



## **A Call To End Immigrant Family Detention**

Immigration and Custom's Enforcement's (ICE) family detention policy, where immigrant children are detained in jail-like conditions with their parents while they await immigration hearings, is harmful to the emotional and physical wellbeing of families and the development of children. Family detention policy has been made infamous at the T. Don Hutto center in Taylor, Texas, a private prison operated by Corrections Corporation of America. Family detention violates Congressional mandates to find the least restrictive options possible and violates the federal government's responsibilities for the care of non-citizen families and children.

There are alternatives to family detention that keep families together and out of prison-like detention centers. ICE should prioritize release on personal recognizance, the use of reasonable personal bonds, and limited supervised release programs. A study by the Vera Institute found that more than 90% of immigrants on a supervised release program attended their immigration hearings. The average cost of a supervision program is \$12 a day compared to reportedly over \$200 a day to detain a person at Hutto. In addition, prioritizing these non-restrictive alternatives over detention meets Congress' repeated demand for "home-like" environments for families.

However, Immigration and Customs Enforcement has ignored that call and has proposed the construction of three new family detention centers across the country. We, the undersigned organizations and individuals, call for the end of family detention and an immediate implementation of alternatives to detention for immigrant children and their families.

---

Individual and/or Organizational Signatory

Date

---

Address

---

City/state/zip code

---

Email address

---

Phone Number

Please send completed form to:

Grassroots Leadership 2604 E. Cesar Chavez, Austin, TX 78702, For more information to or return forms via email [blibal@grassrootsleadership.org](mailto:blibal@grassrootsleadership.org), phone: (512) 971-0487