



SISTERS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
**NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER**

*Rise Up AND Act for Justice*

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## **ICE Out of Order - Release All the Workers**

*Statement by Lawrence E. Couch*

*Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd*

The mass arrests this week of nearly 700 hardworking people by the Trump Administration's Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) is outrageous and is out of order in this land of freedom and welcome.

They had no criminal record. Many have lived and worked in the United States for several years. This action has created a catastrophe for the families and is spreading fear throughout the immigrant community. Children were left homeless and traumatized by having their parents torn from them. It is unknown if some children remain alone.

The National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd calls on the Trump Administration to release all the workers. The United States government is becoming increasingly heavy-handed in its tactics and is becoming increasingly less recognizable to its citizens and all peoples around the world. Why has the current Administration declared war on our neighbors who are helping to put food on our tables?

This raid is part of a malicious campaign to paint immigrants as criminals and rapists who have 'invaded' our country. Rather, these hardworking people have lived and worked in our country for many years, raised their families, and contributed their talents and resources to our communities. Now the families' breadwinners have been dragged away and arrested and the family safety net has been cut down.

They should not be dragged off to jail. Instead, we should offer them a pathway to citizenship. That is what has made our country great. Not playing to racial fears, tearing families apart, and seeking to divide our country.

*[The National Advocacy Center](#) educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, victims of human trafficking, victims of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.*

*The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in over 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.*

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