

Immigration Embracelet

The bracelet you are receiving today is meant to serve as a daily reminder of the individuals who live in this country but have been inhumanly detained by our federal government. It is also intended to draw the attention of others with whom you interact when you are out in public.

Our hope is that people will ask you about the bracelet and you can use that as an opening to share the story of one person affected by these policies and to explain that this one person is just one of hundreds of thousands impacted by the current administration's approach to immigration enforcement.

We ask that you try to wear this on a daily basis and to remember a few of the details about the person featured below. We also encourage you to periodically check on their situation by searching their name online for any updates to their detention status or their path toward citizenship.

Your person:

Ma Yang, 37, a nail technician and mother of five who has lived in Wisconsin since she was a baby, was detained at a check-in appointment with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in mid-February and was flown to Laos, she said. She was a legal permanent U.S. resident starting at age 7, but that status was revoked when she pleaded guilty to taking part in a marijuana trafficking operation in 2022. Yang, 37, worked as a nail technician and a receptionist at nail salons in the Milwaukee area. Her children range in age from 6 to 22, and she has a 7-month-old granddaughter. She and her longtime partner, Michael Bub, recently bought a house in South Milwaukee. She says she is now stranded in a rooming house in the capital of Vientiane, surrounded by military guards, with little idea of what to do next. She is afraid to venture out because she has no friends or family there, does not speak the Lao language and the officials took all her documentation, she said. Yang's story reflects the Trump administration's push to send deportees to countries that do not typically accept them. Yang believes she is one of the first Hmong Americans to be deported to Laos in recent years, as the U.S. had designated Laos an "uncooperative" country that did not receive its deportees.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/2025/03/14/hmong-american-woman-from-milwaukee-deported-to-laos/82415744007/>

Defending our Communities Against ICE:

If you see ICE on the streets of your community, spread information, not fear!

Call **DIRE's Rapid Response Hotline at 1-888-347-3767** and give them the following information:

1. The time of the sighting
2. The exact location
3. Describe the action you are seeing, and take a photo or video

Know Your Rights:

Visit the American Civil Liberties Union website to learn about the rights of immigrants and also your rights as a bystander/protestor: <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights>