



*Together for Better Health*

September 14, 2017

Contra Costa Board of Supervisors

Esteemed members of the board:

The Community Clinic Consortium of Contra Costa and Solano (the Consortium) strongly supports the establishment of *Stand Together CoCo*, a rapid response and community education project to support safety and justice for immigrant families in Contra Costa.

The mission of *Stand Together CoCo* is to ensure that all people in Contra Costa County, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, are afforded the rights established by the United States Constitution, and are protected from actions or policies that result in disparate, discriminatory, or unlawful treatment.

A project conducted in partnership with community-based organizations, *Stand Together CoCo* will provide culturally competent, no-cost rapid response support, legal defense services and clinics, and immigrant rights education and training to support families impacted by anti-immigrant policies and practices affecting Contra Costa County residents.

As a public/private collective impact initiative staffed by trained community leaders and community-based immigration defense attorneys, and deploying across the county's three geographic regions, *Stand Together CoCo* will build on Contra Costa's outstanding record of success in developing bold and innovative solutions to advance justice and equity for all its residents.

The Consortium represents three community health centers in Contra Costa who provide a variety of health and wellness services to over 100,000 patients annually. Nearly 90 percent of the patients served are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level – approximately 60 percent are Hispanic. Our members include La Clinica, LifeLong Medical Care, and Planned Parenthood Northern California. We believe that it is critical to ensure the physical, mental, and emotional of all Contra Costa County residents. *Stand Together CoCo* would provide essential legal resources to individuals and families whose health and well-being are compromised because of the fear of deportation.

We call on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors to authorize the Office of the Public Defender to establish *Stand Together CoCo* as a pilot project. By authorizing and funding this project, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors will send a clear message of leadership, commitment, and compassion for our most vulnerable residents.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at (510) 837-9272.

Best,

Alvaro Fuentes  
Executive Director

# Multifaith Immigration Coalition for Action

## *Contra Costa County*

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### **Affiliates**

*Christ the King Catholic Parish*

*Concord United Methodist Church*

*Congregation B'nai Tikvah*

*Danville Congregational Church*

*Lafayette United Methodist Church*

*Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist  
Church*

*St. John's Episcopal Church, Clayton*

*Christ the Lord Episcopal, Pinole*

*Shell Ridge Community Church*

*Martinez United Methodist Church*

*Community Presbyterian Church*

*Pittsburg United Methodist Church*

*Ygnacio Valley Presbyterian Church*

*Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church*

*United Methodist Church, Pinole*

**Re: Stand Together CoCo: One County. One Community. United.**

Dear Supervisors Gioia, Glover, Andersen, Mitchoff and Burgis,

Multifaith Immigration Coalition for Action (MICA) requests that Contra Costa establish *Stand Together CoCo*, a rapid response and community education project to support safety and justice for immigrant families in Contra Costa.

We are a coalition of individuals, faith-based organizations, and congregations in Contra Costa County that serves and advocates for our immigrant community. Through honoring our faith traditions, we are called to welcome our brothers and sisters, love our neighbor, and protect those seeking home and refuge.

The mission of Stand Together CoCo is to ensure that all people in Contra Costa County, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, are afforded the rights established by the United States Constitution, and are protected from actions or policies that result in disparate, discriminatory, or unlawful treatment.

A project conducted in partnership with community-based organizations, Stand Together CoCo will provide culturally competent, no-cost rapid response support, legal defense services and clinics, and immigrant rights education and training to support families impacted by anti-immigrant policies and practices affecting Contra Costa County residents.

As a public/private collective impact initiative staffed by trained community leaders and community-based immigration defense attorneys, and deploying across the county's three geographic regions, Stand Together CoCo will build on Contra Costa's outstanding record of success in developing bold and innovative solutions to advance justice and equity for all of its residents.

We call on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors to immediately authorize the Office of the Public Defender to establish Stand Together CoCo as a pilot project. By authorizing and funding this project, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors will send a clear message of leadership, commitment, and compassion for our most vulnerable residents – and their allies – who are confronting terrifying new realities.

