

Immigration Action Coalition
2018-2019 Annual Report
Submitted by Cheryl Valentine 4/10/19

The goals of the Immigration Action Coalition are to advocate for Immigration policy reform, to act on behalf of immigrants threatened with detention and deportation, and to educate ourselves and others about immigration issues.

To further these goals this year we have...

- * Freed an asylum-seeker from jail, paid her bail, sheltered and cared for her for 17 days, accompanied her to Immigration check-ins, and helped her legally change her residency to join her family in the southwest.
- * Trained over fifty volunteers to work with our guest. Training included cultural competency, confidentiality, safety and emergency measures, an intro to sign up genius and how to deal with victims of trauma.
- * Organized a social justice connection delivered Feb. 24 by Mary Anne Perrone about our role with Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary and the changing nature of who might be seeking sanctuary.
- * Collected 245 adult and children's coats for migrants at the El Paso border who were released in December without food, warm clothes or shelter.
- * Hosted a discussion and slide-show December 15 by Emily Drennen about her observations of the children's detention center in Tornillo, Texas.
- * Purchased two new Sanctuary Congregation banners with SJC funds.
- * Supported the Washtenaw County ID program.
- * Supported Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary through funding and volunteering as Door Minders at Friends Meeting House.
- * Hosted a showing of the documentary film by Anthony Collings about Lourdes' struggle to remain in the US. Over 40 attended on Nov. 16 including some of Lourdes' family.
- * Produced Salsa and Salsa, a dance to benefit WICIR that raised \$1200.
- * Supported a local DACA student with tuition and fees after the family's primary bread-winner was deported.
- * Sponsored a program by Cesar Valdez October 14 about living between cultures.