

## Immigrant Family Detention and Deportation Preparedness Checklist

Completing the following items will help your family prepare for an emergency, such as detention and deportation.

Things to do **BEFORE** a family emergency (such as the detention of a family member)

Do the following:

- Talk with family members and trusted friends about how you would want your family and financial matters handled in the event you were detained or deported. Together with your family members, create and write a plan for what to do in the event of an emergency, including detention and deportation.
- Talk with your children about roles and responsibilities in the case of an emergency.
- Talk to an attorney about executing Power of Attorney documents, which give a trusted relative or friend the legal authority to make family or financial decisions on your behalf in certain circumstances (such as if you are detained).
- Get current passports for all family members.
  - Non-U.S. citizens should contact their home country's consulate to get passports.
  - U.S. citizens can apply for passports at their local U.S. Post Office.
    - ❖ *For children under 16, both parents must go with the child to apply for the passport and both must sign the application (form DS-11) in the presence of the government official at the Post Office's passport desk.*

There are ways to get the child's passport if either parent is unavailable to accompany the child or provide consent. Ask the government official at the passport desk, or a trusted social worker or other advisor, for help in that situation.

Gather the following information and documents, and keep them in a safe location where family members or trusted friends can access them:

- Name and phone number of a trusted attorney.
- Name and phone number of a trusted relative or friend.
- Copies of all contracts, leases, bills, home titles, vehicle titles and registration, insurance policies, evidence of medical conditions, etc.
- Copies of all current and prior immigration papers.
- Copies of your tax filings (as far back as you have available).
- Copies of records showing your residence in the U.S. (utility bills, pay stubs, etc., covering as long as you have resided in the U.S.)
- Family members' passports and other identification.

See the Anti-Deportation Campaign page in this website to find out what to do **AFTER** the detention of a family member.