



DETENTION  
WATCH NETWORK

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW .....	3
2022 CAMPAIGNS .....	4
MEMBERSHIP .....	8
COMMUNICATIONS .....	14
FINANCES .....	16
FUNDERS .....	17
STAFF .....	18
2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS .....	19

# OVERVIEW

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.



# 2022 CAMPAIGNS



## COMMUNITIES NOT CAGES

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.

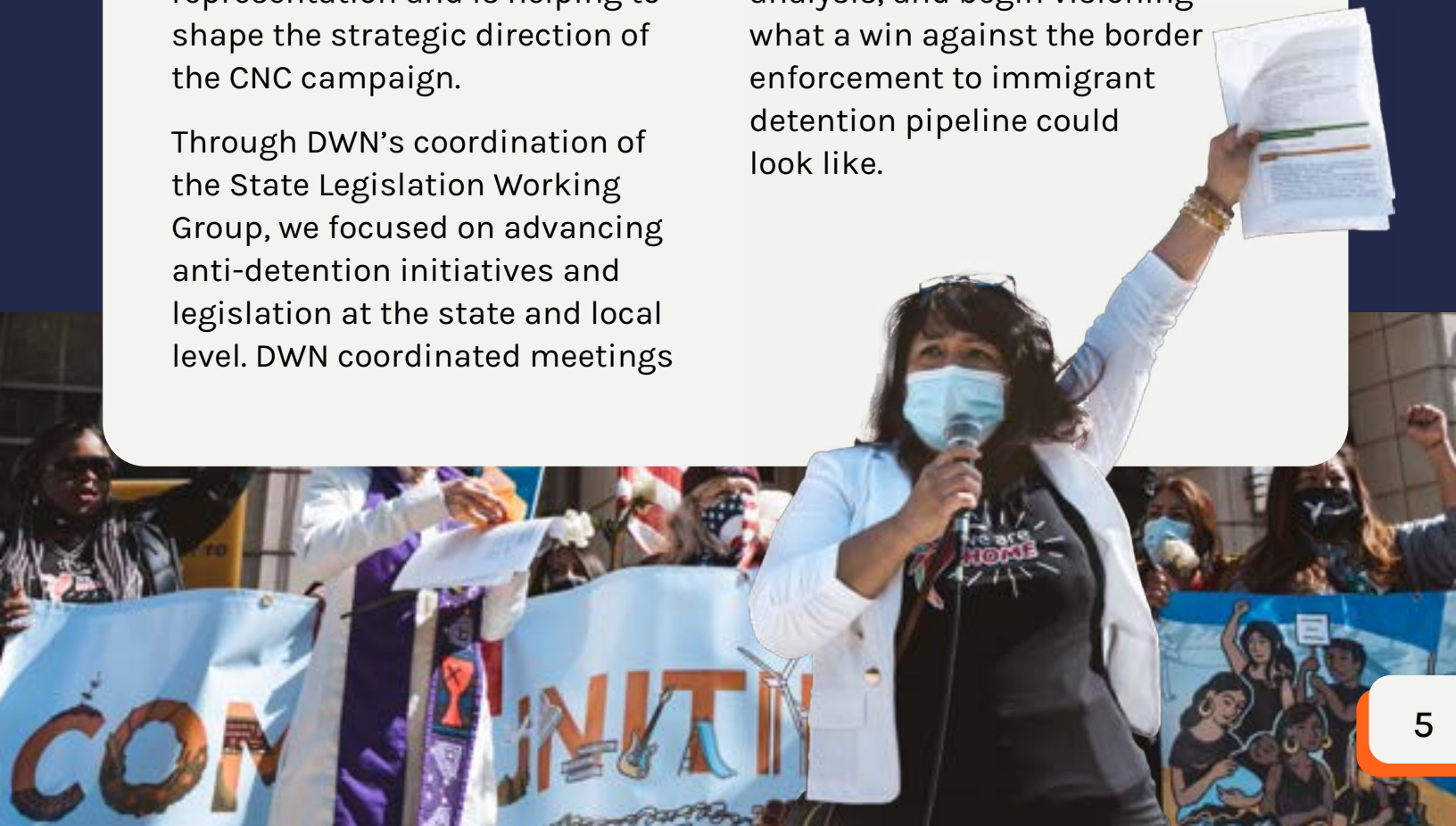
As a result, DWN has pivoted to produce resources and call clearly for **just closures** with **releases, not transfers**. We amplified a **just closures** guide put out by member coalition California Dignity not Detention and hosted a webinar on the topic. We also recruited a new CNC steering committee 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.







