



In-Person



Virtual



RVA Indivisible—February 19, 2026

How to Support our Immigrant Neighbors



Suggested Goals/Values



- **THRIVING IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES:** safe to go to work, school, shopping, and social occasions without fear of detention and deportation.
- **COLLABORATION:** Working with and under the direction or guidance of those we are trying to help.
- **ACCOMPANIMENT:** Assuring our immigrant neighbors that they are not alone, that we are here “to bear one another’s burdens.”
- **BEARING WITNESS:** Loudly and with a clear voice to make our opposition to current immigration policies and practices known.

Tonight:



Concrete, practical and proven ways to help immigrant communities **THRIVE**.

Through **COLLABORATIVE ACCOMPANIMENT**

That **BEARS WITNESS** to our outrage.

You Can Be a
“Verifier.”

What is a Verifier?

Someone with training...

who goes to the scene to witness, record, and to “verify” a report ...

and then notifies a network within the supported community of their findings...

Or preserves a record of the encounter.



Verification: multiple challenges

The absence of reliable centralized reporting of suspected activity: no hotline.

Connecting verifiers to networks in the supported communities. (We are making progress and have opportunities.)

It requires a willingness to face personal risk.

It requires a capacity for de-escalation.

Verification is valuable even without connections to supported communities:

- 1. Creates accountability in moments where it's usually absent.**
- 2. Preserves evidence when rights may be violated.**
- 3. Reduces fear through calm, informed presence**
- 4. Supports community education and preparedness**
 - This role is quiet but powerful: *memory keeper, witness, translator of reality.*
 - (The Moral Witness: Trials and Testimony after Genocide, Carolyn Dean.)

Verification:

Ginger: A Report from Bon Air

If You Want to Be a “Verifier”....

Ask to join “Verifiers—Indivisible” on Signal



You Can Be a “Verifier.”

But there is no shame in saying I cannot do it!

**And there are lots of other things
to do.**

Similar opportunities

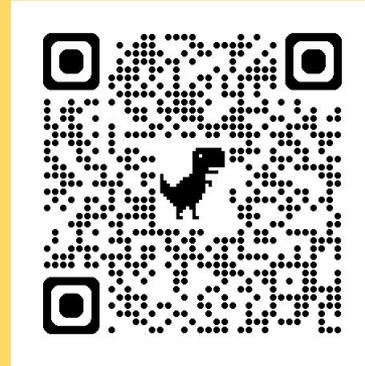
You can participate in a Neighborhood Watch.

You can participate in Court Watch. (Bill Muth)

You can BUILD CONNECTION AND SOLIDARITY

ADOPT A CORNER (Bill Muth)

We are calling on people of conscience to stand with immigrants in their community—literally. To go to the places immigrants gather to work or look for work—Home Depots, car washes, delis, day-labor centers, hiring sites—as allies, witnesses, neighbors and friends. Adopt a Corner is an immediate, urgent call to action, grounded in solidarity. We the people need to defend our communities and one another NOW against our government's campaign of intimidation, assault, arrests and violence.



You can **SPEAK UP**

defending the dignity of immigrants
whether documented or not,

in conversations with friends, neighbors, work
colleagues, fellow members of civic organizations, and
faith communities.



You can **SPEAK UP**

- Immigrants are human beings, just like us.
- The documentation process is difficult and the system isn't able to respond to the global migration crisis.
- Immigration violations are civil not criminal offenses.
- Immigrants are less likely to commit crimes than citizens AND of those being detained and deported 77% do not have criminal records.
- All have constitutional rights to due process.
- IMMIGRANTS ARE HUMAN BEINGS, JUST LIKE US.



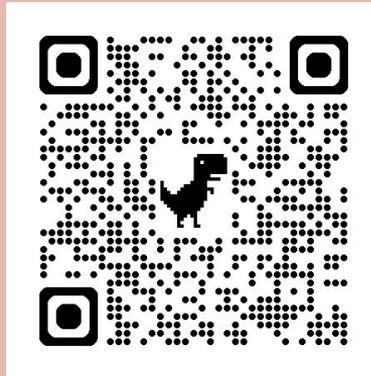
You Can Learn

The Immigrants Story:

To document, narrate and curate stories about immigrants in order to promote empathy and advance an inclusive community.



Immigration History:
An excellent online resources for teaching and learning immigration history and law.



