

# Immigration: Continuum of Action

Awareness	Involvement	Leadership
Recall your own immigration story. Are you a first, second or third generation immigrant to the United States?	Gather members of your church, work group or community to share your immigration stories.	Expand your circle by inviting new immigrants to share their journeys. Are there changes in your perspective on immigration?
Read and study church teachings on the human dignity and rights of immigrants.	Organize a faith community study group on the topic. Resource: <i>Justice for Immigrants Parish Resource Kit</i> . <a href="http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org">www.justiceforimmigrants.org</a>	Draft a corporate stand or social justice practice statement for your church or group.
Form a study group and explore an aspect of this complex issue; history of immigration, economic impacts, effects/impacts of NAFTA & CAFTA, national security <a href="http://www.migrationinformation.org">www.migrationinformation.org</a>	Run a series of church bulletin spots on myths and facts, or historical and current contributions of immigrants.	Ask your church to consider using the JustMatters module, <i>Crossing Borders: Migration, Theology and the Human Journey</i> . <a href="http://www.justfaith.org">www.justfaith.org</a>
View the film, <i>Dying to Live: A Migrant's Journey</i> . <a href="http://www.dyingtolive.nd.edu">www.dyingtolive.nd.edu</a>	Schedule a group showing of the film and facilitate a group discussion. Reflection questions at <a href="http://www.dyingtolive.nd.edu">www.dyingtolive.nd.edu</a> .	Lead a group to participate in a public witness on behalf of justice for immigrants.
Consider the intersection of issues for refugees, migrants and immigrants. Consider the history and relationships of these groups in the U.S.; in your church tradition. IPJC AMOS Winter 2009 or <a href="http://www.usccb.org/mrs">www.usccb.org/mrs</a>	Hold an immigration forum. Invite speakers from organizations that support and protect refugees, migrants and immigrants. <a href="http://www.ipjc.org/links/immigration.htm">www.ipjc.org/links/immigration.htm</a>	Organize an immersion experience to meet local farm-workers, or to a border town. Learn about the economic, cultural and political situations and the hopes of the people.
Watch for media coverage on the affects of raids, detention and deportation on families.	Gather a group to watch, <i>The Least of These</i> . Follow up with a debriefing on the trauma of children held in detention. <a href="http://www.theleastofthese-film.com">www.theleastofthese-film.com</a>	Visit an immigrant detention center in your area. Advocate for immigrant detainee rights, including medical/mental health care.
Research current state and federal immigration legislation, for example, <i>The Dream Act</i> . Identify priorities for immediate action. <a href="http://www.ncsl.org">www.ncsl.org</a> , <a href="http://www.govtrack.us">www.govtrack.us</a> , <a href="http://www.nilc.org">www.nilc.org</a>	Contact your state and federal legislators to take action to create a just path for citizenship; to address the root causes of migration; and to support family unity. <a href="http://www.reformimmigrationforamerica.org">www.reformimmigrationforamerica.org</a> <a href="http://www.nnirr.org">www.nnirr.org</a> <a href="http://www.networklobby.org">www.networklobby.org</a>	Coordinate a church call in or letter writing campaign taking a stand on immigration reform.



Books, DVDs and other resources are available from IPJC.

Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center (IPJC) • 206.223.1138 • [www.ipjc.org](http://www.ipjc.org) • [ipjc@ipjc.org](mailto:ipjc@ipjc.org)