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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.*



Quarterly Newsletter | July 2019

Pangea Quarterly Newsletter

Community Empowerment & Litigation: #POWERnotPanic in the face of raids



Pangea Directors, Edwin Carmona-Cruz and Luis Angel Reyes Savalza, stand with Causa Justa Director, Kitzia Esteva, and other community leaders at a press conference at SFO, responding to

Trump and ICE with Power, Not Panic (July 2019)

After the second announcement of impending raids in July, [rapid response networks in the Bay Area](#) responded to 22 confirmed arrests of immigrant community members. There were several more potential arrests that our rapid response networks were able to prevent. Individuals who had received know your rights trainings through events or Spanish language media were empowered, called the rapid response hotlines and firmly didn't open the door to ICE!

In Santa Clara County, legal observers and community members turned up at the home of one community member and documented ICE as they knocked on the door of one family. Without the family opening the door, without a valid warrant, and under watch by the community, ICE left and did not unlawfully arrest this family as it typically does. Legal observers then distributed additional legal rights information and informed the family of their rights.

In San Mateo County, a family of three (grandmother, mother, and 15 year old child-recent arrival), did not open the door to ICE and prevented arrest and family separation. The family then received a legal consultation with Pangea, and we informed them of their rights should ICE return.

This all happened before the New York Times or any other outlet reported on the raids, underscoring the effectiveness of our Bay Area rapid response networks, which are aimed to get ahead of ICE. We continue onward with power, not panic!

Here were some of Pangea's major actions and responses to ICE this quarter:

- Pangea and the Bay Area community [organized an emergency rally outside the ICE building](#) in San Francisco to denounce ICE's raids (Thurs. 7/11)
- Pangea [filed a lawsuit](#) with the ACLU of Northern California, **suing ICE** (our first time as a Plaintiff!) and challenging ICE's denial of the right to an attorney for people arrested in ICE raids and processed in ICE field offices. As a result of the suit, [a federal court judge put ICE on notice](#) that in the event of any raids or arrests, ICE must provide individuals with the right to speak to an attorney before processing them for removal. This [made it impossible for ICE to then conduct its raids](#) on a Sunday, as planned. (Fri. 7/12)
- Pangea [led a press conference with community](#) at San Francisco International Airport to [expose ICE's scare tactics](#) and show how [the community would respond with Power, Not Panic](#). (Sat. 7/13)
- Pangea **staffed the attorney response hotlines** and conducted emergency consultations, follow-up, and provided referrals 24/7 throughout the last few weeks and weekends.

Thank you for standing with us, especially those who started making

monthly contributions. Monthly donors help make our work sustainable in the long-term.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Community Empowerment: Rally to Demand Freedom and Dignity for All Migrants



Pangea and partner organizations rally to demand freedom and dignity for all migrants, tell Pelosi and Democrats to stop funding Trump's terror and border encampments
(July, 18 2019)

The [FREE SF Coalition](#), of which Pangea is a member, [held a press conference outside of Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Office](#) in San Francisco to hold her accountable for the Democrats' partnership with Trump to fund \$4.6 billion in DHS enforcement at the border. The community held Pelosi accountable for her false portrayal of the funding as "humanitarian aid," when in fact the \$4.6 billion will fund more ICE and CBP agents, prisons and encampments, and terror, raids, and separations of immigrant families.

The community [voiced its demands loud and clear](#): defund and abolish ICE; release

all detained immigrants from prisons; and provide a dignified process, consistent with our core values of freedom and family unity.

Policy Advocacy: Bill to Abolish Private Prisons in California

This quarter, together with Bay Area partners, Pangea helped move forward [AB 32](#), a bill that will end for-profit private prisons in California, both in the criminal and the civil context. By including a ban on civil private prisons in AB 32, California follows and expands the [example set by Illinois](#) that recently banned private immigration detention facilities. AB 32 advances our goal of abolishing ICE in California by 1) prohibiting new contracts with ICE and private prison companies in California; and 2) not permitting renewals or modifications of any existing ICE contracts with private prison companies in California.

California is leading the way with this cutting-edge policy to redirect the criminal and civil justice systems to invest in dignified and community-based programs, and Pangea is a proud leader behind these efforts!

Direct Representation: Detained Pangea Client, Glori, is Freed and Reunited with her Granddaughter

Pangea client, Glori Tolentino Rivera, was finally freed after spending over 14 months in an ICE detention center in Bakersfield, CA. Glori was separated from her husband and her 7-year-old granddaughter, of whom she is the legal guardian and primary caretaker. Glori and her family came to a U.S. port of entry, fleeing violence and asking for asylum. But ICE told Glori she couldn't ask for asylum outside of a prison because she had been ordered deported from the U.S. nearly 15 years ago.

