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*We envision a world where the fundamental right to move is respected and appreciated by all.
Our view is that all human beings are entitled to respect, documents, and a process through
which to move, settle, and resettle in the world.*



July 2018

Pangea Quarterly Newsletter



Sonia with her four children celebrating her birthday before being detained and separated by immigration authorities. (November 2016)

Working to Reunite Families:

Sonia was separated from her children and remains detained even though she won her case #FamiliesBelongTogether

The separation of families is not only happening at the border; there are families being separated by ICE every day all over the country.

Sonia Felix Castañon is a domestic violence and sexual assault survivor, and now a victim of this administration's family separation policy. Sonia has been in ICE detention for more than 11 months, separated from her four children, even though an immigration judge granted her the right to stay in the U.S. and a pathway to citizenship. Although ICE appealed the immigration judge's positive decision, Pangea and our community are asking for another bond hearing so that Sonia can be reunited with her family.

Sonia, her family, and the greater community have been motivated by the [tens of thousands who mobilized and took to the streets for families like Sonia's!](#)



Attorney Juan Camilo speaking at the #FamiliesBelongTogether protest in Berkeley, CA

(June 30, 2018)

And [check out this interview](#) that Pangea's Juan Camilo and Edwin Carmona-Cruz did with [OneJustice](#), following their speeches at Bay Area #FamiliesBelongTogether rallies.

Become A Monthly Sustainer!

Every day, Pangea works with immigrants to empower communities, defend their legal cases,

and keep families united. Monthly contributions will help sustain our work at such a critical time in history. Together, we can amplify our support for immigrant justice, especially in these trying times!

DONATE NOW!

Policy Advocacy: Pangea community in Sacramento for Immigrant Day

This year, Pangea members and two Pangea clients traveled to Sacramento to advocate with our state legislators for immigrant rights in California. At a time when the federal administration is attacking our state for sanctuary and other immigrant friendly policies like [SB 54](#) and [AB 103](#), it is all the more important for our community to stay strong and speak up. "I feel really moved and inspired being at my first Immigrant Day, fighting for our community. I think it's important to tell our stories so our elected officials can make more informed decisions," said Floricel Liborio Ramos, Pangea client.



Pangea and community in the California State Capitol in Sacramento for Immigrant Day. (May 14, 2018)

Trans client, Noelia, paroled from Stewart Detention Facility in Georgia



A self-portrait that Noelia drew in detention, representing how they felt while detained.

On the first day of Pride month, Pangea client, Noelia (pronouns they/them/their), was granted parole after 6 months in detention in Folkston and Lumpkin, Georgia. Detention facilities are unbearable for most human beings, and the Folkston and Stewart private prisons in Georgia are particularly atrocious, forcing individuals to self-deport to dangerous conditions [and even commit suicide](#).

In an [interview that Noelia did with NBC News](#) a few days after their release, they discussed the horrific abuse that they experienced in ICE detention, highlighting the deplorable abuses against LGBTQ+ immigrants.

Pangea worked in partnership with the [Southeast Immigrant Freedom Initiative \(SIFI\)](#), a program

at the Southern Poverty Law Center. Attorney Marie Vincent successfully advocated with U.S. senators, who called and wrote letters in support of Noelia's release.

Luckily, Noelia's resilience and strength were greater than the oppression they suffered in ICE detention, and Noelia was able to attend San Francisco Pride on June 24!



Rally for Hamid outside the ICE building in San Francisco, the day bond was posted.
(June 8, 2018)

San Francisco High School Students Pressure Senator Kamala Harris and ICE to Release Teenage Afghan Boy from Adult Detention

[Pangea client, Hamid](#), a 17-year-old Afghan boy fleeing violence by the Taliban and ISIS, spent nearly 6 months in adult immigration detention before he was released on an astronomically high ICE bond of \$25,000.

High school students in 415 Unidos for Freedom—a youth activist group run out of the June Jordan School for Equity in San Francisco—[pressured Senator Kamala Harris's office to make a public statement](#) in support of Hamid's release from ICE custody. After meeting with Sen. Harris' office, the students accompanied Sen. Harris' staff on a visit with Hamid at the Mesa Verde Detention Facility, where he was being held. After six long months for Hamid and one

short week after Sen. Harris' office got involved, ICE set a bond for Hamid.

Thanks to the students and generous community support from around the country, [Hamid was finally freed from adult detention on June 8, 2018](#).

Check out media reporting on the progression of the campaign for Hamid's release: [Reveal News](#), [The Guardian](#), [Democracy Now!](#), [KTVU](#), [Mercury News](#), [more KTVU](#), and [CBS News](#)

Welcome to Pangea's Summer Interns and New Dream SF Fellow

Pangea welcomes its two summer interns, Kiki Tapiero and Maya Karp, and new [DreamSF Fellow](#), Anny Patiño!



That's us (minus a few) on our team Fun Day in June!

**Warmly,
The Pangea Family**

**(Mariel, Edwin, Bianca, Nilou, Marie, Celine, Luis Angel, Etan,
Esperanza, Jehan & Juan Camilo)**

Do you believe in the #RightToMove? Monthly contributions will help sustain our work and support our community members!
Become a monthly sustainer today!

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Follow us on our new Instagram account! [@pangealegal](#)
And as always, thank you for your continued support and solidarity.
We couldn't do it without you!

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Pangea Legal Services is a registered 501(c)(3) organization, and donations are tax deductible. We will put every dollar of your generous contribution to work by providing direct legal services, policy advocacy, and legal empowerment for low income immigrant communities.



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