

## BUILDING POWER WITH IMMIGRANT & MUSLIM COMMUNITIES



Given the current political reality and the Federal assault on immigrants and Muslims as well as the deplorable rise in incidents of hate, abuse, intimidation and harassment around the country, **Metro IAF** has and will continue to relentlessly defend immigrants, Muslims, people of color or any vulnerable group against the threat of attack, violence, or unjust harassment and deportation. **Metro IAF** affiliates in **CT, MA, MD, NC** and **VA** won pledges from law enforcement and school officials not to act as ICE agents. Secured affordable mental healthcare and rental assistance for undocumented immigrant families affected by a deadly gas explosion in **MD**. Kept schools accountable to honor Muslim and Jewish holidays in Fairfax & Prince William Counties in **VA**.

### 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

#### Immigrant Legal Services & Support Wins in DC and MD

**Washington Interfaith Network (WIN)** organized immigrants and allies in Washington, DC to push for \$2.5 million in city funding to go toward immigrants' legal services. DC Mayor Bowser hosted budget engagement forums throughout February 2019, and **WIN** partnered with legal service providers to turn out nearly 200 people to support the funding. In her State of the District address, Mayor Bowser announced that she would raise the funding from \$900,000 to \$2.5 million. **Action in Montgomery County Maryland (AIM)** secured public commitment from Montgomery County Exec & County Council of \$540,000 in the county budget to provide free legal support for immigrants facing deportation.



#### NC Congress of Latino Organizations Wins Sheriff's Commitment to Protect Citizens and Take Power Away from ICE

Over 700 Latinos connected with local congregations, non-profits, and community groups from across Mecklenburg County & Charlotte, NC turned out for a public accountability meeting with Sheriff Garry L. McFadden. During the meeting the Sheriff ratified the end of the 287(g) program which allowed deputies to hold an individual in jail so ICE may assume physical custody of that individual. The Sheriff committed to protect everyone regardless of their immigration status; agreed to meet regularly with the Latino leadership; would work to hire additional bilingual deputies; and create a new unit dedicated to working for/with immigrant families. **Metro IAF** affiliate, **NC Congress of Latino Organizations**, is a statewide network of Latino institutions in North Carolina.

#### Congregation Identification Cards Created to Help Alleviate Fear in Reporting Crime

**People Acting Together in Howard County Maryland (PATH)** Congregation Identification Card pilot is set to launch in 2020 and has gained the support of the Police Chief, School Superintendent, and County Executive. The pilot is based in-part on **Metro IAF** affiliate **BUILD**'s 2018 parish identification card model in which the identification cards are meant to address hesitations by immigrants and senior citizens to report crimes to police, fearing a lack of ID would lead to deportation.



### WHO WE ARE

**Metro Industrial Areas Foundation (Metro IAF)** is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the first and largest network of multi-faith, broad-based citizen organizations, which has eight decades of experience winning tough battles on housing, health care, education, living wages, immigration rights, and other issues in the US and abroad.

Metro IAF's 24 affiliates are in the East, Midwest, and Southeast United States (CT, DC, IL, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, OH, VA, WI).