The American Immigration Council:

Why Is It So Hard to Become a US Citizen?

On Birthright Citizenship

Trump's New Registration Requirement Could Forcibly Separate Millions of Immigrant Families



You Join a Whistle Kit Brigade

Nalini Swaim



50501 Whistle Kit materials

You can **provide concrete service** to immigrant communities.

- Deliver food or groceries to impacted neighbors (Leiah Morlette)
- Escort Children to school. (Ginger A)
- Setting up know your information sessions for Know Your Rights + Other Legal (POA & Temporary Guardianship) for immigrants. (Rob Keever)

VOLUNTEERING

You can
VOLUNTEER at
organizations serving
immigrant communities.

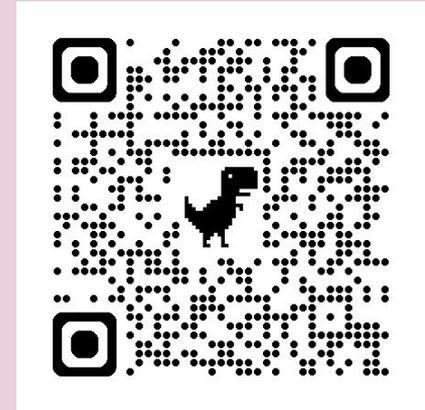


You can **VOLUNTEER** at

Reestablish Richmond

- English Tutor
- Transportation Independence Program
- Citizenship Test Preparation
- Mentor: Personal Finance Skills
- Mentor: Employment Navigation + Networking
- Interpreter/Translator

Report by Elise.



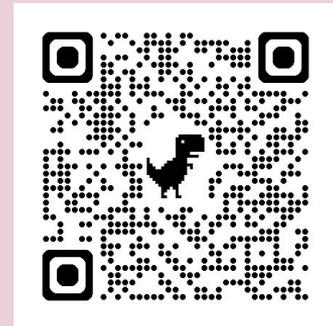
You can **VOLUNTEER** at

Sacred Heart Center

“Connecting Latino Families with
Tools to Thrive and Flourish.”

ESL Teachers
Culturally Affirming Youth Programs
Various group projects

Report by Mar



You can **VOLUNTEER** at



Latinos in Virginia
(Joy Rush)

Support to those experiencing
domestic or sexual violence.

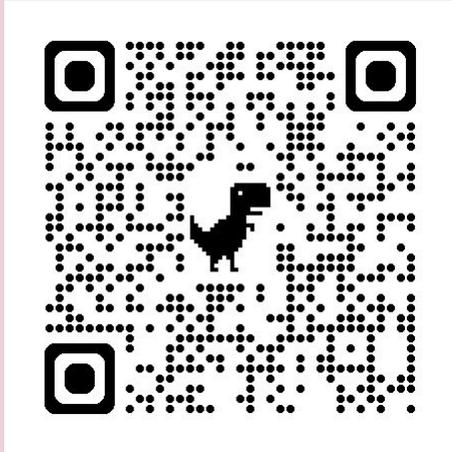


- Administrative support
- Community outreach
- Crisis support line.
- Court accompaniment

You can **VOLUNTEER** at



The Legal Aid Justice Center partners with communities and clients to fight for racial, social, and economic justice. Together we are dismantling systems that create and perpetuate poverty.



general office support,
fundraising events.

Translation of outreach materials or
client communication.

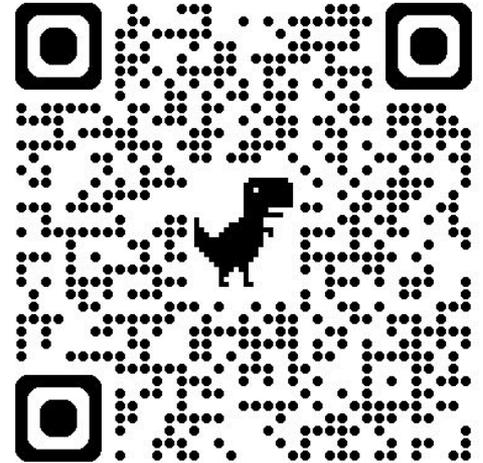
You can **VOLUNTEER** at



The Closet at Belmont is a free store in which our neighbors can shop for clothes, shoes, housewares, small appliances.