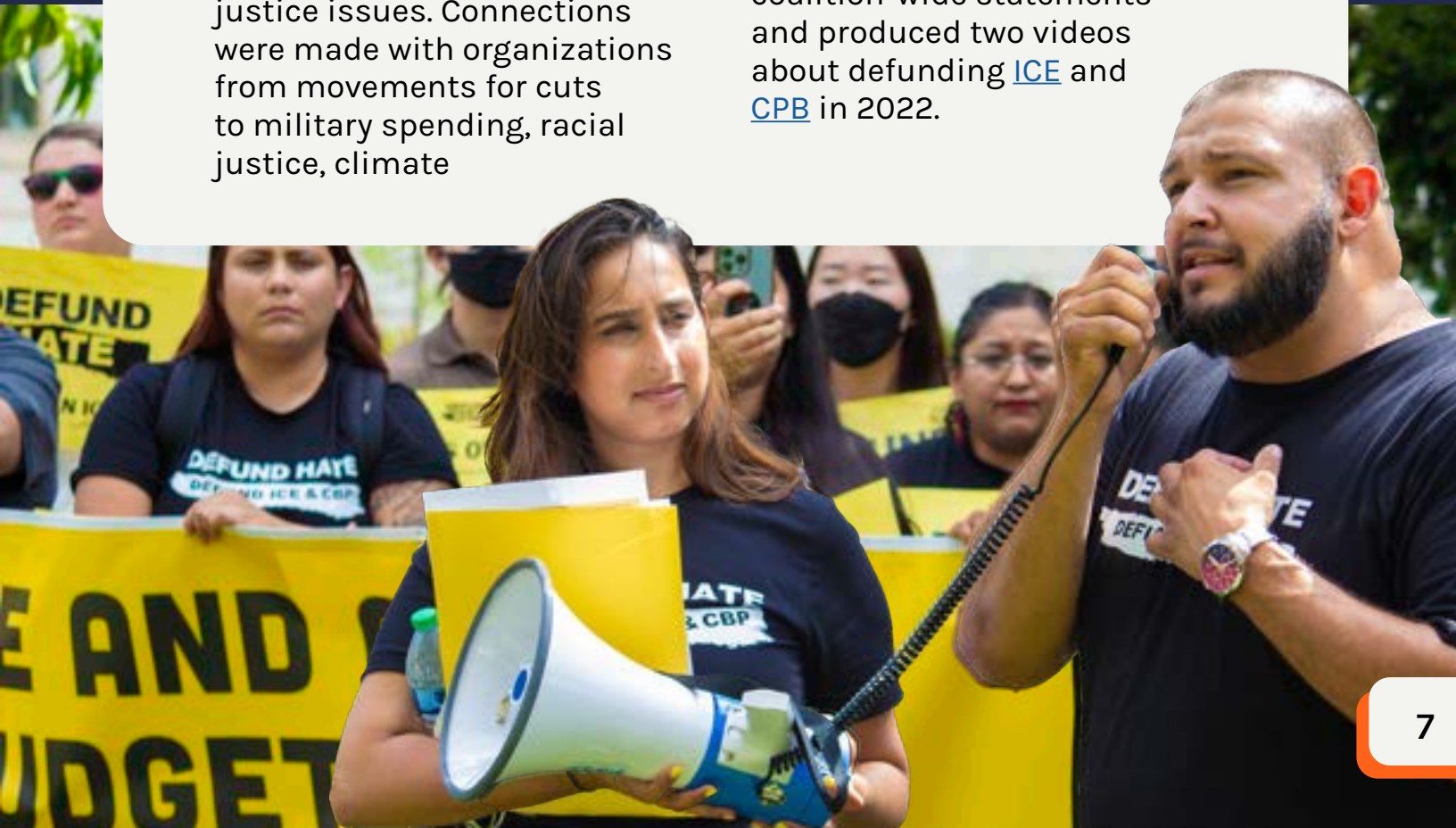
## DEFUND HATE

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:

