



Take Action for Immigrant Justice in 2021

Overview of Immigration Changes from the Biden-Harris Administration

Change of Tone

“Immigration is central to who we are as a nation”
– President Joe Biden

- Moving away from xenophobic rhetoric to welcoming immigrants in our communities
- Prioritizing immigrant integration



Change in Language

- Replace “alien” from immigration laws with “nonimmigrant”
- Executive Order on Restoring Faith in Our Legal Immigration Systems and Strengthening Integration and Inclusion Efforts for New Americans
 - “The Federal Government should develop welcoming strategies that promote integration, inclusion, and citizenship, and it should embrace the full participation of the newest Americans in our democracy.”

Refugees

Refugee Cap - will be raised to 125,000 new fiscal year on Oct. 1, 2021.

Executive Order on Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs to Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change in Migration

[Executive Order](#) on Creating a Comprehensive Regional Framework to Address the Causes of Migration, to Manage Migration Throughout North and Central America, and to Provide Safe and Orderly Processing of Asylum Seekers at the United States Border (Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced Saturday, 02/06, that the Biden administration has suspended and begun the process to terminate Trump-era migration agreements with El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras)

Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP)

On January 20, 2021, the Biden administration announced that it would no longer enroll asylum seekers newly arriving on the southern border

Still 25,000 immigrants who need entry to the U.S. who are under MPP

Family Reunifications

[Executive Order](#) on the Establishment of Interagency Task Force on the Reunification of Families



Rescinded the Travel Bans



Executive action ended
“Discriminatory Bans on Entry
to the United States”

The Border Wall

President Biden issued a proclamation calling for a halt on building any new parts of the wall;

Asked the Supreme Court to postpone oral arguments in significant cases regarding the border wall.

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

[Memorandum](#) from Biden issued January 21, 2021 called “Preserving and Fortifying Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)”

Temporary Protected Status (TPS)

- TPS for Syria – [18 month extension](#) and re-designation of Syria's TPS designation
- Review of TPS for vulnerable populations

100 Day Moratorium on Most Removals

Stopped by Judge Drew Tipton
from Southern District of Texas
(extended until February 23rd)

Black immigrants continue
being deported even after
President Biden was sworn in

Detention

Attorney General shall not renew DOJ contracts with privately operated criminal detention facilities– this does not affect ICE contracts



Enforcement Priorities

- Rescinded Trump's directives that prioritized most undocumented immigrants
- Focusing on “threats to national security, border security and public safety”

Public Charge

- USCIS is not considering testing, treatment, nor preventative care (including vaccines)
- President Biden has asked agencies to review the public charge rule

COVID-19

Executive Order on Ensuring an Equitable Pandemic Response and Recovery

- “Assess pandemic response plans and policies to determine whether personal protective equipment, tests, vaccines, therapeutics, and other resources have been or will be allocated equitably, including by considering:
 - “the effect of proposed policy changes on the distribution of resources to, and access to health care by, communities of color and other underserved populations”

Impact on Border Communities

2020 = Deadliest year for migrants crossing the border

1. The impact of the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), better known as the “Remain in Mexico” policy.
2. The impact of the Title 42 Expulsions.
3. Uncertainty in the community.
4. Lack of trust in immigration authorities.

Vision for Immigration

Pathway to Citizenship

- Pathway to citizenship for all 11 million undocumented immigrant people
- The U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021
- Dream Act - a good step and advances us towards our goal of citizenship for all 11 million undocumented immigrants
- Secure Act offers permanent protections for TPS holders

Vision for Immigration

Uphold the Legal Rights of People Seeking Asylum

- Ensure that people seeking asylum who have been forced to wait in Mexico under MPP are able to safely come into the U.S. to have their cases processed
- End Title 42 expulsions
- End expedited removal

Vision for Immigration

Strengthen Asylum and Refugee Systems

- Allow people seeking asylum to stay with their family members or a community sponsor while their asylum cases are being processed
- Raise the number of refugees that will be admitted this year and make sure that the refugee program is robustly funded to help rebuild the program.
- Ask Congress to pass the Refugee Protection Act

Vision for Immigration

Stop Deportations

- Stop deportations, expulsions, transfers, and flights that ICE uses for deportations
- The Administration must work with communities to heal the traumas the Trump Administration created—to the extent possible—by reuniting families separated through border policies, deportations, and xenophobic bans.

