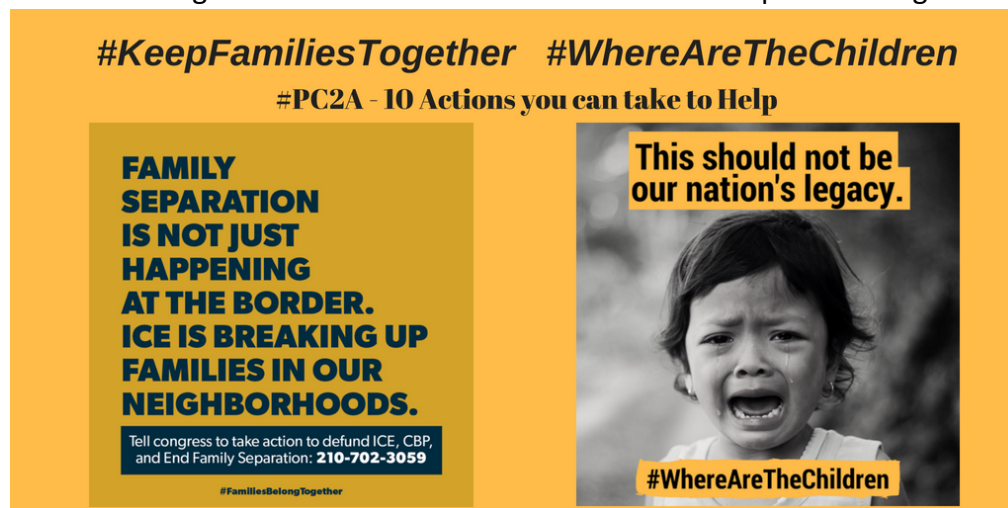


PC2A for Immigrant Children #WhereAreTheChildren #KeepFamiliesTogether



[Note: These photos are from 2014. The Centers are likely more crowded now. No known current photos.]

EXPLANATION

As you may have heard, ICE & HHS have lost – do not know the location of – almost 1500 children.

*UPDATE - 3000 children.

You may have also heard about the cruel way that children are literally being grabbed from their parents' arms and taken away in a new policy initiated by the President and Jeff Sessions.

We must take action to stop this inhumane treatment of people, many of whom are seeking asylum from dangerous situations that they have escaped.

**Be AWARE. 2 separate things are occurring.

First is the children who passed through the Office of Refugee Resettlement and were "lost" (UACs - Unaccompanied Alien Children) AND Second is the children who are now being forcibly removed from their parents.

The "lost" children arrived alone in the United States and were placed with relatives or people with longstanding relationships. This system of placement had a lot of holes in it and the restrictions were tightened in 2014 as to where exactly the children were headed. (People need to prove their relationship with the children.) Once they are placed with relatives, it is no longer the job of the ORR to track them. They do cursory follow-up calls. However, it is one school of thought that one does not want them to do more than that because often the parents of these "lost" children know where they are and simply do not want them tracked by the government, especially in the current anti-immigrant atmosphere. Especially relevant now that ORR will be turning the information on these children to ICE, which they had not done in the past. In fact, with the tightened restrictions, more children are staying in detention - some until they are 18 and then they are turned over to ICE for deportation. It is recommended, instead, that local welfare agencies (who don't liaise with ICE) follow-up to make sure these children are safe. The new - initiated by this current Administration (announced by Sessions) - policy of forcibly taking children from their parents is different. The ORR and ICE know where they are - but are not telling the parents. They are being labelled as UACs when they are taken from their parents, even though they did not actually arrive alone to the country, and ORR is placing them and ICE is tracking them. Being tracked by ICE is not something most Immigration Lawyers would recommend for their clients. So, in your communications with ICE & ORR, it is suggested that you not demand they track the "lost" children as some believe that this is a tactic by this Administration to use the demands to justify toughening release procedures so that the children are not released and the following scrutiny is used to also deport their relatives.

Here are **10 ACTIONS** you can take.

1. Postcard your Senator and Reps to ask them to immediately put in place protections. Their job is to conduct oversight of DHS—they must hold DHS accountable

Also ask them to support:

HR5950 Humane Enforcement and Legal Protections (HELP) for Separated Children Act

– To protect children affected by immigration enforcement actions

Details here: <https://roybal-allard.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=398452>

Cosponsors here: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5950/cosponsors>

And the Help Separated Families Act of 2018 - HR5414 & S2937

Details here: <https://roybal-allard.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=398415>

Cosponsors here: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/5414/cosponsors>

Now with

House Judiciary Committee (HR5414), Members' addresses here: <https://pc2a.info/HouseJudiciary>

And

Senate Judiciary Committee (S2937, Members' addresses here: <https://pc2a.info/SenateJudiciaryAddresses>

Addresses (including District) for All Members here: <https://pc2a.info/AddressesMembersHouseOfReps>

And all Senators here: <https://pc2a.info/AllContactsforAllSenatorsIncludingSocialMedia>

2. You can plug in your zip code at <https://www.informedimmigrant.com/> to find good organizations in your area who are working with immigrants.

