

The FACTS

Services Beyond Respite Shelter

January 2024

About the San Diego Rapid Response Network

Focused on minimizing the impact of enforcement activities, family separation and deportation on immigrants in the San Diego border region, <u>San Diego Rapid Response Network</u> (SDRRN) is a coalition of community leaders – monitoring increased immigration enforcement activities and humanitarian issues. Core partners are: ACLU Foundation of San Diego & Imperial Counties (ACLUF-SDIC), Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFSSD), SEIU Local 221 and Southwestern College.

Since January 2021, SDRRN and its partners have also worked collectively as part of the <u>California</u> <u>Welcoming Task Force</u> to re-envision how the U.S. can welcome people seeking asylum safely and expeditiously at our border by coordinating across sectors: humanitarian, legal, health, advocacy and communications.

In addition to its emergency respite migrant shelter – operated by Jewish Family Service of San Diego – SDRRN provides an array of services to support asylum seekers, immigrants and their families in the face of heightened border restrictions and evolving federal policies, including:

Emergency Immigration Enforcement Hotline

Operated by Jewish Family Service of San Diego, SDRRN maintains its Emergency Immigration Enforcement Hotline for San Diego County community members to report any ongoing immigration emergencies – such as checkpoints, raids, arrests and harassment. Dedicated to addressing immediate concerns, the hotline documents emergency incidents, provides emergency assistance, and connects affected individuals with the appropriate resources for legal defense.

The hotline is staffed by a knowledgeable and dedicated team of dispatchers. Callers can leave a detailed message, and incoming messages are routinely monitored during business and non-business hours (weekends included) and returned as appropriate for immigration emergencies.

Hotline: 619-536-0823. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with monitoring on weekends and evenings.

Legal Services

SDRRN currently provides immigrants with pro bono <u>legal services</u> to the most vulnerable cases, as capacity allows, as well as carefully written policies and procedures to help immigrants navigate the complex maze of immigration policy. Partners in this work include JFSSD, the Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Casa Cornelia Law Center, Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego, and the Immigration Justice Project.

Advocacy Efforts

By leveraging longtime relationships with elected officials, policy and legal experts, SDRRN is able to successfully advocate for the rights, protections and support of refugees, asylum seekers and immigrants – as well as provide issue/legislative advocacy education and orchestrate deportation defense campaigns.

Concentrating on reframing the narrative to support deportation defense campaigns and other SDRRN programmatic goals, SDRRN is consistently proactive in advocating for immigrants and their

families and working with the legal service group to identify and review cases for impact litigation, which concentrates on changing laws and statues to drive social change.

Impact advocacy has included working to increase the rights of <u>pregnant people</u> seeking asylum, end <u>family separations</u> and end <u>Migrant Protection Protocols</u> (MPP or "Remain in Mexico).

SDRRN Commitment Statement

The San Diego Rapid Response Network stands at the ready to support asylum seekers and migrants as federal policy changes and needs arise to ensure that *no one stands alone in our community*.

Ways for the Community to Support

Funds are desperately needed to maintain vital operations. Donations of any amount can be made at **rapidresponsesd.org**. Visit **jfssd.org** for available job positions and in-person volunteer opportunities to support this work.

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