

## MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

ACORN [AZ]

ACORN [FL]

ACORN [National]

CAUSA [OR]

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles [CA]

Direct Action & Research Training Center [National]

Gamaliel Foundation [National]

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights [IL]

Idaho Community Action Network [ID]

Immigrant Rights Network of Iowa and Nebraska [IA, NE]

Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy Coalition [MA]

Michigan Organizing Project [MI]

National Korean American Service & Education Consortium [CA, IL, NY]

New York Immigration Coalition [NY]

Northwest Federation of Community Organizations [ID, WA, MT, OR]

People Acting for Community Together [FL]

Salvadoran American National Network [National]

Sunflower Community Action [KS]

Tenants' & Workers' Support Committee [VA]

Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition [TN]

VOCES de la Frontera [WI]



# HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT FIRM?

You can support FIRM by filling out the endorsement form. For more information and to download the form please visit [www.fairimmigration.org](http://www.fairimmigration.org)

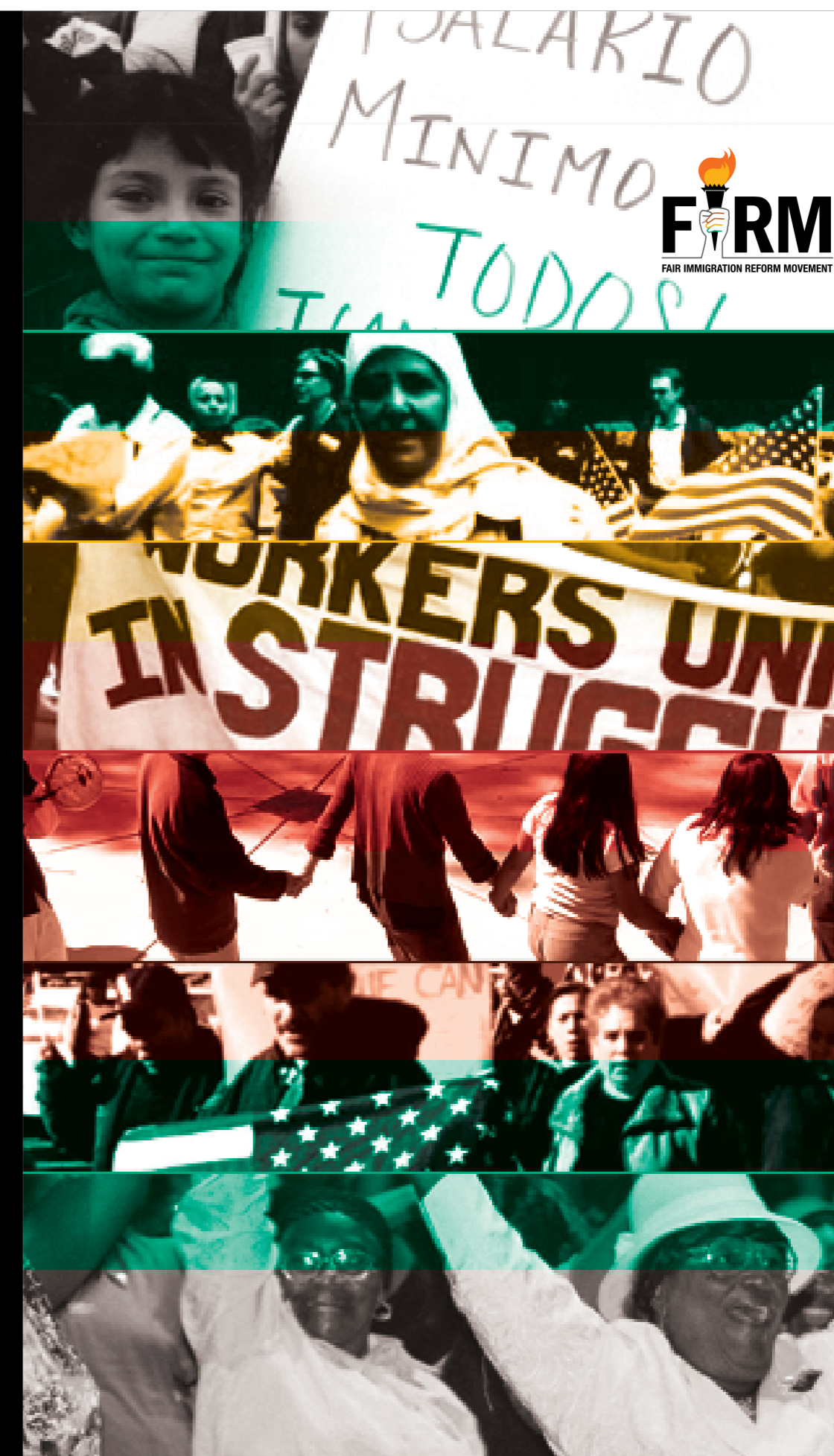
You may also address any questions to Marcia Glasgow at the Center for Community Change in Washington, DC.

