

# IMMIGRATION ACTION COALITION ANNUAL REPORT

April 30, 2020 - May 3, 2021

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The Immigration Action Coalition (IAC) at UAAA believes in the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We are committed to support immigrants in our community through education, advocacy for policy reform, action in anti-oppression efforts, and collaboration with other community groups. We have 6 co-facilitators, 2 for each subcommittee: Education, Policy, and Action. We've developed a covenant, living handbook, and communal dropbox. We meet monthly on Saturday mornings, in a virtual setting, and we will continue that structure for the bear future. We are looking forward to increased collaboration with UAAA's Racial Justice Arc and Justice in the Middle East.

## **Fundraiser**

On March 6th, we co-hosted with WICIR and Mexiquenses a Virtual Drag Bingo fundraiser. Over \$2,500 was raised for an alternative COVID relief fund.

## **Education highlights**

In May of 2020, IAC hosted a book talk with Dr. William Lopez, a local public health and immigration expert. He joined us to discuss his book Separated: Family and Community in the Aftermath of an Immigration Raid.

Mexiquenses en Michigan shared their work during the Feb 21 worship service.

## **Policy highlights**

The Policy Sub-Committee provided regular updates on local, state, and national policies and recommended actions to improve policies at all three levels.

On the local level, we drafted a "sanctuary policy" for our school systems. On the state level, we initiated actions to protect the health of migrant workers and detainees and worked on the campaign called "Driver's Licenses for All". Nationally, we supported access to the Affordable Care Act for Dreamers. We countered several policies, including an asylum policy, a regulation fining sanctuary members, and a rule that used a public health law to prevent legal asylum-seeking.

### **Action highlights**

We donated \$684.89 to support new DACA recipients and tuition help for an immigrant graduate student, \$500 to support WCS's guest, and \$500 to the Movimiento Cosecha's Learning Center for undocumented families.

We used funds from the sanctuary budget to house and support a local asylum seeker who was required to self quarantine after being released from immigration detention, prior to being reunited with her family.

We contributed \$1,400 to Connect the Camps that installed equipment needed for farmworkers to have access to the internet.

### **IN MEMORY:**

IAC remembers two members lost in 2020: Joanna Courteau (4/15/1939 - 7/5/2020) and Marian Horowitz (9/27/1948 - 1/22/2020).