Glori is a survivor of past trauma, which made her prolonged detention and family separation even more painful. Pangea launched a [Call ICE Campaign](#) and partnered with Glori's U.S. citizen son and a community organization in North Carolina, [Faith in Public Life](#), who [held a powerful press conference in their church](#), calling for Glori's immediate release so she could reunite with her granddaughter. Finally, after persistent and combined legal and community efforts, Glori was freed on an \$8,000 bond in May 2019.



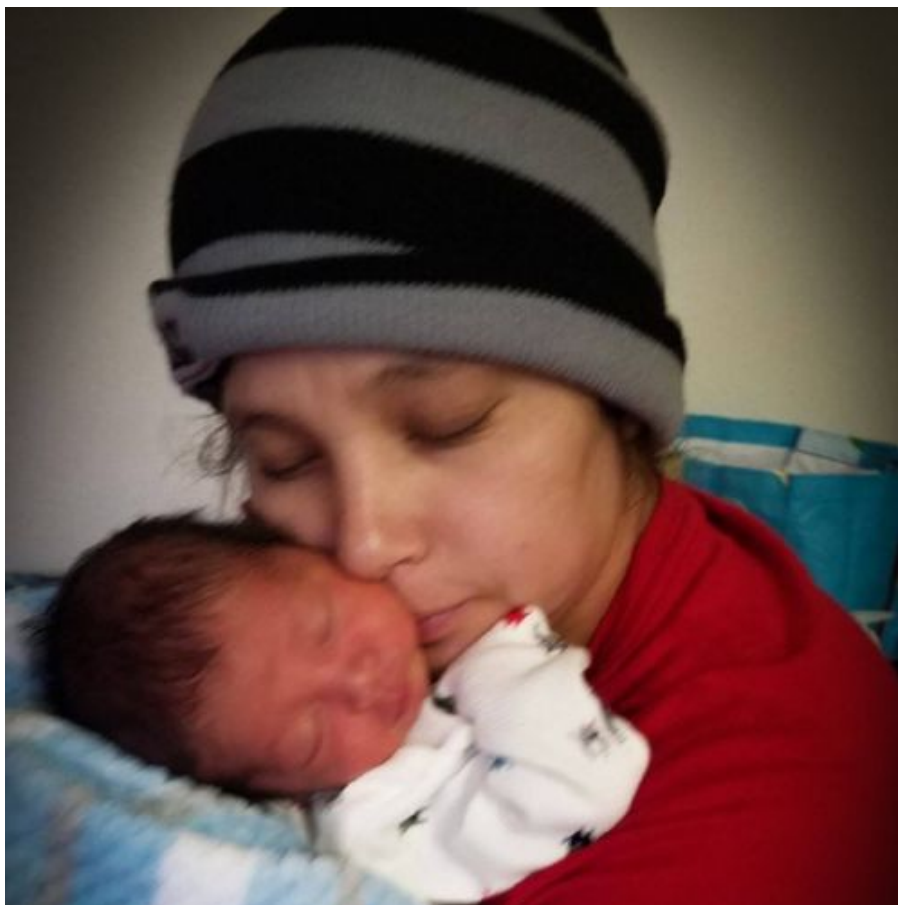
Glori and her granddaughter happily reunited in North Carolina (June 2019).

Glori's granddaughter to the community: "Thank you for bringing my mami back. I need her because she gives me food and she takes care of me."

Direct Representation: Detained Pangea Client is Granted Humanitarian Asylum

In May, Pangea client, Aida, [won her humanitarian asylum case](#). Aida is a mother who immigrated to the U.S. in 2012 fleeing severe domestic violence in El Salvador. She was suddenly detained and separated from her 2-month old nursing baby last year in the midst of Pangea's representation. ICE imprisoned Aida because of an Interpol notice from El Salvador based on false charges. The community has supported Aida throughout her case by showing up to four of her court hearings, holding vigils for her, and by raising money for her children while she is detained.

In addition to organizing with the community, Pangea secured four subject matter and mental health experts, whose testimony in this case was especially key in Aida's legal win. Although DHS appealed her case and Aida remains in prison, we hope that the evidence and outcome of Aida's case helps other immigrants who were victims of past sexual and physical violence in their countries of origin, especially following the Attorney General's attempts to foreclose asylum claims involving domestic violence.



Aida and her son, who was born premature only two months before she was detained.

Pangea Welcomes Newest Team Member, Sean Lai McMahon, Growing Team from 11 to 12 Full-Time Staff!

This quarter, we welcomed our newest immigration attorney, Sean Lai McMahon. Prior to joining Pangea, Sean provided legal support to grassroots community organizations through the Urban Justice Center in New York. He represented members of these organizations in removal proceedings, provided technical assistance for organizing campaigns, and helped to advocate for policies supporting immigrants' rights in the New York area. Sean was in the first class of Immigrant Justice Corps (IJC) legal fellows, from 2014 to 2016. [Learn more about Sean here!](#)



The Pangea team on our annual Fun Day in June 2019!

**With Love & Gratitude,
The Pangea Family**

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

Thank you for your continued support and solidarity!

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