D. 10

September 19, 2017

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
651 Pine St.  
Martinez, CA 94553

Re: **Support of a Contra Costa County Immigrant Legal and Education Partnership**

Dear Members of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors,

The Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance (CCIRA) writes to request that Contra Costa County allocate funds to support "Stand Together CoCo" to protect individuals' due process rights and keep families together.

In response to the draconian and inhumane enforcement practices put in place by the new administration, we hope that this effort will be part of the bold actions taken by the county to defend our immigrant community members who are at risk. Due process is a fundamental right that all people have. Our position is guided not by politics, but by core principles of dignity, fairness, and justice for all.

More than ever, immigrants will need experienced and qualified attorneys to ensure that immigrants and their families in Contra Costa County receive due process given the expected surge of deportation and detention. In addition, we simultaneously need resources to create a meaningful rapid response network to make sure the community is aware of their rights and can access counsel as soon as they are detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The ability of non-profit organizations serving Contra Costa County residents to effectively represent immigrants who are threatened with permanent banishment from the United States and permanent separation from their families is at a crossroads due to current limited resources, which will only be further stretched going forward. In order to keep families together, Contra Costa residents need to be educated about their legal rights and when faced with the threat of imminent deportation, be immediately connected to and provided with legal counsel.

According to the most recent census (2010), nearly a quarter of Contra Costa County residents were foreign-born (23.9 percent).<sup>1</sup> By any estimation, the number of immigrants has continued to grow since the last census - and much of this growth has been amongst persons without documented status. In addition, over 34 percent of Contra Costa County residents speak a language other than English at home.<sup>2</sup> Such diverse immigrant populations exist throughout our region and have long made Contra Costa County their home. As of the most recently available data from 2014, within Contra Costa County, over 47 percent of children live with one or more foreign-born parents.<sup>3</sup> Recent studies show the extremely damaging psychological and physical

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/POP645215/06013,00>

<sup>2</sup> Id.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/573/foreignparents250/table#fmt=786&loc=2,127,331,171,345,357,324,369,362,>

impact on children if their parents are apprehended detained and/or deported.<sup>4</sup> In addition to the severe psychological impact of depression, inability to focus in or attend school, children also are physically impacted in that they engaged in self-harm.

We must not fall prey to hateful rhetoric that would divide us and further criminalize our immigrant communities. Fundamental fairness, and our values as Californians, demand that when our community members face imprisonment and separation from their loved ones, their rights should not be violated by federal agents. That is why we are calling on each of you to help protect the rights of immigrants and their families in Contra Costa County.

Sincerely,

Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance (CCIRA)

The Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance is a coalition of community-based organizations committed to ending ICE collaboration in Contra Costa and to promote immigrant rights, inclusion, and spirit of welcome in cities throughout the county

Cc:

ACLU of Northern California  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus  
Catholic Charities of the East Bay  
California Immigrant Policy Center  
California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance  
Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa  
Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity  
Lamorinda Democratic Club BOARD  
Monument Impact  
St. Bonaventure's Catholic Community in Concord



## *Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church*

### *Social Justice Council*

September 18, 2017

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
651 Pine St.  
Martinez, CA 94553

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The Contra Costa Immigrant Rights Alliance (CCIRA) writes to request that Contra Costa County allocate funds to support "Stand Together CoCo" to protect individuals' due process rights and keep families together.

In response to the draconian and inhumane enforcement practices put in place by the new administration, we hope that this effort will be part of the bold actions taken by the county to defend our immigrant community members who are at risk. Due process is a fundamental right that all people have. Our position is guided not by politics, but by core principles of dignity, fairness, and justice for all.