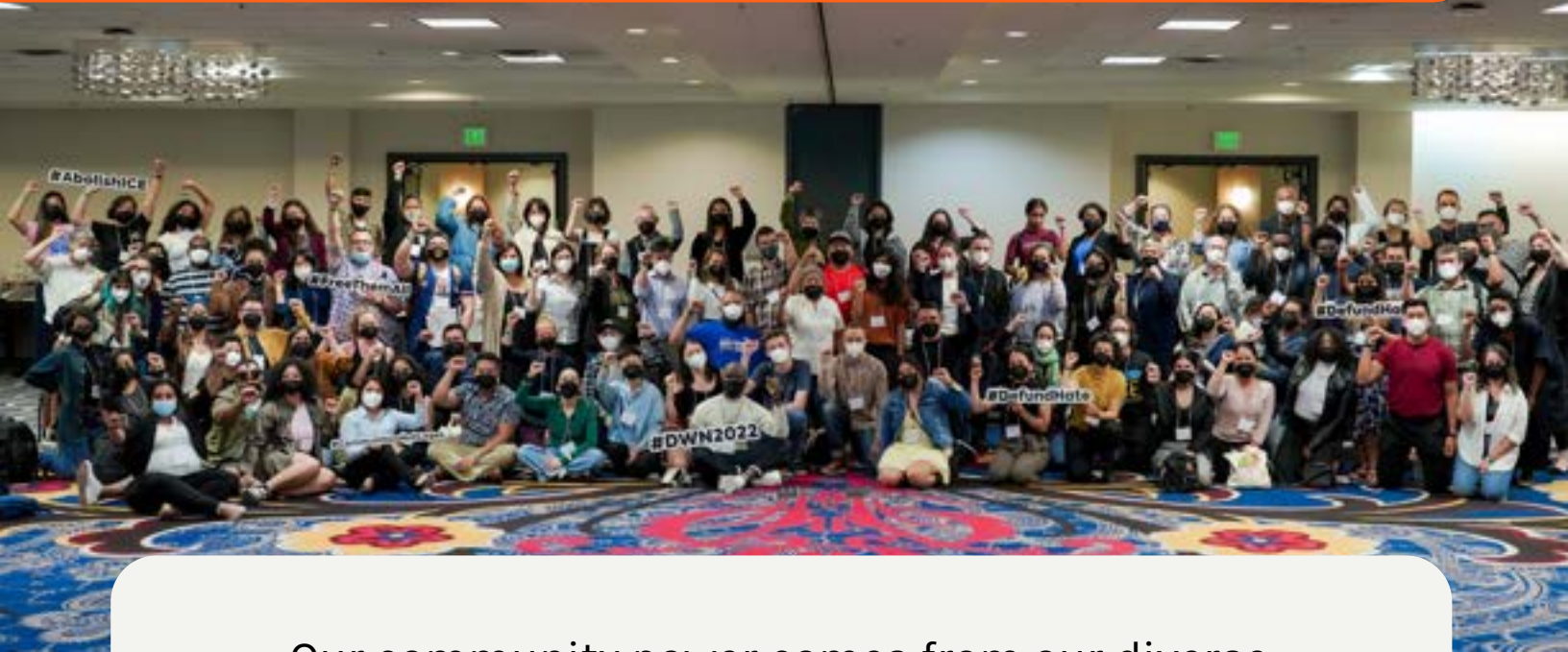
- » The Defund Hate coalition hired a short-term campaign manager and initiated the establishment of its first ever steering committee.

- » 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 [CPB](#) in 2022.





