



2026 Advocacy Priorities

Demands for local and county governments to take action to support and protect immigrant families from cruel immigration enforcement within their jurisdictions.

- Prohibit federal agents from using facial coverings, to facilitate transparency, augment public safety, and ensure accountability during immigration enforcement operations.
- Designate schools, libraries, shelters, places of worship, and medical facilities such as hospitals, clinics, physicians' offices, and urgent care centers, and a 100-foot perimeter around such facilities, as sensitive locations, where entry or enforcement actions may occur only under the authority of a valid signed judicial warrant.
- Enact a public information campaign that informs staff of sensitive locations of their rights and ability to deny federal agencies access to non-public areas without a signed judicial warrant.
- Prohibit city and county employees, including law enforcement, from assisting federal agencies with civil immigration enforcement, complying with immigration warrants, or sharing personal data that reveals a person's citizenship status without a signed judicial warrant.
- Ban federal agencies from using city or county facilities, jails, vehicles, or equipment, and require public disclosure of any federal agreements or memoranda of understanding with ICE/CBP, including Sec. 287(g) agreements.
- Establish a permanent, independent oversight board to conduct public quarterly reports on the impacts of immigration enforcement and bi-monthly public town halls to allow residents to share their experiences and concerns.
 - Whereas; the mayor's office must establish a threshold to release unscheduled reports based on whether there is an abnormal increase in immigration enforcement in cities/counties.
 - Whereas; the oversight board must be empowered to vote to initiate a similar state of increased public reporting to provide oversight failsafe against targeted enforcement surges that nonetheless fail to rise above automatic trigger thresholds.
 - Whereas; the Independent Oversight Board possesses the authority to partner with reliable community-based organizations to train public service workers, including school personnel city and county officials, and health care workers, on appropriate responses to aggressive immigration enforcement.
- Ensure these policies are implemented through binding directives issued by city and county managers and enforced to all city- and county-controlled departments, agencies, facilities, and personnel.

Require Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) to adopt and implement comprehensive measures to protect immigrant students and families, including:

- Provide teachers, counselors, and essential staff with up-to-date educational tools and resources for parents, with clear guidance for school staff to share to share accurate and timely information addressing the social and civic needs of vulnerable communities and referrals to trusted community-based organizations with which CMS contracts.
- Allocate funding in the budget for all school personnel, including teachers, counselors, administrators, and essential staff, to receive mandatory trauma-informed training focused on immigration and the impacts of immigration enforcement.
- Allocate funding in the budget to expand culturally- and linguistically-appropriate mental health services both to better encompass Spanish-speaking students and families, and to meet the urgent need for mental health care amid these unprecedented federal actions.
- Ensure compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and ensure that schools do not access or share data on a student's and/or their family's citizenship status with any officials or agencies that are themselves federal immigration enforcement bodies, or hold any active information and record sharing agreements with federal immigration bodies.
- Ensure that students have the option to attend classes virtually during periods of heightened immigration enforcement or other crises. Additionally, prohibit any academic penalties from being imposed on students who decide to miss school due to fear of immigration enforcement.
- Prohibit federal immigration enforcement access to schools without a signed judicial warrant.
 - Expand these restrictions to encompass not only school grounds themselves, but also extracurricular or otherwise school-endorsed events, including Advanced Placement Exams, sporting events, and arts performances.
 - Where possible, ensure that all such events are hosted on property over which CMS has jurisdiction to restrict entry by federal immigration enforcement officers without signed judicial warrants.