More than ever, immigrants will need experienced and qualified attorneys to ensure that immigrants and their families in Contra Costa County receive due process given the expected surge of deportation and detention. In addition, we simultaneously need resources to create a meaningful rapid response network to make sure the community is aware of their rights and can access counsel as soon as they are detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

*Rev. Leslie Takahashi, Lead Minister*

*Rev. Neal Anderson, Minister of Engagement and Justice • Chuck Rosene, Business Administration*

*Ranwa Hammamy, Acting Assistant Minister • Natalie Malter, Intern Minister*

*Indigo Lewis, Director of Lifespan and Religious Education*

55 Eckley Lane • Walnut Creek, CA 94596

925-934-3135 • [www.mduuc.org](http://www.mduuc.org)

The ability of non-profit organizations serving Contra Costa County residents to effectively represent immigrants who are threatened with permanent banishment from the United States and permanent separation from their families is at a crossroads due to current limited resources, which will only be further stretched going forward. In order to keep families together, Contra Costa residents need to be educated about their legal rights and when faced with the threat of imminent deportation, be immediately connected to and provided with legal counsel.

According to the most recent census (2010), nearly a quarter of Contra Costa County residents were foreign-born (23.9 percent). By any estimation, the number of immigrants has continued to grow since the last census - and much of this growth has been amongst persons without documented status. In addition, over 34 percent of Contra Costa County residents speak a language other than English at home. Such diverse immigrant populations exist throughout our region and have long made Contra Costa County their home. As of the most recently available data from 2014, within Contra Costa County, over 47 percent of children live with one or more foreign-born parents. Recent studies show the extremely damaging psychological and physical impact on children if their parents are apprehended detained and/or deported. In addition to the severe psychological impact of depression, inability to focus in or attend school, children also are physically impacted in that they engaged in self-harm.

We must not fall prey to hateful rhetoric that would divide us and further criminalize our immigrant communities. Fundamental fairness, and our values as Californians, demand that when our community members face imprisonment and separation from their loved ones, their rights should not be violated by federal agents. That is why we are calling on each of you to help protect the rights of immigrants and their families in Contra Costa County.

Sincerely,



Mary E. Fenelon, Co-Convener  
Social Justice Council  
Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church



# CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE

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D.10

September 18, 2017

Dear Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors,

I write to urge you to vote in support of establishing a rapid response network and hotline known as Stand Together CoCo for our community in Contra Costa County.

As you are aware, Contra Costa College predominantly serves West Contra Costa County and is the only public institution of higher education in the West County. We serve over 10,000 students annually who come to better their lives through education. More than half of our students are first generation college-going students, and the majority come from vulnerable communities.

Through the leadership of the Contra Costa Community College District Governing Board, the College and District took a stand to reaffirmed support of Contra Costa Community College District Students and Employees in Defense of Diversity and Inclusion by unanimous passage of Board Resolution 1-S (attached) at the January 25, 2017 Governing Board Meeting. The goals of Stand Together CoCo in providing effective legal assistance to individuals targeted by enforcement actions and providing education and support for families and communities are in direct alignment with and provide support to Board Resolution 1-S.

I thank you in advance for your thoughtful leadership as we engage collectively in support of our communities. Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mojdeh Mehdizadeh'.

Mojdeh Mehdizadeh  
President  
Contra Costa College

**RESOLUTION NO. 1-S BEFORE THE GOVERNING BOARD  
OF THE CONTRA COSTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**Reaffirming Support of Contra Costa Community College District  
Students and Employees in Defense of Diversity and Inclusion in the  
Contra Costa Community College District**

**Whereas**, the mission of the Contra Costa Community College District is to “transform lives by providing outstanding learning opportunities, nurturing and empowering all students to achieve their educational goals”;

**Whereas**, equity through diversity is one of Contra Costa Community College District's most defining values as we strive “to provide every student—regardless of race, gender, economic status, birthplace, or style of learning—a launching pad to achieve their dreams”;

**Whereas**, the Contra Costa Community College District community is powerfully diverse, with students, staff, faculty, and administrators all hailing from a wide range of ethnic, racial, socioeconomic, and geographic backgrounds with each community member bringing a unique set of experiences, perspectives, skills, and knowledge;