The Belmont Pantry is supported by a small team of part time staff and more than 50 volunteers who sort donated foods, pack weekly bags, and serve all who come to the pantry every Friday (nearly 650 families every Friday).

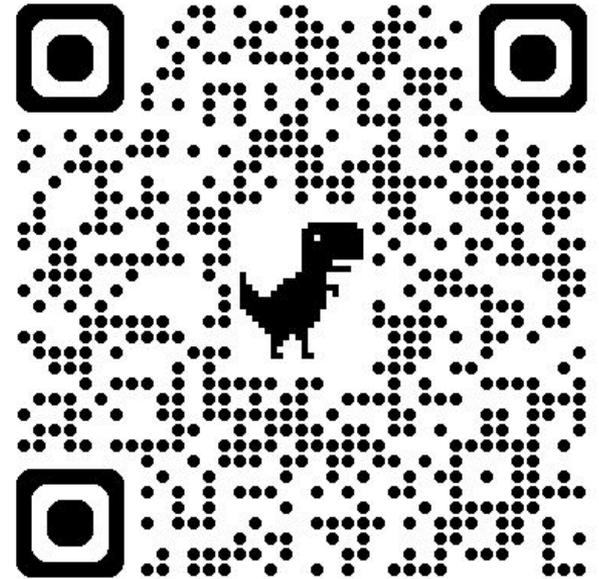
unloading, sorting, packing, and distributing food; recycling, setup, and clean up.



You can **VOLUNTEER** at



From attorneys and partners providing legal support and community outreach to individuals taking action for justice, VPLC offers opportunities to contribute to ending the cycle of poverty and helping us fight for fairness across Virginia. When you volunteer with VPLC, you're joining a team that believes in dignity, equity, and lasting change.



You can **VOLUNTEER** at



Various volunteer options, some related to Refugee and Immigrant Services.

You can **VOLUNTEER** at



Hamkae
Center



- Community Services News & Events
- Healthcare for All
- Education Equity
- Immigrant Justice
- Language Access
- Reproductive Justice
- Small Business Resources
- Voting Rights

organizes Asian Americans to achieve social, economic, and racial justice in Virginia. We believe that Asian Americans, low-income folks, working class people, immigrants, people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other targeted people must work together in order to have a more just and equitable Virginia for all.

You can **VOLUNTEER** at

Ashland International Ministry

The International Ministry of Ashland was started in 2022 as an ecumenical effort between First Baptist Church Ashland and Ashland Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). We strive to share God's love with our newest neighbors, refugees and immigrants. We offer 3 levels of English classes and we have a mentorship program. We also serve as a drop off site for donations for the Disciples Depot clothing closet held monthly at Ashland Christian Church. We are always looking for more volunteers to help us in our efforts of showing hospitality to those who have recently come to America.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ASHLAND

ADVOCACY



You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.

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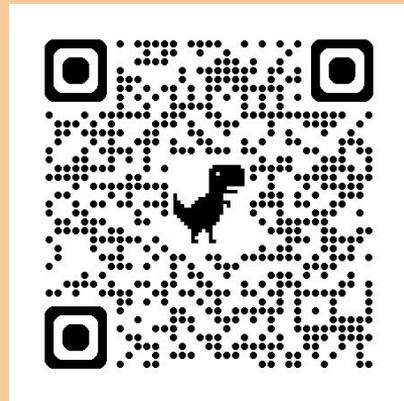
5 Calls

We're the team making advocacy accessible.

5 Calls makes it easy for you to reach your members of Congress and make your voice heard.

We research issues, write scripts that clearly articulate a progressive position, figure out the most influential decision-makers, and collect phone numbers for their offices.

All you have to do is call.



You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.



NEW VIRGINIA MAJORITY

DEMOCRACY. JUSTICE. PROGRESS.

Virginia's leading civic engagement organization, builds power in working-class communities of color across the Commonwealth. We organize in communities year-round for racial, economic, and environmental justice through political education, mass-scale voter outreach, mobilization, and intensive leadership development around dozens of issues.

Sign up for email updates.



You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.



At VPLC, our legislative advocacy is at the heart of our mission to fight poverty and inequality. We work directly with lawmakers to advocate for policies that provide economic security, fair housing, healthcare, and essential benefits for low-income Virginians. Our efforts include providing legal and subject-matter expertise, offering programs to help educate our partners and the public, and ensuring that people's voices are heard in the legislative process. With the support of our partners, we aim to create long-lasting, impactful change that benefits all Virginians.