3. Write your State Reps and ask them to invest in legal services for people going through deportation. (When Immigrants actually have lawyers, the likelihood of them not being deported skyrockets.)

4. E. Scott Lloyd is the Director of The Office of Refugee Resettlement in DHHS.
He is responsible for the missing children.

Address:

370 L'Enfant Plaza SW

Mailstop 5123

Washington, DC 20201

Phone: 202-401-9246 Fax: 202-401-0981

email: scott.lloyd@acf.hhs.gov

5. Custom & Border Protection (They are the ones physically taking the children away from their parents.)

EMAIL: <https://help.cbp.gov/app/ask>

Phone: 1-877-CBP-5511 (877-227-5511)

6. Sign the ACLU Petition here:

https://action.aclu.org/petition/cbp-stop-abusing-children?ms_aff=NAT&initms_aff=NAT&ms=180524_immigrantrights_cbpchildabuse_&initms=180524_immigrantrights_cbpchildabuse_&ms_chan=web&initms_chan=web

7. VIDEO of MN Immigration Lawyers explaining (very informative - 30 minutes) WITH Calls to Action

<https://www.progressivewestand.org/single-post/2018/05/28/Where-are-the-children-Minneapolis-immigration-attorneys-speak-to-the-question-on-everyone%E2%80%99s-mind>

8. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has recommended guidelines for human rights at international borders which you can read [here](#). The reported actions our DHS is taking do not comply with these guidelines. You can contact the UN Office for Human Rights here:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/AboutUs/Pages/ContactUs.aspx>

9. Amnesty International has been calling for an end to the U.S. policy of separating children at the border. Their call to action can be found at the end of this post

<https://www.amnestyusa.org/press-releases/separating-asylum-seeking-families-violates-international-law/>

10. NOTE: You can Contact ICE to complain (Note that they should NOT be allowed to search for the “lost” children. We do not want that. See note above.) Addresses here:

<https://www.ice.gov/contact/oce>

Phone is: 1-866-DHS-2-ICE

Twitter: [@ICEgov](#)

ALSO:

Here’s the suggestions from Americans of Conscience on what to do (Jen Hoffman):

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yOGv2SrCSkS1PCbgfU5h7Zpf5QVpykQT0duKG8-IMKk/>

And from Wall of Us:

<https://www.wallofus.org/posts/331/demand-an-investigation-into-customs-and-border-patrol-abuses>

Source article for some Actions: <https://politicalcharge.org/2018/05/26/wherearethekids-how-to-help/>

ARTICLES & INFO:

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Rob Portman, Chairman Claire McCaskill, Ranking Minority Member Protecting Unaccompanied Alien Children from Trafficking and Other Abuses: The Role of the Office of Refugee Resettlement STAFF REPORT:

<https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Majority%20&%20Minority%20Staff%20Report%20-%20Protecting%20Unaccompanied%20Alien%20Children%20from%20Trafficking%20and%20Other%20Abuses%202016-01-282.pdf>

The U.S. lost track of 1,475 immigrant children last year. Here’s why people are outraged now.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2018/05/27/the-u-s-lost-track-of-1500-immigrant-children-last-year-heres-why-people-are-outraged-now/?utm_term=.6481d76b44be

Anguish at Southwest border as more immigrant children are separated from parents

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/anguish-southwest-border-more-immigrant-children-are-separated-parents-n874821>

Hundreds of migrant children are being separated from parents — and U.S. officials can't keep track

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/05/25/us-officials-losing-track-of-separated-migrant-children.html>

HHS Official Says Agency Lost Track of Nearly 1,500 Unaccompanied Minors

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/hhs-official-says-agency-lost-track-of-nearly-1500-unaccompanied-minors/>

HHS Official Says Agency Lost Track of Nearly 1,500 Unaccompanied Minors

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/hhs-official-says-agency-lost-track-of-nearly-1500-unaccompanied-minors/>

First glimpse of immigrant children at holding facility

<https://www.azcentral.com/picture-gallery/news/politics/immigration/2014/06/18/first-glimpse-of-immigrant-children-at-holding-facility/10808687/>

Undocumented children are sleeping in cages after being separated from their parents.

