

Resolution to Support Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship September 2019

Because UU Principles 1,2,6 and 7 and the 2013 UUA Statement of Conscience *Immigration as a Moral Issue* and

WHEREAS: (taken from the Resolution Regarding Immigration and Asylum to the Unitarian Universalist Association 2019 General Assembly, Spokane, Washington)

1. The current administration of the United States Government has systematically and officially prevented immigrants and asylum seekers from crossing our southern border; and
2. Whereas, U.S. Government agents have illegally incarcerated immigrants lawfully seeking asylum, and
3. Whereas, Long term alien residents have been incarcerated without the opportunity of a legal proceeding, and
4. Whereas, Families of U.S. American citizens have been broken up by these unjust actions, and
5. Whereas, children have been forcibly taken from their mothers and detained indefinitely, and
6. Whereas, Parents have been deported without their children

Now, therefore, be it hereby RESOLVED that the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship as a member congregation of the UUA should use its moral authority to:

- **Condemn the policies** of the U.S. Government regarding the treatment of immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers and institute fair and humane treatment for them;
- **Support its members and others** in their actions to protect and assist immigrants and asylum seekers in their attempts to lawfully enter and or remain in the United States;
- **Encourage its members to communicate with their congressional representatives** and condemn the policies of the administration;
- **Demand that the administration:**
 - Reunite children taken from their families seeking asylum in the US;
 - End the policy of incarcerating immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers, including those in family detention;
 - Investigate and prosecute claims that children in detention centers and shelters are suffering emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse, or neglect;
 - Implement a system that understands the causes for migration, provides a humane solution while asylum seekers await a decision on their case, and has a fundamental commitment to keeping families together.

Now therefore be it further RESOLVED That the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship commits to the following action steps:

Advocate for:

- Comprehensive, humane immigration reform.
- Identifying humane and compassionate best practices in dealing with large groups of asylum/immigrant families crossing the border.

Collaborate with immigrant support groups by:

- Building accountable relationships with immigrant support groups, supporting what they request, without usurping leadership.
- Carrying out strategic direct action in collaboration with, and/or at the direction of, immigrant support groups.
- Supporting UU, partner organizations and the immigrant coalition groups with direct action efforts such as donations, volunteering, traveling to the border, developing an asylum seeker hosting program etc.

Create awareness among BUUF membership about immigration, refugee and asylum seeker support.