

Let Our People Go: Campaign to release Sheridan detainees

Clergy and IMIRJ (Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice) supporters are asking faith communities throughout the state to participate in a massive calling campaign to the ICE offices. Starting July 31 and continuing throughout the week, we ask you to mobilize your community to phone bank, email, and flood acting regional director of ICE Elizabeth Godfrey with stories of those detained at Sheridan and our demand to “Let Our People Go!”

Contact: Elizabeth Godfrey, Acting Field Office Director, Immigration & Customs Enforcement
Phone: [503-326-3302](tel:503-326-3302)

Sample Script: Hi, my name is (your name) and I am calling from (faith community) in (city name). We are a part of the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice, a coalition of 140 faith communities from around the state concerned with what is happening with ICE in Sheridan. For the past two months, I have been tracking the situation at the Sheridan Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), where over 120 men seeking asylum have been detained. As of this week, many of the individuals detained are ready to be released after passing their credible fear interviews. You have the power to release them into the care of the community as their cases proceed in court. Sheridan FCI is not equipped to hold these individuals in detention, as we’ve heard horrendous stories of the conditions inside. As a matter of faith and good conscience, I am calling to ask you to release the men immediately and let our people go!

We are also asking members of our congressional delegation who have visited Sheridan FCI to use their power to put pressure on ICE.

Contact: Senator Jeff Merkley, [\(202\) 224-3753](tel:202-224-3753)

Contact: Senator Ron Wyden, [\(202\) 224-5244](tel:202-224-5244)

Contact: Rep. Earl Blumenauer, [\(503\) 231-2300](tel:503-231-2300)

Contact: Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, [\(503\) 469-6010](tel:503-469-6010)

Sample Script: Hi, my name is (your name) and I am calling from (faith community) in (city name). We are a part of the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice, a coalition of 140 faith communities from around the state concerned with what is happening with ICE in Sheridan. I am calling to thank (the senator/representative) for their leadership and to ask them to help us put pressure on acting field office director Elizabeth Godfrey and ICE to release the individuals detained into the care of the community while their asylum cases proceed in court. I know that the (senator/representative) has seen the abysmal conditions and unfortunate situation at the Sheridan Federal Correctional Institution. Now that most of the men have passed their credible fear interviews, ICE has discretion to release them. Will you help us get them released?