



3 Ways to support families affected by the immigration system



1. Donate to organizations that are working at the border.

- The Florence Project is a nonprofit legal service organization providing free legal services to men, women, and unaccompanied children in immigration custody in Arizona. You can donate [here](#).
- The Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES) is a nonprofit that provides free or low-cost legal aid to immigrant children, families, and refugees in the central and south Texas area. You can donate [here](#).
- The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights works to support and champion the rights of unaccompanied immigrant children. It works on a three step program that prioritizes serving the children as soon as they enter the country, advocating for their rights, and standing for the creation of a more comprehensive immigration system that protects children's rights. You can donate [here](#).
- The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) works to defend the civil liberties and rights of American citizens across the board, including the rights of immigrants who seek asylum from other countries. You can donate [here](#).



2. Contact your local representatives.

Contact your local representatives to let them know that you are against unfair immigration policies, and demand action. [Click here](#) to find out who your local representative is in the House of Representatives.

You can also reach out to U.S. [Senator Bob Casey](#) or [Senator Pat Toomey](#) of Pennsylvania. Feel free to express your opinions in your own way, or you can simply copy and paste this text into your message to them:

Dear Representative [or Dear Senator],

Comprehensive immigration reform is well overdue, and it is time that Congress works together to create fair legislation for current and future immigrants in this country. Piecemeal reform packages have consistently fallen short of their goals, and the consequences have been dire, not only for immigrants, but for our country as a whole – immigrants form a vital part of the fabric of the United States, and supporting them is a responsibility we all share.

Here in Pennsylvania, immigrants are very much a part of our local identity, and we are proud to welcome them into our communities, places of work, and families. The current policies regarding immigration range from unfair to impractical to simply unethical, and we are depending on you to represent us in the fight for change. All the way back to its Quaker roots and the very building where the ideals of this country were declared for the world to see, Pennsylvania has always been a state that promotes freedom of background and creed; help preserve that proud liberty by advocating for immigrants.

We need bipartisan, comprehensive immigration reform, and we need it now.

Thank you.



3. Support our mental health initiative.

Support our mental health initiative for Latino Pittsburgh families that have had difficulties in their immigration process. By sending in a \$50 donation to the LCC, you will support one therapy session in Spanish. Many Latino families in the local area lack the resources necessary to live healthy lives, and access to counseling and mental health programs are an important part of this. By donating \$50, you are providing extremely necessary therapy sessions in Spanish to families that have experienced or are currently experiencing trauma due to the difficulty, fear, and confusion of a convoluted and uncertain immigration process. These therapy sessions have a range of benefits, from helping students to adjust to life in the United States and succeed academically and socially in school to helping parents support their families emotionally and feel comfortable at work and in the community, regardless of their legal status. You can donate to our initiative [here](#).