

A special message from/Un mensaje especial de Councilmember David Grosso

Dear residents.

This weekend, the Trump Administration plans to continue its immigration policies with more indiscriminate Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids. These raids endanger neighborhood safety, shatter our communities, destroy families, and traumatize children. They are unacceptable.

Ahead of these raids, it is important that you know your rights when interacting with law enforcement agents at home, in public, or at your place of work. It's also important for neighbors who may witness these raids to know what they can do to help. I encourage you to visit https://unitedwedream.org/heretostay/know-your-power/ for more information or check out the flyers from United We Dream below.

I urge anyone who has been, or knows someone who is, impacted by these raids to please contact the following organizations:

- CASA 1.855.678.2272 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Sanctuary DMV 202.335.1138 7 days a week, 9am-9pm
- United We Dream 1.844.363.1423 Monday-Friday, 6am-9pm
- CAIR Coalition 202.337.3329 Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

Additionally, since 2017, the Council and Mayor have provided up to \$900,000 annually for legal services to aid undocumented immigrants:

- African Communities Together (240) 621- 0194
- American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (202) 244-2990
- Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (202) 393-3572, ex. 22
- Asylum Seeker Assistance Project (202) 588–5452
- Ayuda (202) 387–4848
- Briva Public Charter School (202) 232-7777
- Catholic Charities (202) 772-4352
- DC Affordable Law Firm (202) 844–5430
- Human Rights First (202) 547-5692
- KIND (Kids in Need of Defense) (202) 824–8680
- LAYC (Latin American Youth Center) (202) 319–2225
- Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia (202) 628–1161
- TASSC (Torture Abolition and Support Survivors Coalition) (202) 529–2991
- Trabajadores Unidos de Washington, DC (202) 299–0162
- Whitman-Walker Health (202) 745–7000

I have always believed that the District of Columbia and the United States are stronger because of the diversity of thought, culture, and language that immigration adds to our history and heritage. We should be doing more to ensure that immigrants feel welcome in our communities and our country. That's why I have fought for legislation that would lower language barriers to education in D.C., change our government issued I.D.s to ensure our residents cannot be targeted by ICE, provide legal aid to those whose status in our country is in question, and even allow some of our immigrant residents to vote in our local elections.

These raids are immoral and, like many residents and local leaders across the country, I feel powerless. We are still a promised land to many around the world who seek to escape the unsafe or inhumane conditions of the place they were born. We should meet those seeking refuge with open arms, not locked cells.

Sincerely.



David Grosso
At-Large Councilmember
Chairperson, Committee on Education
Council of the District of Columbia