Vision for Immigration

Use Community Alternatives to Detention

- Shift funding for detention towards community based alternatives to detention
- Eliminate mandatory detention
- End all federal immigration detention contracts with private prisons
- End family detention

Vision for Immigration

Transform Immigration Laws and International Development Practices

- Build a new framework that:
 - removes the white supremacy embedded in our immigration laws
 - welcomes people from all religions, races, and national origins
 - builds up the strength of communities around the world to reduce poverty and oppression
 - chooses community and love over coercion and control.

3 Ways to Take Hopeful Action

1. Help Stop Deportations

Sign [this](#) Letter to End Family & All Detentions & Deportations

Biden, End Immigrant Family Detention & Separation, End All Immigrant Detention & Deportations

CRISTOBAL ALEX, SENIOR ADVISOR TO TRANSITION TEAM, & ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS

For the last four years the United States of America has seen unprecedented levels of terror, abuse and violence inflicted on the immigrant and refugee community. With the Trump administration coming to an end, ICE has escalated its abuse on immigrant communities, especially on Black immigrants, an escalation that has gone nearly unnoticed on the national level. That is why the nation needs the Biden administration to dismantle the deportation machine, by not only ending family detention in Pennsylvania and Texas, but also ending family separation, all immigrant detention and stopping all deportations.

Share [this toolkit](#) on Social Media

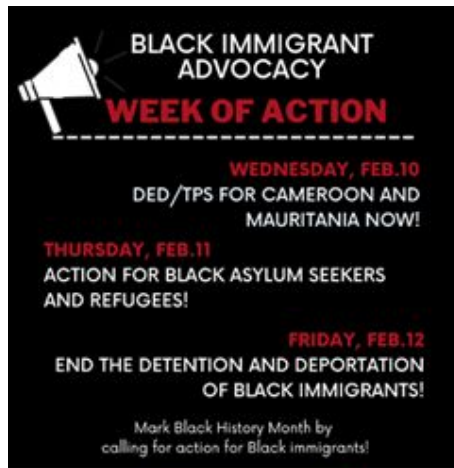
FAMILIES
BELONG
TOGETHER



The Bridge

Black History Month | Toolkit

Support Black Immigrant
Advocacy Week of Action



Join a “Black Immigrant Prayers Call,” Feb. 10/Wed. 5-5:30 pm ET via FB at: [Interfaith Immigration Coalition](#).

Call the Biden Administration to urge they stop deportations, expulsions, transfers, & flights

Faith Leaders to Biden: Ground the Death
Planes

Haitian families, some with babies as young as one. Cameroonian and Angolan asylum-seekers ...

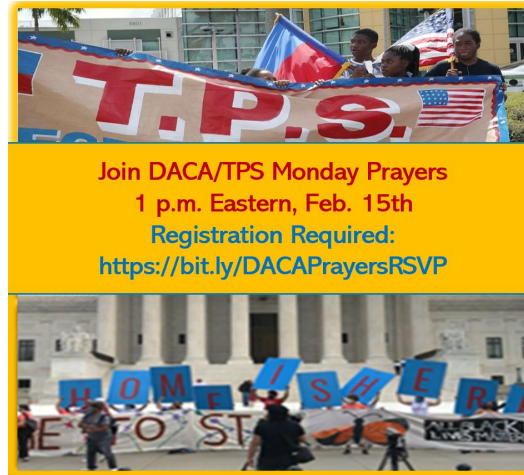
3 Ways to Take Hopeful Action

2. Advocate for Citizenship for All

Sign and Share this petition from
NILC for Citizenship for All:
<https://www.nilc.org/action/>



Join the Feb. 15 DACA/TPS
Prayers Call for Updates &
Plans to Transition



Join "Faith on the Phones,"
Thursdays 5-6 pm ET, 2/18-4/29
Register: <http://bit.ly/FaithonthePhones>



3 Ways to Take Hopeful Action

3. Engage Your Faith Community

Celebrate HIAS' Refugee Shabbat,
March 5-6 or another time this Spring.
See: <https://www.hias.org/refugee-shabbat>

Pray with "Lenten Values:
Springing into Action." Sign
up: bit.ly/LentenValues

See & Share our IIC Toolkit:
"First 100 Days and Beyond
for Immigrant Justice:
bit.ly/100DaysActionToolkit



Questions?