

October 2019



CUSH

Congregations United to Serve Humanity

CUSH IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

God of all people, grant us vision to see your presence in our midst, especially in our immigrant brothers and sisters, give us courage to open the door to our neighbors and grace to build a society of justice.

CUSH Sponsors Successful Leadership Training Program for Young Adults

CUSH was pleased to host a leadership training program, Be the Change, for the young adults in our community. The program was an interactive, community-building leadership development series where participants learned the basic concepts, attitudes and disciplines needed to become community leaders capable of making real change.

Twenty-five young adults attended the four-session program and became the first to earn a Certificate in Leadership for Community Transformation offered by WISDOM, the statewide social justice organization of which CUSH is a part.



The trainings were facilitated by our WISDOM State Director, David Liners, and CUSH and EXPO organizer, Carl Fields. Both David and Carl have been nationally trained as community organizing trainers.

CUSH received a grant from the Sinsinawa Dominican Ministry Fund for this program and is thankful for their support. In its grant application CUSH noted that “young adults these days are very justice-minded but often do not have the skills needed or an avenue to put their passions into action.” Our hope is that this series of four trainings has given them the skills to Be the Change in our community.

RECENT IMMIGRATION NEWS ARTICLES

How ICE picks its targets in the surveillance age, by McKenzie Funk, New York Times, Oct. 2, 2019, www.nytimes.com/2019/10/02/magazine/ice-surveillance-deportation.html

‘Stunning in ugliness & tone’: Trump denounced for attacking Somali refugees in Minnesota, by Allyson Chiu, Washington Post, Oct. 11, 2019, www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/10/11/trump-somali-refugees-minneapolis-rally/

Historic CA law bans use of inhumane for-profit prisons, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, Oct. 11, 2019, <https://www.ilrc.org/breaking-historic-new-ca-law-bans-use-inhumane-profit-prisons>

Judges strike several blows to Trump immigration policies, by Miriam Jordan, New York Times, Oct. 11, 2019, www.nytimes.com/2019/10/11/us/immigration-public-charge-injunction.html

Border wall rising in Arizona raises concerns among conservationists, native tribes, by John Burnett, NPR, Oct. 13, 2019, <https://www.npr.org/2019/10/13/769444262/border-wall-rising-in-arizona-raises-concerns-among-conservationists-native-tribe>

No refugees allowed? Trump’s plan to give states and cities a veto prompts an outcry, by Griff White, Washington Post, Oct. 12, 2019, www.washingtonpost.com/national/no-refugees-allowed-trumps-plan-to-give-states-and-cities-a-veto-prompts-an-outcry

High court to consider state role in prosecuting immigrants, by Roxana Hegeman, Associated Press, Oct. 14, 2019, <https://www.apnews.com/9d7f42fae7b04cc49d3c12569e434243>

A British family on vacation say they accidentally drove into the U.S. They’ve spent days detained with their 3-month-old baby, by Allyson Chiu, Washington Post, Oct. 16, 2019, www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2019/10/15/eileen-connors-british-family-ice-vacation-detention/

NYT Columnist Nicholas Kristoff elaborates on antagonism against immigrants at Provost Forum, by Preetha Ramachandran, Oct. 18, 2019, Duke Chronicle, www.dukechronicle.com/article/2019/10/new-york-times-nicholas-kristof-immigrants-provost-forum

UPCOMING IMMIGRATION-RELATED EVENTS

- Voces de la Frontera will be holding its 2019 Migration is Beautiful Masquerade Gala on Friday, October 25 at the Harley Davidson Museum Chrome Room, 400 W. Canal St., Milwaukee, WI. Tickets are \$75 for Voces members, \$100 for non-members. For more information, go to <https://voces.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=12>.
- Voces de la Frontera will be hosting a meeting of Racine Voteros at the Racine Labor Hall (2100 Layard Ave., Racine) on Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 4 to 6 pm. Racine Voteros is a relational voter program that uses personal contacts to build a strong network of Latinx, multiracial youth and pro-immigrant rural Wisconsinites. For more information, contact Fabi Maldonado, Voces Political Director, at 262-676-2350.
- Youth Empowered in the Struggle (YES) and Voces de la Frontera is hosting a rally and call to action in defense of the DACA program on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 1 pm to 2:30 pm at South Division High School (1515 W. Lapham Blvd, Milwaukee). For more information, go to vdlf.org.
- Dining Out with CUSH— On Monday, Nov. 4 from 4 pm to 8 pm, if you eat at Noodles World Kitchen in Kenosha (7224 118th Ave.), 25% of the proceeds from your meal will benefit WISDOM, Inc.
- Stephanie Mitchell, professor of History at Carthage College, will be presenting an Informational Session on local, state and national immigration Issues at St. Mary's Lutheran Church (2001 80th Street, Kenosha) on Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 pm.

DID YOU KNOW (Immigration Mythbuster #1):

Immigrants are responsible for two-thirds of U.S. economic growth since 2011. Despite making up only 14% of U.S. population, immigrants have founded 40% of Fortune 500 business & 30% of all U.S. businesses. Immigrants are twice as likely to create a patented invention, and use much less in government benefits than they pay in taxes. Source: Financial Times, 9/9/18; Newsweek, 9/9/18

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN KENOSHA/RACINE AREA

- Serve as a Court Watch Volunteer at Immigration Court or as a visitor to local detention centers or jails currently housing immigrant detainees; for more info, see the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants website (www.icdichicago.org/ministries/jail-visitation) or contact Pam Shearman at (847) 867-4375.
- Voces de la Frontera is seeking volunteers to assist with preparation of Public Education Packets, assisting with member outreach, and translation of written materials, among other things. If you are interested, go to <https://vdlf.org/get-involved/volunteering-and-internships/>
- Catholic Charities of Milwaukee is seeking volunteers to do everything from assisting with its Legal Services for Immigrants program, to teaching English as a second language. For more information, go to www.ccmke.org/Volunteer-Opportunities.htm

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION ON IMMIGRATION ISSUES?

The following organizations and websites provide very useful information on immigration issues:

- Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (<https://cliniclegal.org>)
- The Pew Research Center—Hispanic Trends (www.pewhispanic.org)
- Catholic Charities of Milwaukee—Legal Services for Immigrants (www.ccmke.org)
- Voces de la Frontera—(<https://vdlf.org>)
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (www.lirs.org/press-room)
- Immigrants' Rights Section of American Civil Liberties Union (www.aclu.org/issues/immigrants-rights)
- UNHCR—The United Nations Refugee Agency (www.unhcr.org)
- Washington Office on Latin America (www.wola.org)

Grounded in the teachings of our faith traditions, the Immigration Task Force advocates for the rights of immigrants. We are a non-partisan group dedicated to the protection and well-being of immigrants. We hope that you find the articles and links referenced above to be informative.