



March 12, 2026

Dear (specific representative),

Together West Michigan, [a broad-based organization](#) dedicated to the common good, remains steadfast in its dedication to upholding the constitutional rights of immigrant and refugee communities.

At a recent multifaith press conference, **our organization presented the [A Time for Light to Shine](#) letter.** This correspondence, endorsed by over [nine hundred individuals](#), calls upon all members of our community to oppose and address the injustices faced by our refugee and immigrant neighbors. **We respectfully request that you stand with us**—if not in advocating for the complete dissolution of ICE, then employing all available legislative and administrative avenues to curtail its authority and hold it accountable for actions that brutalize and dehumanize our neighbors and fracture their families. **We have included specific proposals along with this letter.**

The aforementioned press conference was convened on January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Despite the presence of a significant winter storm, leaders representing a diverse array of faith traditions assembled to advocate for justice and reform. This distinguished assembly, whose members seldom convene, resolved to continue meeting in order to amplify their collective voice in pursuit of just outcomes. **Additional information and media coverage of the event can be found [here](#).**

In the ongoing struggle against injustice, Together West Michigan is unwavering in its commitment to achieving meaningful and lasting change. We trust that your values align with policy measures that affirm the rights of marginalized and oppressed individuals. Kindly advise us on how we may collaborate to further embody the foundational values that have long positioned America as a beacon of hope for those in need.

Respectfully,

The Leadership Team of Together West Michigan

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Together West Michigan

Call to Action for Immigrants and Refugees

- 1.** Call on our local police departments to establish policies that protect those accompanying refugees to appointments and establish procedures to avoid what appears to be support of ICE.
- 2.** Circulate within our institutions and members the phone number for Rapid Response to ICE (616-238-0081) in order to discourage ICE activities anywhere in our community.
- 3.** We call for policies that:
 - a.** Ensure that law enforcement agencies do not share information collected by Flock License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology with federal immigration authorities, including ICE, in order to protect the privacy and safety of immigrants and refugees within our community.
 - b.** Prevent police officers from being deputized by ICE.
 - c.** Prevent the establishment of any detention centers in Kent County
 - d.** Block city agreements with organizations contracted by ICE.
 - e.** Prevent ICE arresting anyone who has a legal document allowing them to be in the U.S. We insist that due process be honored for everyone.
- 4.** We will call on all our institutions to support families where one or more of the wage earners has been deported, through donations to the local organizations that are working to meet those needs, including Rapid Response to ICE Mutual Aid, Movimiento Cosecha, and Together West Michigan's Family Support group.