

# Immigration/ICE Raids Youth Forum -March 14, 2007

## Notes

70 youth and adults attended this Youth Forum to raise awareness and provide accurate information about the ICE raids in the Canal and Novato that occurred on March 6 and 7<sup>th</sup> 2007 so that youth could take action on this issue.

The forum was hosted by The MYC with support from the Canal Alliance, Huckleberry Youth Programs, Marin County Youth Commission, Youth Leadership Institute and the YWCA.

Students from the Canal Alliance high school program began the forum by reading the stories of youth whose family was affected by the raids. They read these stories because those youth were too afraid for their safety to attend the forum.

A discussion of what happened and who the ICE are followed.

The forum concluded by brainstorming a list of things youth could do in their communities and in their schools, including:

### Things Youth Can Do In Your Community:

1. Participate in Canal Watch Vigils. Bring a video camera to document if ICE raids occur again.
2. Help the Canal Alliance to distribute Know Your Rights pamphlets in multiple languages.
3. Distribute whistles to residents in the Canal and in Novato to be blown if another ICE raid occurs to warn residents not to open their doors.
4. Boycott Embassy Suites Hotel. It is rumored that ICE officers stayed there.
5. Ask the Local Police to warn residents if ICE is coming (some people said they asked the San Rafael police to do this and the police refused).
6. Purchase a community siren/horn to sound the alarm if ICE comes back.
7. Do research on ICE and their tactics to be more prepared to prevent future raids.
8. Make immigration related banners to bring to the Big Peace March.
9. Join in marches to protest the raids.
10. Request that San Rafael, Novato and Marin County pass "Sanctuary Laws" making it official policy that the local police will not cooperate with ICE.

### Things Youth Can Do At School:

1. School Link Services could help bring the Canal Alliance into classes or after-school programs to discuss immigration and the raids.
2. Students can invite the Canal Alliance into classes or after-school programs to discuss immigration and the raids.
3. Inform and educate other students about the issue.
4. Get students to sign the online petition:
5. Do fundraisers and food and clothing drives to support families affected by the raids.
6. Write letters to congress asking them to stop the ICE raids, and to pass the Dream Act allowing some immigrants to legally attend college in the U.S.
7. School Superintendents and Principals should sign a statement that they will not allow ICE officers on school campuses.