2022
ANNUAL REPORT
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The year 2022 marked 25 years since Detention Watch Network’s founding in response to the explosive growth of the U.S. immigration detention system. We were thrilled that after years of virtual meetings and Zoom gatherings, DWN was able to bring our members and allies together to celebrate this milestone in D.C. And we had much to celebrate:

In March, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced it would no longer detain immigrants at the Etowah County Jail in Alabama and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced that ICE would not renew the guaranteed minimum contract provision for the Glades County Detention Center in Florida with plans to pause usage of that facility. ICE also planned to modify the contracts for Winn Correctional Center in Winnfield, Louisiana and Alamance County Detention Center in Graham, North Carolina, limiting the use of both.

And towards the end of the year – within just two weeks in late November and early December, ICE announced plans to end contracts with Berks County Detention Center in Pennsylvania and Yuba County Jail in California—two huge wins for the immigrant community and the movement to end immigration detention.

We also saw positive impacts of the Defund Hate campaign when the President’s Budget Request and both the House and Senate proposals for FY23 DHS appropriations included reduced funding for ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations overall and a 26% cut in detention levels—an unprecedented cut that would decrease the detention population to the lowest it has been in 15 years, signaling that the needle is finally moving on immigration detention.

While we are seeing progress that is the direct result of DWN’s efforts and that of our members, there is still a long way to go. Also in 2022, we were faced with the expansion of Operation Lonestar and the continuation of Title 42.
Throughout 2022, DWN continued to coordinate the Communities Not Cages (CNC) campaign and build upon the "First Ten" to Communities Not Cages campaign from President Biden’s first year in office. Of these "First Ten" facilities, the Biden administration so far announced that three will stop detaining immigrants: Irwin Detention Center, Etowah Detention Center, and Berks County Family Residential Center. These closures are a testament to the relentless courageous activism of our members and
DWN. However, we have found that when detention centers close or stop contracting with ICE to detain immigrants, most people are transferred to a different facility instead of being released.

As a result, DWN has pivoted to produce resources and call clearly for **just closures with releases, not transfers**. We amplified a **just closures** guide put out by member coalition California Dignity not Detention and hosted a webinar on the topic. We also recruited a new CNC steering committee in early 2022 as we closed out the demand for the "First Ten" after Biden’s first year in office. The steering committee has diverse geographic representation and is helping to shape the strategic direction of the CNC campaign.

Through DWN’s coordination of the State Legislation Working Group, we focused on advancing anti-detention initiatives and legislation at the state and local level. DWN coordinated meetings with partners in California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Minnesota to strategize about introducing state legislation to reduce immigration detention in the 2023 legislative cycle. The meetings were followed up with technical assistance in bill drafting, sponsor recruitment, and campaign planning.

DWN also sharpened our stance on border policies and advocacy, including hosting a border convening in Arizona in May, bringing together 38 participants representing 25 organizations to build relationships, identify opportunities for collaboration, create space for collective analysis, and begin visioning what a win against the border enforcement to immigrant detention pipeline could look like.
DWN continued to co-lead the Defund Hate campaign, which has effectively blocked more than $15 billion in requested funding for ICE and CBP since the campaign launched in 2017. DWN is committed to divestment from agencies that tear apart loved ones and harm communities. Instead, we want to see tax dollars used to strengthen families and communities, including investment in education, housing, green infrastructure, and healthcare programs. Throughout 2022, the Defund Hate coalition engaged in efforts to reduce funding in the Fiscal Year 2023 budget and strengthened the coalition’s field and organizing capacity, including the following:

» The Defund Hate coalition hired a short-term campaign manager and initiated the establishment of its first ever steering committee.
» The Defund Hate campaign organized interfaith communities to take collective action by holding an advocacy 101 training and then conducting 17 congressional meetings in April. During these faith-based visits, the interfaith members asked members of congress about their promises to protect immigrant communities and urged them not invest more money for ICE and CBP.

» As part of continuing efforts to build allies across the progressive movement, campaign partners organized a convening in July for organizations that work on the federal budget and appropriations across social justice issues. Connections were made with organizations from movements for cuts to military spending, racial justice, climate justice, and Muslim rights, among others. The convening resulted in the creation of a broad listserv for progressive budget and appropriations advocacy.

» The Defund Hate campaign hosted a National Day of Advocacy in September with over 100 participants from across the country. Participants in Washington D.C. held 42 congressional meetings and led a rally and disruption on Capitol Hill, while over 100 people took action digitally. The campaign provided 20 scholarships for directly impacted individuals to participate.

» Defund Hate released 12 coalition-wide statements and produced two videos about defunding ICE and CBP in 2022.
Our community power comes from our diverse, resilient, and committed membership.

DWN recruited 34 new members in 2022 – 13 organizations and 21 individuals. Overall, DWN’s membership comprised of 119 organizations and 72 individuals for a total of 191 members.

