in a
 positive way to show that we are all hurting, but united for all of our children and all of our community. If you are
 a lobby advocacy group, you may also join this community healing committee and help strategize local policies
 and resolutions.
- If you have legal skills or resources, you may join the **LEGAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE OF OUR NETWORK.** If you have fundraising abilities you may help, you can join this committee and help us create a trust to support our community in a comprehensive way.

COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS:

I. COMMUNITY HEALING COMMITTEE OF OUR NETWORK

- a. Big Community Healing Events
 - i. To show unity and compassion for our migrant residents
- b. Donation Drives- to children shelters in the border
- c. Council Resolutions
- d. Explore getting out the vote and lobby advocacy
- e. Volunteer to help in this network in administrative tasks, sending out reminder emails, getting the word out of IAC, and helping with mission statements and supplies for these meetings.

II. CRISIS/RAPID RESPONSE COMMITTEE OF OUR NETWORK

- a. 24-hour hotline
 - i. Where families can call, as a sole point of entry, to activate confidential migrant community services (from counseling to consulate).
 - ii. This activates the Sanctuary Alliance
 - 1. The Alliance then provides a volunteer hand holder that will support a family and guide them through Psychological First-Aid (PFA) and into community resources.
 - iii. Tracking of families through services, from bonds-to-resiliency, and from crisis-to-healing.

b. Rapid Response Notifications

i. Get info on where ICE is via text and go out and respectfully be witness and give resources to the hotline.

c. Radio and TV

i. That educates the community on the hotline, Know Your Rights workshops, and the pop-up compassion centers.

III. LEGAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE OF OUR NETWORK

Once the single point of entry is activated, families will be tracked to insure they do not fall through the cracks between one service to another. This will also ensure that families get the highest quality of care by accessing all of our existing legal services.

- a. Bonds and emergency crisis pro-bono led by the Legal Immigrant Defense Center (LIDC)
- b. Sustainable legal counsel (past the Bonds Process) and for the families that are not being deported.
- c. Screenings and consultation clinics for families living in the shadows that may have questions on what steps to take on legal status changes.
- d. Get prepared for potential separation workshops:

IAC provides comprehensive full-day workshops that is provided under the hospices of the Mexican Consulate. This umbrella ensures that all migrant families can participate and get prepared for separation, or obtain a screening a consultation of an attorney (civil/immigration/criminal), in a confidential setting that is protected as a consulate event and safe from ICE. The following is a list of things accomplished in these Know Your Rights Consulate Events:

7

This page explains the work we are doing to empower or community in making a plan and getting prepared within a safe confidential setting that is protected in our collaborative under the Mexican Consulate their event. What happens at the preparedness workshops:

Mexican Consulate Services Provided Are:

- 1. Dual Citizenship
- 2. Passports processing (for new and/ or renewals)
- 3. Consular ID
- 4. Official Birth Certificates

Partner Entities Provide:

- 5. Information on how to obtain an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN).
- 6. Consultations with immigration deportation attorneys.
- 7. Legal consultations on family law, criminal matters, civil cases, and citation issues.
- 8. Obtaining U- Visa consultations from the D.A.'s Victim Witness Advocates.
- **9.** Information of Sanctuary Spaces, how to activate a response, and other resources.
- **10.** Notary Services, for temporary custody issues, or any other notary needed when getting prepared for a family to be separated in case of emergency.
- **11.** *"Know Your Employment Rights"* information & consultations for individual case.
- 12. In these full-day workshops, families fill out and obtain a preparedness books where they can safely make a plan in case of any emergency or separation. This book was developed in the same strategy of getting families prepared after 911 in New York City. Our preparedness book is designed to help migrant communities feel empowered, know where to go, and be prepared.
- 13. Basic needs services and Department of Social Service Medi-Cal outreach, is still pending to participate.

Get prepared workshop list

Note: All events are full-day 8am-6pm

WE need volunteers to put together the books, to help bring snacks for people, to feed our consulate staffers, to help with a kids-corner so that adults can get things done and kids have things to do throughout the day.

SANTA BARBARA

Thursday, April 5 – WAKE CENTER

CARPINTERIA

Saturday, July 7 – CARPINTERIA COMMUNITY CHURCH Sunday, July 8 – CARPINTERIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

SANTA BARBARA

Thursday, August 9 – UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF SANTA BARBARA

1535 Santa Barbara S. 93101

GOLETA (I.V.)

Saturday, September 29 – ST. MARKS CHURCH 6555 Picasso Rd. Isla Vista, CA 93117 Parking lot entrance is on 6550 El Greco Rd., Isla Vista, CA 93117 on the Corner of El Greco Rd. and Camino Pescadero

Saturday, December 8 – Location TBD

Question/ Inquiries/ Donations

If you would like to host an event, volunteer or donate, or simply have a question or inquiry please contact Lindsay Rojas at <u>sbBIPoffice@gmail.com</u> or at 805 699-5280.

For all donations, please make checks payable to: <u>Santa Barbara Response Network</u>, and under Memo write: <u>Migrant Community Work</u>.

Thank you for your time and consideration, we look forward to hearing from you.