

Immigrant and Refugee Children

A Guide for Educators and School Support Staff

15 Things educators, school support staff and communities can do to help protect undocumented students and their families

- 1 Inform students and their families** of their rights.
- 2 Stress the importance** of taking proactive steps to ensure the safety and well-being of children and entire communities.
- 3 Distribute “know your rights” materials** to students and communities about what to do if a raid occurs or an individual is detained.
- 4 Find out** if there is a local immigration raid rapid response team. These teams usually consist of attorneys, media personnel and community leaders who may be able to provide support.
- 5 Partner with a pro bono attorney**, legal aid organization or immigrant rights organization to schedule a “know your rights” workshop on campus to inform students and families about their rights.
- 6 Provide a safe place** for students to wait if a parent or sibling has been detained.
- 7 Provide counseling** for students who have had a family member detained by ICE.
- 8 Maintain a list of resources**, such as the names of social workers, pro bono attorneys and local immigration advocates and organizations, that can be shared with your students and their families.
- 9 Identify someone at your school** who can serve as the immigration resource advocate in your building or on your campus.
- 10 Work with parents** to develop a family immigration raid emergency plan.
- 11 Make your school** an ICE-free zone/sanctuary school.
- 12 Work with your school board** to pass a resolution affirming schools as welcoming places of learning for all students, distancing the schools from enforcement actions that separate families.
- 13 Issue statements** condemning raids and calling for the immediate release of students.
- 14 Participate in National Educators Coming Out Day**, held annually on Nov. 12, and “come out” in support of undocumented students (www.unitedwedream.org/educatorsout).
- 15 Participate in National Institutions Coming Out Day**, held annually on April 7 (www.unitedwedream.org/nicod).

For additional tools and model resolutions to create safe, welcoming environments for all students, visit www.aft.org/immigration/ICEraid.