In June, DWN hosted 116 members at our 13th National Member Conference in Seattle. Plenaries and workshops covered subjects such as alternatives to detention, litigation, organizing for releases instead of transfers, and more.
## 2022 Members

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<th>ACLU</th>
<th>Arriba Las Vegas Worker Center</th>
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<td>ACLU Foundation - Immigrants’ Rights Project</td>
<td>Asian Prisoner Support Committee</td>
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<td>Adelante Alabama Worker Center</td>
<td>Asylum Seekers Sponsorship Project</td>
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<td>Advocate Visitors with Immigrants in Detention in the Chihuahuan Desert</td>
<td>Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network (BIJAN)</td>
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<td>Advocates for Immigrant Rights</td>
<td>Envision Freedom Fund (Brooklyn Community Bail Fund)</td>
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<td>California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance</td>
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<td>American Friends Service Committee</td>
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<td>American Immigration Council</td>
<td>Center for Constitutional Rights</td>
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<td>American Immigration Lawyers Association</td>
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<td>Amnesty International USA</td>
<td>Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center</td>
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<td>Colectiva Legal del Pueblo</td>
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<td>Comunidades Unidas en una Voz</td>
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<td>Cornell Law School Asylum Clinic</td>
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<td>Desis Rising Up &amp; Moving (DRUM)</td>
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<td>Detained Migrant Solidarity Committee</td>
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<td>Families Belong Together</td>
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<td>Families for Freedom</td>
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<td>Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project</td>
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<td>Home is Here NOLA</td>
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<td>Human Rights First</td>
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<td>Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights</td>
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<td>Immigrant Action Alliance</td>
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MEMBERSHIP

Immigrant Alliance for Justice and Equity
Immigrant Defense Advocates
Immigrant Defense Project
Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project
Immigrant Legal Defense
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Immigrants’ Rights Clinic, Stanford Law School
Innovation Law Lab
Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants
Interfaith Immigration Coalition
Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity
ISLA: Immigration Services and Legal Advocacy
Jefferson County Immigrant Rights Advocates
Jewish Activists for Immigration Justice of Western MA
Juntos
Just Futures Law
La Colectiva
Latinx Therapists Action Network
Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition
Make the Road (NY, NJ, PA, CT, NV)
Mano Amiga
Mariposa Legal
Maryland Against ICE Detention
Minnesota Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (MN ICOM)
National Immigrant
National Immigrant Justice Center
National Immigration Law Center
National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
National Religious Campaign Against Torture
Never Again Action
NM Dream Team
No Detention Centers in Michigan
NorCal Resist
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
Organized Communities Against Deportations
Oxfam America
Providence Youth Student Movement
Public Counsel
Queer Detainee Empowerment Project
Quixote Center Inc
RAICES
Rainbow Beginnings
ReleaseMN8
Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network
Rural Organizing Project
COHORT OF FORMERLY DETAINED LEADERS

We also continued to develop the leadership of directly impacted members through a cohort of immigrants who have been previously detained or have loved ones that have been detained. DWN offered tailored trainings on topics such as the criminalization of immigrant survivors, media relations, public speaking, and trauma-informed healing. DWN offered stipends and the opportunity to apply for small project support subgrants totaling $31,500 disbursed to seven cohort-led projects in 2022.

"Our cohort sessions were like a healing space for me. Seeing other people that have endured the same experiences helped me make the decision to become an organizer and help my community." — Berto
FREEDOM FELLOWSHIP

To deepen our investment in formerly detained leaders, in late 2022 DWN hired our first-ever Freedom Fellow, Johannes Favi– a formerly detained leader and cohort member.

This Fellowship is enhancing DWN’s membership efforts with an emphasis on developing the second cohort of formerly detained leaders. DWN will also support Johannes’s work on a project of his own design.

ORGANIZING SUPPORT PROGRAM

DWN is dedicated to capacity building and providing resources to grassroots organizational members to aid their innovative approaches to support people detained, stop expansion, and/or shut down detention centers. For 2022, DWN completed its seventh round of the Organizing Support Program (OSP), granting over $155,000 to 17 grassroots organizational members.

We invite you to learn more from this cohort and plug in to support their local organizing efforts.

Centro de Trabajadores Unidos
Directly Impacted Leaders/Deportation

California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance
Liberation and Healing Project & Base Building Efforts

El Refugio Ministry
Amplify and Abolish Campaign
Detention Center Targeted: Stewart Detention Center

FANG Collective
Shut Down ICE
Detention Centers Targeted: Bristol County House of Corrections, Donald W. Wyatt Detention Facility
**MEMBERSHIP**

**Immigrant Action Alliance**  
Shut Down Glades  
Detention Center Targeted: Glades County Detention Center

**Interfaith Coalition on Immigration**  
Minnesota Sanctuary State  
Detention Centers Targeted: Five county jails in Minnesota with ICE contracts (Carver, Freeborn, Kandiyohi, Nobles and Sherburne)

**Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity**  
Bus Pilgrimage

**Juntos**  
ICE Out of PA – Moshannon Valley  
Detention Center Targeted: Moshannon Valley Processing Center

**La Resistencia**  
Shut Down NWDC Now!  
Detention Center Targeted: Northwest ICE Processing Center

**Latinx Therapists Action Network**  
Latinx Therapists Action Network

**Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition**  
Immigrants Making Powerful Affirming Change Together (IMPACT) Fellowship  
Detention Centers Targeted: Adelanto Detention Facility, Otay Mesa Detention Center

**Mariposa Legal**  
Get ICE out of Indiana and Driving Without Fear Campaign  
Detention Center Targeted: Clay County Jail

**Organized Communities Against Deportations**  
Holding ICE Accountable  
Detention Centers Targeted: McHenry County Correctional Facility, Jerome Combs Detention Center

**St Louis Interfaith Committee on Latin America**  
Back to Basics: Building Grassroots Immigrant-Led Power in Missouri

**Queer Detainee Empowerment Project**  
QDEP Organizing Membership Base

**Tsuru For Solidarity**  
National Ad Hoc Coalition to End Emergency Intake Sites  
Detention Center Targeted: Fort Bliss, Pomona Fairplex

**United Stateless**  
Preventing Immigration Detention of Stateless People Through Legal Services and Advocacy
In October 2022, DWN, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, and Ceres Policy Research released *If You Build It, ICE Will Fill It*, a report outlining the direct link between ICE arrests and the availability and capacity of immigration detention centers. The report demonstrates that immigrants in counties with more detention space and counties with higher carceral capacity are significantly more likely to be arrested and detained by ICE.

In our effort to end immigration detention, DWN opposes the creation and expansion of different forms of movement control and surveillance such as ankle monitors and phone apps. To make the case against so-called "alternatives to detention" both as a short-term solution and a long-term strategy, DWN launched a new resource, *The Case Against Alternatives to Detention*, on December 1, 2022.
Additional communications highlights include:

» In April 2022, a piece by DWN Executive Director Silky Shah published by Truthout went viral on social media, celebrating wins in budget proposals with a decrease in detention capacity.

» Daily Kos published a piece on the 2022 Defund Hate National Day of Advocacy.

» DWN developed messaging guides to support our membership in their work to end detention and to equip the immigrant rights movement as a whole with cohesive messaging to challenge the detention, deportation, and criminalization of immigrants.

» DWN is producing more videos and original content for social media, with dramatic increases in online engagement. DWN now has a collective cross-platform (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) audience of 61,211 people and increased our email engagement strategy capacity, resulting in a 7,397 increase in email subscribers.

» DWN continues to elevate its media profile, with a growing list of spokespeople and over 703 press hits that quoted DWN spokesperson or mentioned DWN or one of its campaigns throughout 2022.

The Movement to Defund and Abolish Immigration Jails Is Winning Major Victories

Biden’s budget calls for a 26 percent reduction in immigration detention, and ICE is reducing the use of some jails.

By Silky Shah, Truthout
April 18, 2022
FINANCES

REVENUE: $2,592,686
- 85.9% | Foundation Grants
- 8.4% | Contributions
- 3.8% | Membership Dues
- 1.0% | Program Revenue
- 2.0% | Other (Special events, Retail Sales, Interest Income)

EXPENSES: $3,531,690
- 71.2% | Program Services
- 21.1% | Organizing
- 19.1% | Member Capacity Building
- 17.9% | Advocacy
- 13.2% | Communications

- 28.8% | Supporting Services
  - 24.7% | Management and General
  - 4.2% | Fundraising
OUR FUNDERS

Anonymous
Borealis Philanthropy
Dr. Bronner’s Family Foundation
Ford Foundation
Four Freedoms Fund
Give Forward Foundation
Heising-Simons Foundation
Oak Foundation
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
Rage Against the Machine
DWN members, who contributed $99,428 in dues
Individual Supporters, who contributed $34,045 in donations

25TH ANNIVERSARY SPONSORS

American Civil Liberties Union
American Friends Service Committee
Amnesty International USA
Community Change
Community IT
Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project
Freedom for Immigrants
Georgetown Law Center on Privacy & Technology
GRF CPAs & Advisors
Immigrant Legal Resource Center
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
M&T Bank
National Immigration Law Center
National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
Organized Communities Against Deportations
Oxfam
Pacifica Strategies
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
Service Employees International Union
SIS Global Solutions
Southern Poverty Law Center
Showing Up for Racial Justice
United We Dream
OUR STAFF

Lissette Castillo
Senior Organizer

Itzel Corona Aguilar
Organizer

Johannes Favi
Freedom Fellow

Feven Ferai
Finance & Operations Director

Jenny Garcia
Communications Associate

Justine Garcia
Digital Manager

Chrissy Gargano
Development Manager

Setareh Ghandehari
Advocacy Director

Michelle Gonzalez
People and Culture Specialist

Marcela Hernandez
Organizing Director

Hillary Li
Policy Counsel

Kelvin Lopez
Organizer
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