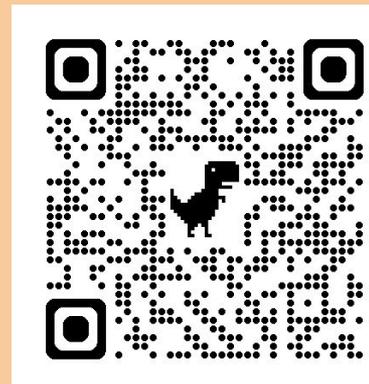
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The Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)

Through ILRC's policy and advocacy efforts, we promote a vision of racial justice that advances the rights of all immigrants, including those who have had contact with the criminal legal system.

Our policy and advocacy efforts are guided by three main pillars:

- 1) dismantling the arrest to deportation pipeline and disrupting racial disparities in the immigration and criminal legal systems;
- 2) expanding immigration law to improve protections from deportation and access to immigration relief; and
- 3) preserving and expanding access to legal services and opportunities for citizens and non-citizens to engage in the political process.



You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.



get involved

Become an Advocate

Lend your voice and energy to help build a more just Virginia.



You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.

THE ACLU

**Stop ICE's Attack On
Our Communities**

Send a message to the House and Senate.



You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.



Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Rights



Our Mission

VACIR is a multi-racial and multi-ethnic coalition of organizations that exists to win dignity, power and quality of life for all immigrant and refugee communities.

You can **ADVOCATE** for appropriate legislation and policies supportive of immigrant communities.

i≡ Immigration Equality

The national leader in the field we pioneered: LGBTQ and HIV immigration rights. We work on both the personal and systemic levels to protect and uplift LGBTQ and HIV-positive immigrants and families.



You can **provide financial or in-kind support** to organizations serving immigrant communities.

- Latinos en Virginia: Transportation, meals, counseling, utility bills.
- Commonwealth Catholic Charities
- Richmond Community Legal Fund
- Waymakers Foundation: food and rental assistance



You can participate in organized Protests.

- **MONDAYS @ 4 - 5 PM** Hwy 301 & Atlee Road (Diana Eadie)
- **WEDNESDAYS @ 8 - 9 AM** Laburnum & Mechanicsville Tpke (Linda Meigs)
- **WEDNESDAYS @ 4 - 5 PM** Willow Lawn & Monument Ave. (Kathy Kelly/Susan Grimes)
- **THURSDAYS @ 9 - 10 AM** 4201 Dominion Blvd. (Sharon Williams-Davis)
- **THURSDAYS @ 4 - 5 PM** Parham Rd. & Patterson Ave. (Dick Fay w/Sarah Woodhouse)
- **FRIDAYS @ 8 - 9 AM** Belvidere & Broad (Free Gaza)
- **FRIDAYS @ 3:30 - 4:30 PM** Midlothian Turnpike & Courthouse Rd. (Merry Bateman, Camille Saad)
- **FRIDAYS @ 4 - 5 PM** Libbie Mill E. Blvd & Staples Mill Rd. (Chris Yates)
- **FRIDAYS @ 5 - 6 PM** Belvidere & Broad (Free Gaza)
- **SATURDAYS @ 10 - 11** Midlothian Turnpike & Courthouse Rd. (Jerome Bobowski w/Val Marsh)
- **SATURDAYS @ 10 - 11:30** 9850 W. Broad (Bill Muth)
- **SATURDAYS @ 10 - 12** Arthur Ashe Bridge (Sharon Williams-Davis)

You can support immigrant-owned businesses

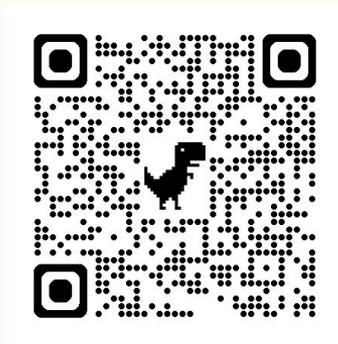
Virginia Hispanic Chamber

To build economic bridges between Hispanic businesses and the community at large in order to create, promote, and enhance business opportunities for its members and partners.



Latino Farmers' Markets

Rockwood Park
3401 Courthouse Rd
North Chesterfield
VA 23236



Ten Best Latino Groceries

Near Richmond