# MEMBERSHIP



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

ACLU	Arriba Las Vegas Worker Center	Civil Rights Education and Enforcement Center
ACLU Foundation - Immigrants' Rights Project	Asian Prisoner Support Committee	Colectiva Legal del Pueblo
Adelante Alabama Worker Center	Asylum Seekers Sponsorship Project	Colorado People's Alliance (COPA)
Advocate Visitors with Immigrants in Detention in the Chihuahuan Desert	Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network (BIJAN)	Community EsTr(EI/La)
Advocates for Immigrant Rights	Envision Freedom Fund (Brooklyn Community Bail Fund)	Community Justice Exchange (National Bail Fund Network)
Alianza Americas	California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance	Comunidades Unidas en una Voz
American Friends Service Committee	CASA	Cornell Law School Asylum Clinic
American Immigration Council	Center for Constitutional Rights	Desis Rising Up & Moving (DRUM)
American Immigration Lawyers Association	Centro de Trabajadores Unidos	Detained Migrant Solidarity Committee
Americans for Immigrant Justice	Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America	El Refugio
Amnesty International USA		Families Belong Together
		Families for Freedom
		Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project
		Free Migration Project
		Freedom For Immigrants
		Friends Committee on National Legislation
		Garifuna Community Services
		Georgia Detention Watch
		Grassroots Leadership
		Home is Here NOLA
		Human Rights First
		Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
		Immigrant Action Alliance



## 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

NorCal Resist  
 Northwest Immigrant Rights Project  
 Organized Communities Against Deportations



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

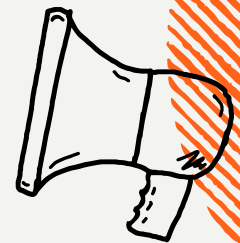
Oxfam America  
 Providence Youth Student Movement  
 Public Counsel  
 Queer Detainee Empowerment Project  
 Quixote Center Inc  
 RAICES  
 Rainbow Beginnings  
 ReleaseMN8  
 Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network  
 Rural Organizing Project



Sanctuary and Resistance to Injustice (SARI)	Somos South Georgia	UndocuBlack Network
Sanctuary DMV	South Asian American Leading Together	Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)
Scott D. Pollock & Associates, P.C.	Southeast Asia Resource Action Center	Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice
Sheriffs for Trusting Communities	Southeast Immigrant Rights Network	United Stateless
Showing up for Racial Justice Education Fund	Southern Poverty Law Center	University of Miami School of Law Immigration Clinic
Shut Down Berks Coalition	St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America	Washington Defender Association
Siembra NC	Sueños Sin Fronteras de Tejas	Women's Refugee Commission
SIREN (Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network)	The FANG Collective	
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas	The ICEBreakers	
	Tsuru for Solidarity	

## 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



### [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

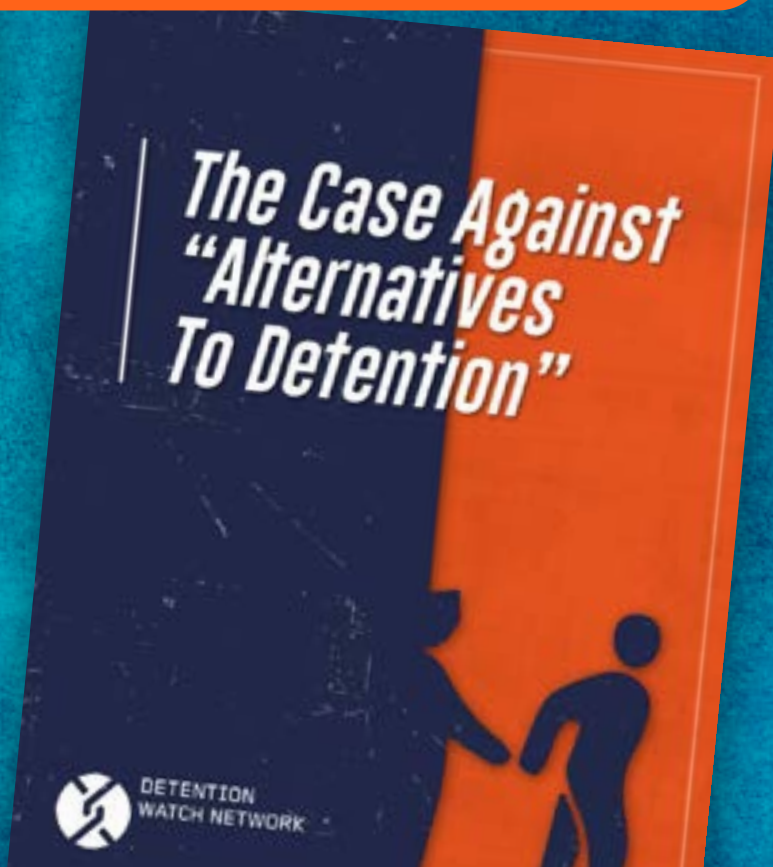
### [Tsuru For Solidarity](#)

