

# Strategic Plan

## Friends of Miami-Dade Detainees- FOMDD

### Vision

*“We envision a country that respects human rights for immigrants, ending detentions, and providing fair and timely resolution to their cases.”*

### Values

#### 1. Comfort

We believe: that human dignity has no nationality or borders.

We will bring this to life in our organization by: visiting people in immigrant detention, participating in the Circle of Protection, hosting a Women’s Empowerment Group, and by providing help to the families of those detained.

#### 2. Witness

We believe: the US deportation machine has no oversight and ICE must be held accountable.

We will bring this to life in our organization by: being the eyes and ears of the community at the Krome Service Processing Center. We also bear witness to the human rights violations and silent raids happening at the ICE check-in facility in Miramar.

#### 3. Resist

We believe: immigrants should not be detained, and families should not be separated.

We will bring this to life in our organization by: holding ICE accountable and pushing them to comply and follow their agreements and basic human rights. We mobilize against anti-immigrant legislation. We participate in national and local actions/peaceful protests. Finally, we provide condition reports to monitoring groups and legal providers.

### Focus Areas

**Focus Area 1: Engagement with the community-** We engage the immigrant community, specifically those who are victims of the US deportation machine. We engage the broader community to spread awareness and draw attention to the atrocities happening because of the US deportation machine. We recruit community members to volunteer and get involved.

**Focus Area 2: Pressure ICE and Document-** We hold ICE accountable to the terms they set and agreed to for visitation. We are the eyes and ears of the community inside the Krome Service Processing Center. We pressure ICE to improve the conditions at the ICE check-in facility in Miramar. We provide evidence and pressure to end immigrant detention and to abolish ICE.

**Focus Area 3: Organizational Development**- We are a 501c3 striving toward sustainability. Financial security would assure that our program can continue to provide services, recruit new members, and eventually provide the structure and funding needed to open and run a shelter home and office.

**Focus Area 4: Expansion/Growth**- We will expand our current work, increase our volunteer base, and take steps toward opening a shelter home and office. We also strive to start other therapy groups for migrant children and men who have been affected both directly and indirectly by the US deportation machine.

## Objectives

End isolation, hold ICE accountable, spread awareness, and ultimately end immigrant detention

## Programs

- 1. Visitation Service-** Our visitation program has been running for 256 consecutive weeks. This program is aimed at ending isolation and providing support for men held at the Krome Service Processing Center. We provide books and money for phone calls or commissary. We help link pro-bono lawyers with men who have no legal representation and we help in other ways friends would. For example, helping track down friends and family, explaining the phone system, printing news articles, providing translation, and helping locate travel documents. When men are being deported we provide luggage and clothes, so they are not deported in prison uniforms and without anything. When men are released we pick them up, providing them basic supplies such as clothes, a phone, food, many times temporary shelter and transportation to their family or friends.
- 2. Circle of Protection-** FOMDD is a founding member of the Miramar, Circle of Protection and has been a continuous participant for two years. We provide snacks, drinks, clothes, toys, and access to legal information to immigrants waiting in line outside the facility, often for many hours. Our continuous presence has helped to make the conditions somewhat less horrible. Our weekly service places pressure on the city of Miramar to hold ICE accountable and to pressure ICE to ensure basic human rights.
- 3. Women's Empowerment Group-** The group is run by our Vice Chairman, Dr. Peggy, and aids those who have been affected both directly and indirectly by the deportation machine. Transportation is provided to the participants.
- 4. Shine a Light Campaign-** This campaign is part of our objective to hold ICE accountable and to restore visitation rights that were unconstitutionally taken away from two of our volunteers for their participation in a peaceful protest off-site.
- 5. Raise Awareness-** We raise awareness by speaking to interested groups, regular communication with local media, providing psychological reports for court cases,

participating in panels and forums, report conditions to monitoring groups and legal providers, and making and maintaining congressional liaisons.

- 6. Other-** We provided funds for our volunteer psychologist, Dr. Peggy, to go to Tijuana to offer support to the immigrant caravan. We also collaborated with other NGOs on a relief trip for Syrian Refugees trapped in camps in Northern Greece and we contribute to a national database that collects information about detained individuals.