

February 19, 2025

Hello!

Today is my 35th birthday! 🎉 To honor it, I'm doing a fundraiser in support of people and families affected by ICE raids in Brooklyn and New York City, where I live. **My goal is to raise \$3,500 in the next 30 days to go towards legal support and [mutual aid](#). My stretch goal is \$7,000.**

Funds will go to [Families for Freedom](#), whose work includes legal advocacy and support for families fighting deportation, emergency assistance for families facing sudden separation, community education and organizing, and empowerment workshops that help immigrants protect themselves and their loved ones.

Why am I doing this?

I am the child of a Haitian immigrant, granddaughter of the Great Migration, and before that, a descendent of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. My identity was formed by trafficking and migration. My life was shaped by my elders' and ancestors' quest for opportunity, stability and safety in new places. My culture is a result of my people making homes and forging new futures for themselves on foreign lands.

Additionally, Black immigrants are [most likely to be detained and deported and face higher rates of harm and abuse while in ICE custody](#). They are also much less likely than migrants from other identity groups to have the solidarity of their larger cultural community. For that reason, I am focused on distributing what I raise to trusted groups serving Black immigrants in New York.

You are probably also part of a prevalent legacy of people who've migrated simply because it's what they had to do. It's a history and reality that binds the Diaspora and world together. Whether because of this shared history (or your politics, faith, compassion, or some other pull) I hope you'll join me in solidarity with those being villainized and dehumanized for doing the same.

If 100 people give \$35, I'll meet my goal. If 70 people give \$100, I'll meet my stretch! (Fun fact - my favorite number is 7).

We can do this. 🙌

To give:

I'll collect contributions through Friday, March 21:

CashApp: \$MtinaAbrahams

Venmo: @Martina-Abrahams

And if now is not a good time but you'd still like a way to support, [forwarding this email to 3 friends](#) will go a long way.

Thank you so much,

Martina Abrahams Ilunga
mma0219@gmail.com
IG: [@m__tina](#)

EMAIL TEMPLATE FOR FORWARDING

Hi {Your Friend's Name},

My {cousin/niece/friend} Martina is doing a fundraiser in support of people and families affected by ICE raids in Brooklyn and New York City for her 35th birthday. **Her goal is to raise \$3,500 in the to go towards legal support and [mutual aid](#), and she has ONE DAY LEFT.**

[You can read about why she's doing this, and the organizations she intends to give the funds to, here.](#)

{OPTIONAL: You can add a line or two about why this is meaningful to you. If not, DELETE this text before sending!}

If you can, I hope you'll join this work by making a contribution by tomorrow, March 21. If 100 people give \$35, she'll meet her goal. If 70 people give \$100, she'll meet her stretch! We can do this. 🙏

To give:

CashApp: \$MtinaAbrahams
Venmo: @Martina-Abrahams

And if now is not a good time, [forwarding this email to 3 friends](#) will go a long way.

Thank you!

{Your Name}