



ONLY + TOGETHER NASHVILLE

May 21, 2025 Issue #4

Welcome to the Only+Together Nashville Newsletter

A reliable source for local immigration news to help us better serve and minister to immigrants in our community. We will include new legislation and presidential actions, alerts, resources, how-to help and events. No opinions. No politics. This is your newsletter.

Email your news and information to OnlyTogetherMail@gmail.com.

Only together can we stand up for justice and the dignity and welfare of all people.

FROM THE EDITOR:

Writing a newsletter in light of the troublesome times in our own community, in our state and country is challenging. So, I write with a heavy heart and prayers for those who are suffering from fear, loss, isolation and injustice. God give us strength and the will to lead with our hearts and give generously.

Be Safe. Stay Healthy. Give Generously. Love Always.

Leslie West

ICE ACTIVITY IN NASHVILLE

In the five days after the May 9th ICE activity, TIRRC fielded over 1000 phone calls through their legal resource line. 75% of the calls were related to this immigration enforcement activity. At that time they scoured records and identified 68 people who were detained. TIRRC is focused on ensuring that every person impacted has their fair day in court and that families can be reunited as soon as possible. If you or a family member have been affected by this immigration enforcement operation, call the TIRRC resource line at 615-414-1030 and visit their [Know Your Rights](#) page for legal information and resources.

If you are looking to support the families affected by these sweeps, consider donating

to the recently launched [Belonging Fund](#) through the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee. One hundred percent of this fund will go directly to supporting immigrant families in times of crisis. Already, more than **\$32,000** has been distributed to immigrant families affected by the recent immigration enforcement to help pay for essentials like groceries, diapers, and rent. This fund has already raised over **\$200,000**.

UPCOMING EVENT

The Tennessee Justice Center will host a Summer Resource Fair on Monday, June 2, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM CDT at Lafayette St, Nashville, TN 37210. The event will feature healthcare resources, free groceries, and much more. If you or your organization would like to participate, please reach out to Shana Watkins at swatkins@tnjustice.org.

Leadership Opportunity

The Tennessee Nonprofit Network is a statewide collective of nonprofits, foundations, and congregations who learn, advocate, and collaborate. The mission is to build the momentum of the nonprofit sector in Tennessee to create equitable, measurable, and lasting change. Resources include Board and leadership materials and webinars. Best of all, membership is FREE Check out: [Home - Tennessee Nonprofit Network](#)

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS RESOURCES

Know Your Rights: Online Resources

All of us –immigrants, VISA holders, and their citizen neighbors need to know about immigrant rights and where to get updates. This newsletter has recommended these sites previously, but they are worthy of repeating.

[USAHello.org](#), a nonprofit national website in many languages, includes great info on knowing your rights and staying safe. Go to [2025 Immigration Guide | USAHello](#) for the latest changes in immigration, including immigrant registration requirements, border policies, DACA and for the parole program for Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans (CHNV). In addition, USAHello offers free online classes for GED/HiSET and citizenship preparation and practice tests, and information for immigrants on living in the USA including money, employment and more.

[TNJFON.org](#) - Valuable information and downloadable guide in Spanish and English - Resources — TNJFON. Tenn Justice for our Neighbors has assisted thousands of clients in a variety of immigration matters, with a focus on representing low-income individuals who are eligible for humanitarian forms of relief and a road to citizenship.

tnimmigrant.org, Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition website in Spanish and English, offers a resource phone number to call with questions/concerns 615-414-1030 and a page dedicated to knowing your rights and what to do...www.tnimmigrant.org/rights. They offer community education, English classes and citizenship assistance and classes.



REGISTER
TODAY

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE 2025 CONFERENCE

Mark your calendar and spread the word about the Only Together Conference, Thursday, September 25th from 12:00 pm-8:00 pm, at Woodmont Hills Church. Click the button above to register as an attendee or for an exhibit booth in the Resource and Entrepreneurship Fair.

FOCUS ON BUSINESS. Nashville has become a hot spot for successful immigrant-owned business enterprises. The afternoon session includes a track for those seeking information about starting a business and resources to help build existing businesses. Additionally, this track will focus on how to search for, interview and obtain a job. The evening Exhibits will feature booths promoting immigrant-owned businesses, hosted by recruiting/hiring agencies, and booths with community resources from organizations throughout our city.

FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH. At a time such as this who doesn't need some mental health support! An afternoon session will provide resources and advise on how to

support our new Americans.

WALKING WITH REFUGEES AND OTHER IMMIGRANTS. Every O+T Conference has provided a session for those who help immigrants. This year will include a deep dive into the immigrant experience, community organizations, information and benefits to enable them to navigate the web of services with knowledge and empathy.

Help us spread the word about the O+T Conference. Forward this email to colleagues, your faith organization's leaders, friends and family.

To download this year's flyer with the QR code for registration, please click the button below.

Download the Flyer

Share your news and events!

Email OnlyTogetherMail@gmail.com.

Forward this email to others who share your heart for people of all nations who live among us. Let's stay connected. Only together can we make a difference.

Leslie West, MSW
Only+Together Planning Committee
Immigrant Advocate and Volunteer
Brentwood UMC Refugee and Migrant Committee

**EMPOWER
REFUGEES**



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