



Raised Voices: Immigration

Thursday, April 4 @ Taproot's Jewell Mainstage Theatre

Taproot Theatre is excited to partner with the Church Council of Greater Seattle and The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation to present **Raised Voices**—a series of events celebrating the stories of Seattle activists who are speaking into specific areas of injustice in our city. **Raised Voices** is a chance to put real faces onto “issues” that are often impersonalized in the news. For tonight’s discussion, we welcome two speakers who are experienced advocates for immigrant justice here in Seattle:

Marina Ortiz, Independent Consultant for Immigrant & Refugee Justice
Michael Ramos, Executive Director, Church Council of Greater Seattle

Marina Ortiz was a human rights defender, lawyer and criminologist in El Salvador. She now works as an independent consultant for immigrant and refugee justice in Seattle, providing a variety of services including preparing and communicating expert witness opinions, presenting information relating to immigrant justice, and supporting NGO’s and churches in their efforts to better understand and support the needs of Central American refugees. She created a movement called Peace and Dignity (Paz y Dignidad) for human rights here in Seattle with other organizations.

Michael Ramos is the Executive Director of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. He has worked on ecumenical community building for two decades and enjoys connecting spirituality with social justice. At the Church Council, confronting homelessness, immigration accompaniment and reform and building a living wage future have been his central commitments with faith communities throughout the region.

Raised Voices: Resources

There are several resources that will help you learn more about ways that you can support immigrant families and refugees in our Seattle community. Here are just a few recommendations about places to start:

How Do I Learn More and/or What Can I Do Right Now?

- [Church Council of Greater Seattle](https://thechurchcouncil.org/our-work/). The CCGS seeks to practice an accompaniment of immigrant households that fosters safety, stability, unity within diversity, and economic security. You can check out their Resources page to learn more about ways that you can be involved with immigrant and refugee accompaniment. <https://thechurchcouncil.org/our-work/>
- [Northwest Immigrant Rights Project](https://www.nwirp.org/). The NWIRP promotes justice by defending and advancing the rights of immigrants through direct legal services. Their website has great links to learn more about the latest immigration policies and their impact. You can also check out ways to volunteer and support their efforts. <https://www.nwirp.org/>
- [World Relief Seattle](https://worldreliefseattle.org/). You can donate household goods to help furnish a new apartment for a refugee family being resettled in the greater Seattle area or be involved with welcoming and hospitality in other ways. Contact World Relief Seattle to find out more: <https://worldreliefseattle.org/>

Questions, Responses or Stories to share?

Email Sonja Lowe at sonjal@taproottheatre.org

Or share your story of activism with us by using #TTCresist and tagging @taproottheatre on social media.

We’d love to continue this conversation with you!

*This CONVERSATIONS event is held in conjunction with Taproot Theatre’s production of **We Will Not Be Silent** by David Meyer and in partnership with The Sheri & Les Biller Family Foundation and the Church Council of Greater Seattle .*