**Whereas**, leaders in higher education across our nation cite the “moral imperative” and “national necessity” in supporting undocumented immigrant students, including those who are recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”);

**Whereas**, in the wake of the recent presidential election, the Contra Costa Community College District is fully aware and concerned that there is great fear and uncertainty for many we serve;

**Whereas**, the California Community Colleges are open to all students who meet the minimum requirements for admission, regardless of immigration status;

**Whereas**, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office has reaffirmed that it will not release personally identifiable student information, including any data related to immigration status, without a judicial warrant, subpoena, or court order, unless authorized by a student or required by law;

**Whereas**, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office has further reaffirmed that it will not cooperate with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics, such as religion, national origin, race, or sexual orientation and recommends that local community college districts adhere to the same principle;

**Be It Resolved**, that the Contra Costa Community College District police will not detain, question, or arrest any individual solely on the basis of undocumented immigration status, whether actual or suspected;



**Be It Further Resolved**, absent any applicable laws, no Contra Costa Community College District employee, including police, has the authority to enforce federal immigration laws and, accordingly, shall not participate in any immigration enforcement efforts of federal authorities;

**Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District shall create and implement a policy clarifying that any request made by federal immigration enforcement authorities to access a campus or information regarding a student shall be immediately forwarded to the Chancellor or designee who will review and respond in consultation with the District's legal counsel;

**Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District will not cooperate with any effort, federal or otherwise, to create a registry of individuals based on any legally protected characteristics, such as religion, national origin, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender identity;

**Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District will not release any personally identifiable student information, including any data related to immigration status, without a judicial warrant, subpoena or, court order, unless authorized by the student or required by law;

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Contra Costa Community College District will make available strictly confidential counseling services for undocumented students, including DACA recipients, employees, and their families;

**Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District will increase and strengthen partnerships with trusted community-based and legal services organizations with the objective of providing legal and other resources to students and their families facing adverse immigration enforcement actions;

**Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District will continue to promote an atmosphere of respect for all students and employees and denounce and address hate speech directed at students and/or employees, including immigrants, people of color, Muslims, individuals with disabilities, LGBTQ+ individuals, and members of other protected groups;

**Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District will support community education and professional development to foster an inclusive learning environment focused on eliminating bias and discrimination and highlighting existing resources for reporting and responding to bias or hate incidents;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Further Resolved**, the Contra Costa Community College District Governing Board recognizes its responsibility to advocate for educational opportunities for all students in the community college system, regardless of immigration status, at the federal, state, and local levels and will do so accordingly.

**Passed and adopted this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 2017, by the following roll call vote:**

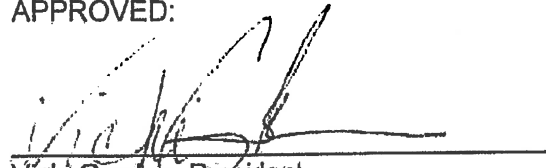
**AYES:** Vicki Gordon, Timothy J. Farley, John E. Márquez, Greg Enholm, Gary Walker-Roberts, (Student Trustee Advisory Vote – aye)

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN**

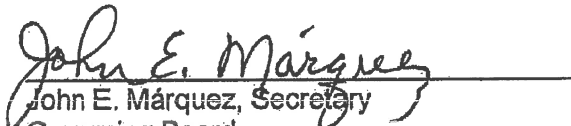
**ABSENT:**

**APPROVED:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicki Gordon', is written over a horizontal line.

Vicki Gordon, President  
Governing Board  
Contra Costa Community College District

**ATTEST:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John E. Márquez', is written over a horizontal line.

John E. Márquez, Secretary  
Governing Board  
Contra Costa Community College District

11/5  
**REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM (2 minute limit)**

Complete this form and place it in the upright box near the speaker's podium, and wait to be called by the Chair.

