



Measure X: July 21, 2021

Our History

- The Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance (CCIRA) was established in 2017 by legal and community-based organizations aiming to advance immigrant rights and promote resources for all Contra Costa residents regardless of immigration status.
- CCIRA was formed after an article was published in the East Bay Express about the Probation Department and the Custody Alternative Facility turning people over to ICE during appointments.
- Originally sponsored by EBASE, CCIRA is now a hosted coalition within Monument Impact's community engagement programs.



Ambushed: Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Sets Up Surprise Stings To Help Federal Immigration Agents Arrest and Deport Immigrants

Chris Kim said his arrest and detention by ICE, with assistance from the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office, cost him his jobs, car, and apartment.

Image credit: Bert Johnson

From:

Story: Ambushed: Contra Costa County Law Enforcement Sets Up Surprise Stings To Help Federal Immigration Agents Arrest and Deport Immigrants (January 10, 2017)

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Credit: Bert Johnson / East Bay Express



Mission & Purpose

CCIRA works to collectively move campaigns forward by drawing on the experience and best practices of organizations doing local and regional work to engage the broader community in supporting immigrants. **Our mission is to help make Contra Costa a county that welcomes, honors and protects the rights of immigrant members of our communities.** We seek to:

- Advocate for city and county policies that protect the rights and due process of immigrants;
- Improve access to resources and services for immigrant communities;
- Lift up the voices and leadership of the most vulnerable immigrants; and
- Educate, train and foster a deeper analysis of the broken "crimmigration" system among immigrant communities and allies.



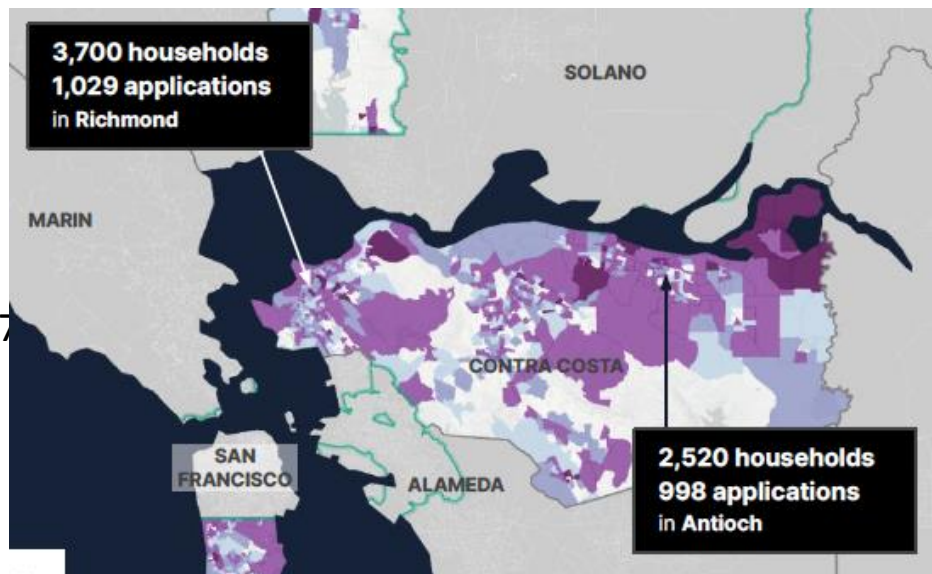
Immigrants & BIPOC Tenants Most at Risk of Eviction

In Contra Costa County:

Households at Risk 20,980

ERAP Applications 5,944

Application Gap



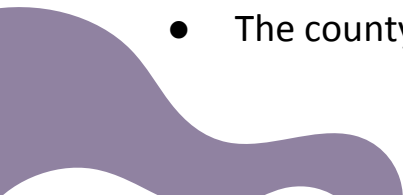
Manuel & Family: Evicted April 30, 2021



What's the problem?



- Nearly 21,000 Contra Costa residents are facing houselessness and evictions (Urban Footprint), exacerbated by the pandemic, majority of whom are immigrants and BIPOC. Unhoused residents need resources and a pathway to long-term housing options.
- Despite the housing moratorium, landlords continue to find loopholes to evict immigrant and often undocumented tenants who do not have access to legal eviction defense or KYR information in order to fight these discriminatory claims. The sheriff's office plays an instrumental role by carrying out these eviction notices.
- Families impacted by having a loved one detained by ICE, are especially vulnerable to housing and insecurity and eviction.
- Immigrant rights and tenants' rights are interconnected. Bad actor landlords threaten to call ICE, harass and attempt illegal evictions because of the tenant's language barriers and status.
- The county currently does not sufficiently invest in race and health equity.





Our Asks for Measure X Funding

- Fund eviction defense services for our immigrant, BIPOC, low-income communities facing housing insecurity and evictions (beyond CARES Act funding) - \$2M/yr
- Fund tenants' rights attorney available at the Court Houses during UD proceedings - 1 FTE @ \$150,000/yr (Bay Area Legal Aid)
- Fund attorneys & social workers who can work in the County Courts' self-help systems. The goal of these workers must be to fight for tenants, not to mediate conflicts.
- As the original group to identify the need and create a proposal for Stand Together Contra Costa, CCIRA supports Measure X funding for holistic deportation defense teams through Stand Together Contra Costa.



Measure X funds should go towards...

01

Eviction Defense

Legal services for residents experiencing housing insecurity; support attorneys at the courthouse

02

Rental Assistance

Rental assistance for tenants even after the pandemic

03

Public Defenders

Hiring social workers to connect clients to resources at first contact and fund deportation defense teams



Thanks!

Do you have any questions?
Contact us here:

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