

Justice for Immigrants Webinar

The CARE Program: Providing Accompaniment and Support to Immigrants

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The CARE Program: Providing Accompaniment and Support to Immigrants



we are one family under God

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."
(Luke 1:41-42)

What is the CARE program?

- The **Catholic Accompaniment and Reflection Experience (CARE)** is a new pilot initiative being launched by USCCB/MRS.
- CARE is committed to connecting Catholic volunteers as well as men and women religious with undocumented individuals, unaccompanied children, and their families who are in need of accompaniment and emotional, social service and spiritual support in their community.



Photo: Loren Elliot/CNS

Who is participating in CARE?

- The **Archdiocese of San Francisco** and the **Archdiocese of Indianapolis** are the pilot sites for the initial CARE program kickoff.
- Both archdioceses have been successful in fostering community-based solutions to help serve immigrant families.
- The two archdioceses will serve as mentors to new sites that are added as the program develops.



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Why launch this program now?

- In 2017, the Trump Administration made changes to who is considered a priority for removal.
 - January 2017 [Executive Order on Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States](#).
 - The new enforcement priorities prioritize not only undocumented immigrants who have committed acts that are a chargeable criminal offense but also anyone who has an outstanding order of removal.
- Arrests of immigrants throughout the US are on the rise.
 - Arrests of immigrants with no criminal convictions in 2017 have increased [146%](#) from 2016 while arrests of immigrants with criminal convictions have increased 12%.
 - Since 2017 the number of [287\(g\)](#) agreements nearly doubled, with many more 287(g) agreements pending review.

Why launch this program now?

- Possible DHS funding increases.
 - If Congress gives DHS the funds requested in the [FY 2019 budget](#) we would see a substantial increase in enforcement capacity and staffing.
- The MOA between DHS and the HHS.
 - The MOA is a dramatic change from past practices relating to unaccompanied children and it could put children in danger and at risk for abuse and trafficking as potential sponsors become less willing to come forward, meaning unaccompanied children could also end up spending a longer time in detention facilities.

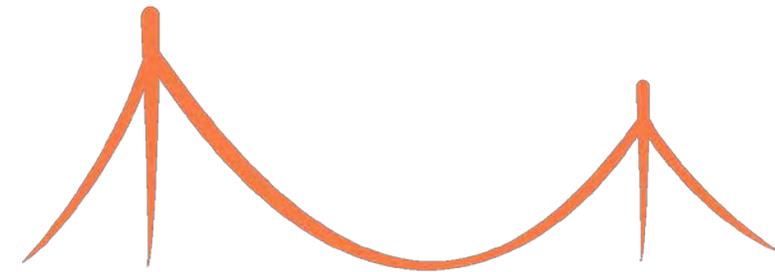


Photo: Lucy Nicholson/CNS

CARE Program in the Archdiocese of San Francisco



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Catholic
Charities

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MARIN
SAN MATEO

CARE Program in the Archdiocese of San Francisco

The goal of the CARE program in San Francisco:

- Catholic Charities San Francisco currently has 72 unaccompanied children under their care.
- The Archdiocese of San Francisco, through the CARE program, is working to connect these unaccompanied children with families primarily in the San Mateo area.

Why this is needed:

- The children who Catholic Charities San Francisco serves are oftentimes vulnerable and don't have a set of social structures in place.
- The CARE program provides support to these children and helps them reach their God-given potential.

CARE Program in the Archdiocese of San Francisco

What's been happening so far :

- Have begun to get the word out about the program through social media and the Catholic San Francisco newspaper.
- Visited pastors and parishes to help spark interest in the program.
- There are plans underway to set up activities for the unaccompanied children to help get them out into the community more.

CARE Program in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Laying the Groundwork

- 116 individuals have participated in 11 accompaniments with six immigrants in fear of deportation.
- 29 of these accompaniments have been clergy from various denominations.
- Over 237 faith leaders trained in Rapid Response and Accompaniment.
- 60% of immigrants accompanied have stayed together with their families.



CARE Program in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Laying the Groundwork

- Accompaniments have included:
 - Asylum
 - U-VISA cases
 - Local civil court (traffic, misdemeanors)
 - ICE Check-ins
 - ISAP supervision appointments

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ACTION!**

STOP the
deportation of

Juan Hernandez

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BELOVED HUSBAND, FATHER OF TWO, BROTHER, SON, EMPLOYER

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CARE Program in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

Laying the Groundwork

- Sharing their experiences:
 - Father Larry Janezic, OSF, St. Patrick
 - Michele Mattice, St. Monica

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Resources

- [CARE Program webpage](#)
- [JFI's CARE Program Overview](#)
- [JFI's Catholic Church and Accompaniment backgrounder](#)
- [JFI's Immigration Enforcement in the Interior of the US backgrounder](#)

Spanish translations of backgrounders are available on the CARE webpage

If you are interested in participating in or learning more about the CARE program please feel free to email Sarah Hoff at mrsconsult_shoff@usccb.org

Questions?

Please type your questions in the Chat area of your webinar screen

Send any follow-up questions to mrsconsult_shoff@usccb.org

To view this and other webinars, visit the JFI Website:

<http://justiceforimmigrants.org/>

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