

CALIFORNIA

SPECIFIC SAFETY PLAN FOR IMMIGRANT LATINOS

California has **stronger immigrant protections** than many other states due to being a “sanctuary state,” but immigrant families should still prepare for emergencies.

FAMILY TRACKING SCHEDULE & ACTION PLAN

Purpose: To help families quickly detect if a loved one has been detained and respond immediately with a clear, organized plan.

Daily Check-In & Tracking Schedule

- **Create a Shared Family Schedule:**
 - Establish check-in times (morning, lunch, evening).
 - Agree on *how* to check in (text, call, WhatsApp message, shared location (i.e. iPhones, apps like Life360)).
- **Designate a “Check-In Captain”:**
 - One trusted adult (parent, sibling, cousin, neighbor) responsible for ensuring everyone has checked in each day.
- **Backup Communication Plan:**
 - If someone does not check in within 4–6 hours of a scheduled time, start the “Action Plan” below.

Immediate Action Plan if Someone Is Missing

Start by Calling:

1. The person directly (cell, WhatsApp, check location on iPhone).
2. Their workplace or school (if it's safe).
3. Local hospitals or urgent care centers (in case of accident).

Then Call Legal or Rapid Response Teams:

- **CA Hotline Examples:**
 - LA: 888-624-4752
 - Long Beach: 562-245-9575
- **National Networks:**
 - United We Dream’s MigraWatch: Text “WATCH” to 877877
 - Local ACLU or Immigration Justice Network chapter

Use Online Detainee Locator Tool (ICE):

- Website: locator.ice.gov
- You need:
 - Full name (including hyphenated names)
 - Country of birth
 - Optional: A-number (Alien Registration Number) if known

Track ICE Detention Centers in California:

- **Adelanto ICE Processing Center (San Bernardino Co.)**
- **Mesa Verde ICE Processing Facility (Bakersfield)**
- **Otay Mesa Detention Center (San Diego)**
- **Yuba County Jail (Marysville – currently contracts with ICE)**
- Check facility-specific info at ice.gov/detention-facilities

Prepare to Visit or Send Documents:

- Locate the nearest immigration attorney or advocacy group.
- Gather IDs, proof of residency, family photos, and documents showing community ties.

Legal Preparedness

- **California is a Sanctuary State (SB 54):** State/local police cannot detain immigrants solely due to ICE requests.
- **Know Your Rights:**
 - You don't have to open the door without a signed warrant.
 - You can remain silent and refuse to sign anything.
 - Red Cards available from ILRC.org.
 - A small wallet sized informational card designed to help immigrants assert their constitutional rights during encounters with immigration enforcement. ***not an official government document but a legal tool created by immigrant rights organizations like Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)**
- **California-Specific Legal Aid:**
 - **CHIRLA:** 1-888-6CHIRLA – immigration legal help & rapid response
 - **Immigrant Defenders Law Center (ImmDef):** Free legal defense for children and detained immigrants
 - **Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA):** 800-399-4529
 - **CA Rapid Response Networks:**
 - LA: 888-624-4752
 - Long Beach: 562-245-9575
 - Santa Clara: 408-290-1144

Family Emergency Plan

- **Standby Guardianship:** California allows caregivers to temporarily delegate parental authority. Forms available via CA courts.
- **Emergency Childcare Authorization:** Must be notarized.
- **Public School Protections (AB 699):** Schools cannot cooperate with ICE or ask about immigration status.
- **"Go Bag" + Document Copies:** Include CA driver's license (if eligible under AB 60), ITIN, health records.

Digital Safety in CA

- Use secure messaging (WhatsApp) and share live location with trusted contacts.
- Avoid social media posts that identify location or immigration status.

Mental & Emotional Health

- California offers **free mental health access** regardless of status in some counties via Medi-Cal or community clinics.
- **Latino-serving agencies:**
 - [Bienestar Human Services \(LGBTQ+, HIV+, undocumented\)](#)
 - [Clinica Romero \(LA\): low-cost mental health care](#)

California Community Resources

Resource	Service	Contact
CHIRLA	Immigration legal support	chirla.org
ImmDef	Defense for unaccompanied minors	immdef.org
NLSLA (Survivor Justice Center)	Legal help for DV & immigration	nlsla.org
ImmigrantsAreLA	Know Your Rights hub	immigrantsarela.com

Nationwide Community Resources

Organization	Services	Website
ILRC	Red cards, family prep	ilrc.org
NILC	Immigration law policy & support	nilc.org

RAICES Detention defense, asylum, DACA raicetexas.org

United We Dream Youth-led advocacy unitedwedream.org