

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**



**IMMIGRANT  
DEFENSE  
PROJECT**



**American Friends  
Service Committee**

## **Immigration Advocates Respond to Recent Sweep of ICE Arrests across New Jersey**

**DECEMBER 13, 2017 – NEW JERSEY** – The following are statements from [Make the Road New Jersey](#), the [Immigrant Defense Project](#), and [American Friends Service Committee](#) Immigrant Rights Program, regarding the 101 immigrants arrested in New Jersey during a five-day operation conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

### **Make the Road New Jersey:**

We condemn the recent immigration raids across New Jersey. Once again, ICE is fanning out across our communities and terrorizing people, all while attempting to paint immigrants as a threat to our communities. The people being caught up in these ICE raids are our parents, our children, our siblings and our neighbors. ICE raids divide our families, threaten the fabric of our communities, and make us all less safe by fostering fear. We will continue to denounce the rogue activities of this out-of-control agency and do everything in our power to resist their anti-immigrant attacks.

### **Immigrant Defense Project:**

We have seen time and again that ICE's statements contain lies, exaggerated charges, and mischaracterizations of people's records in an attempt to justify their unconstitutional and immoral raids. ICE fans the flames of hate by demonizing any immigrant with a criminal record, ignoring their humanity. Many people targeted have an offense from years earlier, already served any sentence, and have since rebuilt their lives.

### **American Friends Service Committee Immigrant Rights Program:**

The American Friends Service Committee strongly opposes ICE's arrests of more than 100 NJ residents who have now been permanently separated from their families and communities. The AFSC believes that the tearing apart of families and communities by ICE denies people the dignity and respect that they are entitled to. Deportation is a second punishment that diminishes public safety.

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