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Immigration Advocates Respond to Recent Sweep of ICE Arrests across New York

APRIL 18, 2018 – NEW YORK – The following are statements from [Make the Road New York](#), the [Immigrant Defense Project](#), [Families For Freedom](#), and [NYLPI](#) regarding the 225 immigrants arrested in New York during a six-day raid dubbed “Operation Keep Safe” conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Yatziri Tovar, Spokesperson, **Make the Road New York:**

“The recent ICE raids are a clear illustration on the ongoing, and escalating, attack on our communities by the Trump administration. Make no mistake: this is about tearing apart families who have lived here for many years, with no regard for their deep ties to our communities and enormous contributions to New York City and State.”

Alisa Wellek, Executive Director, **Immigrant Defense Project:**

“With its latest attack on New York’s immigrant communities, ICE returns to its tried and true practice of spreading lies, painting all immigrants as threats, and blaming sanctuary city policies for its racist mass deportation agenda. New Yorkers will continue to fight to protect our immigrant communities and stand strong in the face of ICE’s intimidation tactics.”

Donald Anthonyson, Director, **Families For Freedom:**

“These raids once again show the blatant disregard that this agency has for not only basic human dignity, but particularly in this instance, their contempt towards any efforts to lessen the impact of their vindictive actions. As they continually attack the concept of “sanctuary,” the reality is that their actions have devastating effects on those directly impacted.”

Lauren Quijano, Health Justice Community Organizer, **New York Lawyers for the Public Interest:**

“The recent raids have been deeply upsetting to us and to our communities. We are very concerned about the health and well-being of the 225 people detained. Through our advocacy work, we have seen that serious health issues are not adequately addressed in detention. In fact, detention only worsens health conditions. Even the health of families, friends and communities of detained individuals are adversely impacted due to stress. We call on everyone to join us for the People’s Tribunal this Saturday in Foley Square to hold ICE accountable and shed light on how ICE raids are affecting the community.”

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