Video: <https://twitter.com/nowthisnews/status/1000881032189693952>

Kamala questioning Nielsen (Video): <https://twitter.com/SenKamalaHarris/status/1000466902618173440>

John Oliver Shreds The Feds For Forcing Kids To Appear In Court Without Lawyers

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/john-oliver-immigration-court_us_5ac1c6c7e4b0f112dc9d6582

Here is some background info on the Acting Secretary of HHS who first mentioned (in Congressional Testimony) about the “lost” children: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/leadership/steven-wagner/index.html>

Here’s the Hearing:

<https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/hearings/oversight-of-hhs-and-dhs-efforts-to-protect-unaccompanied-alien-children-from-human-trafficking-and-abuse>

Source Article for Photo

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2014/07/why-are-immigration-ice-detention-facilities-so-cold/>

Application to be a Detention Officer (for info)

https://www.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=f55af1f67741bf96&qd=TUqzTF8vuI-W3wN6oWxkKxP7HELbhx8rxXg78h5S-QSQ0nu2lv3HzdyDnsuIkGNayfnh7PrkTGc6Afmq4p7_zetcl0OBZPZGw2JfhGjhUc&atk=1cebo5cefb9kieu4&utm_source=publisher&utm_medium=organic_listings&utm_campaign=affiliate

Some STATE-specific actions:

Source Thread from Alida Garcia @leedsgarcia

<https://threadreaderapp.com/thread/999830364574179328.html>

CA

In Silicon Valley there is GREAT local organizing & services work done by @SIREN_BayArea also @clsepa does legal services in East Palo Alto. In Los Angeles, please look into supporting @CHIRLA they do excellent work in the greater Los Angeles region.

CT

Follow/engage/donate/volunteer with @CT4aDREAM or @MaketheRoadCT doing great work in your state. Also great immigrant rights leaders @lorellapraeli @mariapraeli @KicaMatos all from CT!

IA

Check out @DREAMIowa in your state they organize undocumented youth.

MA

For Massachusetts follow/engage/volunteer/donate @MIRACoalition they will keep you up to speed on all of the opportunities there!

MD/DC

Follow/donate/volunteer/engage with the following suggestions: @CAIRCoalition in DC, @CASAforall in MD/VA always working on local campaigns and participating in national marches/rallies for immigrants!

NJ

There is an ACTIVE campaign to help undocumented immigrants in NJ get drivers licenses - this helps stop them from getting deported from traffic stops & eases fear of mobility. Follow & reach out to @NJAIJ for more - it's a huge active opportunity to make a difference locally!

NY

You can organize your friends to call Governor Cuomo & say NY needs Driver's licenses for undocumented people & the Dream Act for NY Dreamers. NY is wayyyyyyy behind other states on protections for immigrants. Follow my coworker

@PamelaChomba in NY & orgs like @MaketheRoadNY

Also for NYC folks check out @cisnyc for other volunteer opportunities

Support @NewSanctuaryNYC. They do amazing work with people who are targeted and disappeared by ICE, every single day.

#HereToStay #HereToFight #NewSanctuaryCity

Check out @LongIslandWins & @thenyic they are working on a driver's licenses campaign and growing support for immigrants in your region!

OR

@CausaOregon is gearing up to fight the most anti-immigrant ballot initiative in the country this cycle. The ballot initiative is funded by the eugenics movement. More here:

<https://www.splcenter.org/hatewatch/2018/04/19/meet-oregon%E2%80%99s-anti-immigrant-hate-group-oregonians-immigration-reform-ofir#.WwgYD7YCVjk.twitter>

TN

Please follow/volunteer/engage w/ @tnimmigrant - they are doing great work to build a more pro-immigrant state!

TX

Houston area these are great groups to volunteer/donate/engage/follow with: @TXOrgProject @UWDHouston - Houston has had one of the largest upticks in arrests of immigrants in the country & organizations need help to push back and educate on know your rights in the era of #SB4

WA

Contact Rep Newhouse and ask him to join the discharge petition to force a vote for Dreamers. He's one of the most likely members of congress who hasn't signed yet but should sign. Also follow @weareoneamerica & @NWIRP for great work & guidance in your region.

LINK to this Document: <https://pc2a.info/WhereAreTheChildren>



@postcards4USA www.postcardsforAmerica.com

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/postcardsforamerica/>

@watchyourReps @watchyourSen @CongressRun2018