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

# COMMUNICATIONS



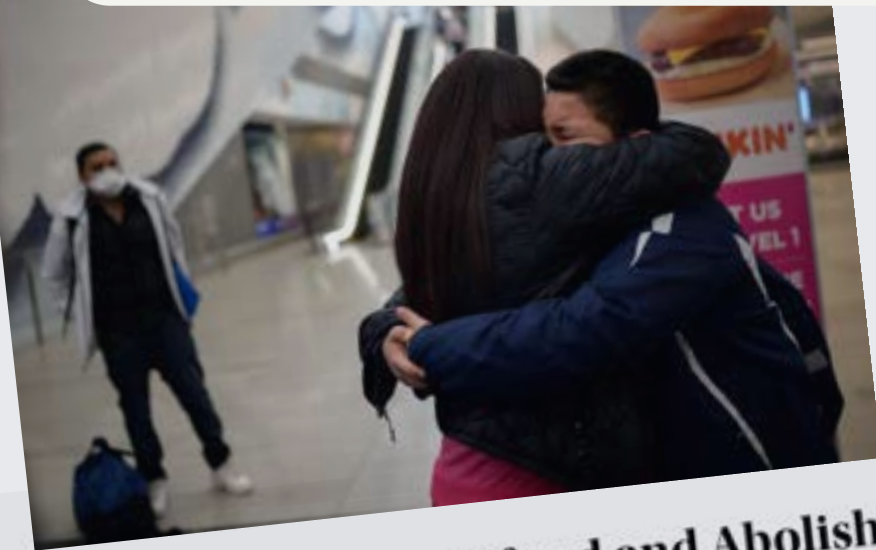
In October 2022, DWN, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, and Ceres Policy Research released [\*If You Build It, ICE Will Fill It\*](#), a report outlining the direct link between ICE arrests and the availability and capacity of immigration detention centers. The report demonstrates that immigrants in counties 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 13, 2022

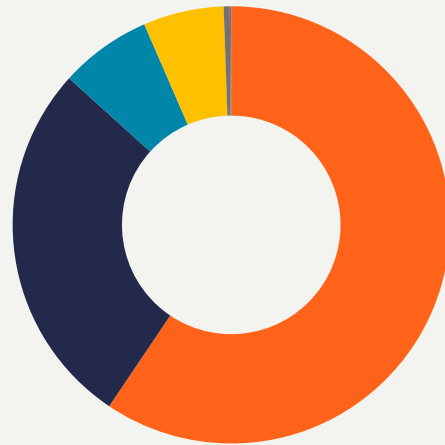


Hold ICE and CBP accountable during upcoming budget negotiations, advocacy at rally



# FINANCES

## REVENUE: \$2,592,686

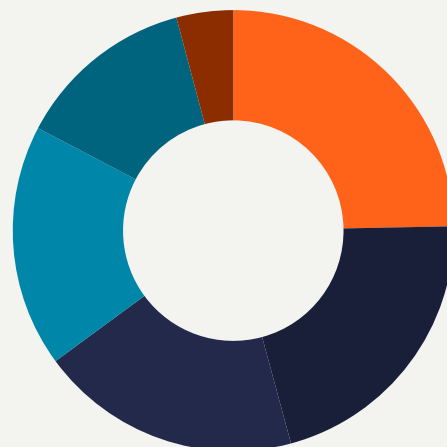
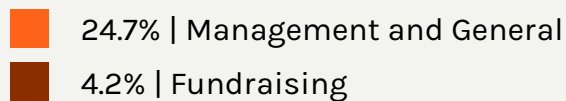


## EXPENSES: \$3,531,690

### 71.2% | Program Services



### 28.8% | Supporting Services





# 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



## OUR STAFF



**Gabriela  
Marquez-Benitez**  
Membership  
Director



**Aimee  
Nichols**  
Managing  
Director



**Carly  
Pérez Fernández**  
Communications  
Director



**Silky  
Shah**  
Executive  
Director



**Jolie  
Steinert**  
Administrative  
Associate



**Luis  
Suarez**  
Advocacy  
Manager



**Gabriela  
Viera**  
Advocacy  
Manager



**Stacy  
Suh**  
Program  
Director

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**Silky Shah**  
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