Marcia Glasgow  
**Telephone** [202] 339-9375  
**Email** [mglasgow@communitychange.org](mailto:mglasgow@communitychange.org)



CENTER for  
COMMUNITY CHANGE

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[www.fairimmigration.org](http://www.fairimmigration.org)



# THE FAIR IMMIGRATION REFORM MOVEMENT



## → WHO ARE WE?

**FIRM** is led by a coalition of grassroots community organizations working on behalf of immigration reform and immigrant rights. The coalition consists of organizing networks, statewide immigrant rights coalitions, and faith-based and low-income groups, and works in partnership with national organizations.



Student members of Latinos Unidos Siempre and CAUSA rally at the Oregon Capitol for passage of the DREAM Act.

## → WHAT DO WE STAND FOR?

Immigrants and their families work hard, pay taxes and want to become American citizens. However, current immigration policies leave millions of immigrants in the shadows, vulnerable to abuse because they lack legal documentation, and unable to fully participate in a country they help build. This mismatch between outdated policies and the economic realities of our country has led to millions of immigrants being denied basic rights as well as thousands of unnecessary deaths.

**FIRM** finds this unacceptable. The United States was built on principles of justice and equity. Yet our immigration laws fail on both counts. It is time to reform our laws and strengthen these traditions.

We need an approach to comprehensive reform of our immigration system that is safe, efficient, accountable and restores integrity and equity.

**FIRM** seeks this reform through explicit policy and organizational goals.

## → POLICY GOALS

**LEGALIZATION** of the undocumented immigrant workforce and their families.

**RECONSTRUCTING** the family preference immigration system to reduce immigration backlogs and strengthen the family preference system.

**PREVENTING** the buildup of the future undocumented population. Instead replacing it with a migrant stream that has access to legal status and full labor rights, and so minimizing the opportunities for abuse by unscrupulous employers and others.

**RECOGNIZING** immigrants' full humanity by providing opportunities to naturalize, lead prosperous lives, engage in cultural expression, learn English, and receive equitable access to higher education and needed services, such as decent, safe and affordable housing.

**RESTORATION & PROTECTION** of fundamental civil rights of immigrants.

**PROTECTING** the rights of refugees and asylees and ending the inhumane detention and warehousing of asylum seekers.



Two members of the Michigan Organizing Project hold up a banner pronouncing "We're All Immigrants."



Yesenia, a member of ICIRR, helps new American citizens register to vote.



NAKASEC members rally at Middlesex Detention Center in New Jersey where detainees were being held under harsh health and sanitary conditions.

## → ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

**INCREASING** the membership of immigrant workers in community organizations, unions, civic participation groups, etc., and stronger identification by immigrants with these institutions as vehicles to achieve self-interest and engage in civic life.

**STRENGTHENING** the capacity of grassroots immigrant organizations and members to play a leadership role in making policy change, especially in states experiencing new waves of immigration.

**COORDINATING** within the immigrant rights sector and between groups concerned about immigration and groups working on other economic or social justice issues.

## → HOW WILL WE ACCOMPLISH OUR GOALS?

**MOBILIZE** immigrants and allies, using a grassroots approach, at a local and national level to place the immigration issue at the forefront of the political arena.

**EDUCATE** the immigrant community, allies, and the public in general about the need for comprehensive immigration reform through broader and more positive media coverage of immigrants.

**CREATE** political pressure on local, state and federal elected officials with policy victories that show the political strength of the movement, including winning on issues like driver licenses campaigns, in-state tuition for undocumented students, and the DREAM Act.

**INCREASE** voter participation by immigrant communities as a way to create political power.

**FORGE** key alliances with sectors that could advance the goals of the campaign, including business, community, faith, civil rights, African American and other organizations.



Haitian immigrants in Miami are among the members of People Acting for Community Together (PACT), one of the groups across the country who have come together to form FIRM.



A Korean American youth and NAKASEC member speaks at a press conference on the DREAM Act during the 2002 Immigrant Youth Speak Out Day.



Members of CHIRLA and Day Laborer Union prepare to join the May Day march.

## → HOW IS FIRM MANAGED?

**FIRM** is governed by an organizing committee, which meets quarterly and holds conference calls frequently.

**FIRM** is managed by staff at the Center for Community Change - a nonprofit public policy and technical assistance organization based in Washington, D.C.



A young member of the Idaho Community Action Network/NWFCO carries a sign calling for minimum wage for all.