*Personal information is optional. This speaker's card will be incorporated into the public record of this meeting.*

**NAME (Print)** Rev. Will McGarvey  
*To ensure your name is announced correctly, you may include phonetic spelling.*

**Address:** 1543 Sunnyvale Ave,

**City:** Walnut Creek

**Phone:** 925.597.9797

**I am speaking for:** ☒ Myself  
☒ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to speak on Agenda Item # 10

**Date:** 9-11-17

**My comments will be:** ☐ General  
☒ For  
☐ Against

☐ I wish to speak on the subject of:

I support the  
Stand together CoCo  
as the bare minimum the

☒ I do not want to speak but would like to leave comments for the Board to consider.

*(Use the back of this form.)*

County should do to protect families.

**Information for Speakers:**

In lieu of speaking, I wish to submit these comments:

Deposit this form in the upright box next to the speaker's podium before the Board's consideration of your item.

Wait to be called by the Chair. Please speak into the microphone at the podium.

Begin by stating your name and your city or area of residence, and whether you are speaking for yourself or on behalf of an organization.

If you have handout materials, please give them to the Clerk.

Avoid repeating comments made by previous speakers.

## REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM (2 minute limit)

I wish to speak on Agenda Item # D10

Complete this form and place it in the upright box near the speaker's podium, and wait to be called by the Chair.

Date: 9/19/17

Personal information is optional. This speaker's card will be incorporated into the public record of this meeting.

My comments will be: ☐ General  
☐ For  
☐ Against

NAME (Print) Mariana Moore

To ensure your name is announced correctly, you may include phonetic spelling.

☐ I wish to speak on the subject of:

Address: 90 Rte, 1014 Florida Ave. #200

City: Richmond

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am speaking for: ☐ Myself

☒ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Ensuring Opportunity  
Campaign

☒ I do not want to speak but would like to leave comments for the Board to consider.  
(Use the back of this form.)

Ensuring Opportunity strongly supports  
Stand Together ToGo, because:

### Information for Speakers:

In lieu of speaking, I wish to submit these comments:

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Begin by stating your name and your city or area of residence, and whether you are speaking for yourself or on behalf of an organization.

If you have handout materials, please give them to the Clerk.

Avoid repeating comments made by previous speakers.

(A) All families in Contra Costa deserve safety, justice and due process.

(B) Ensuring Opportunity conducted a survey in March 2017 of 58 community-based, nonprofit service providers that work with low-income families, to learn what ~~they were~~ impacts they were seeing among their clients who are immigrants. Most of these organizations serve children & families.

Findings: (since Jan 2017)  
(1) 20% have seen drop in # of immigrants using their programs, due to fear.

(2) 40% increase in racial hate incidents

(3) 30% have been told by clients they are removing children from school.

(4) 20% have heard from clients ~~disenrolling~~ from public benefits.

(5) #1 need expressed by these organizations, to help their immigrant clients, is creating a rapid response network.  
Stand Together ToGo

## REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM (2 minute limit)

Complete this form and place it in the upright box near the speaker's podium, and wait to be called by the Chair.

*Personal information is optional. This speaker's card will be incorporated into the public record of this meeting.*

NAME (Print) Claudia Velasco  
*To ensure your name is announced correctly, you may include phonetic spelling.*

Address: 271 Pheasant Cir.

City: Pittsburg. CA 94565

Phone: 925-727-7171

I am speaking for: ☐ Myself  
☒ Organization: Catholic Diocese of Oakland

I wish to speak on Agenda Item # 10

Date: 9-19-17

My comments will be: ☐ General  
☒ For  
☐ Against

☐ I wish to speak on the subject of:

☒ I do not want to speak but would like to leave comments for the Board to consider.  
(Use the back of this form.)

### Information for Speakers:

Deposit this form in the upright box next to the speaker's podium before the Board's consideration of your item.

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If you have handout materials, please give them to the Clerk.

Avoid repeating comments made by previous speakers.

In lieu of speaking, I wish to submit these comments:

I want to support  
the COCO-Program  
to bring Emergency Network  
to Contra Costa Resident.  
"Human Dignity" for All.  
Claudia