



Donor Guide on Immigration

Standing with Our Immigrant Communities

The Santa Barbara Foundation is committed to creating a safe, thriving community for all. Our county is home to vibrant immigrant communities that are integral to our region's identity, economy, and culture. **According to census data, as of July 2024, there were approximately 98,235 foreign born residents living in Santa Barbara County, or 22% of Santa Barbara County's population.**

Our immigrant neighbors are essential contributors to Santa Barbara County – they are our agricultural workers, small business owners, teachers, healthcare workers, artists, and community leaders. They enrich our culture, strengthen our economy, and make our region more vibrant. The Santa Barbara Foundation believes in the inherent value and dignity of every person, and we recognize that strong, inclusive communities benefit everyone. If our families and essential workers are unsafe, none of us can truly thrive.

Currently, many families in our community are facing fear and uncertainty. Local organizations report that community members are "frightened and scared" and need access to immigration resources, supplies, and mental health support. The Santa Barbara Foundation is actively supporting frontline organizations who are providing resources and support. We have heard from our donors that you would like to as well, so we have created this list of resources for you.

How You Can Help

Financial Support: Consider donating to the organizations listed here, all of which provide critical services to community members in need.

Partner with the Santa Barbara Foundation: Become a donor through the [Santa Barbara Foundation](#), which has the expertise to utilize your donations for the greatest impact.



LEAP Learn Engage Advocate Partner



MICOP (Mixteco Indigenous Community Organizing Project)

Ways to Support Our Community

Below are trusted local organizations working to strengthen our Latino and immigrant communities through direct services, legal support, and community empowerment:

- **805 UndocuFund**: Provides emergency assistance to local immigrant families. 100% of funds raised go directly to families in need. Operates the 24/7 Rapid Response Hotline: (805) 870-8855.
- **California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc. (CRLA)**: A statewide nonprofit law firm located in Santa Maria providing free civil legal services to low-income residents, primarily farmworkers.
- **Carpinteria Children's Project**: Family Resource Center provides Know Your Rights training, resources, and mental health support to the local immigrant community.
- **Future Leaders of America**: Central Coast nonprofit that trains and empowers low-income Latino youth and their families, and assists families with Know Your Rights, resiliency and emergency response planning.
- **Immigrant Hope Santa Barbara**: US Department of Justice-recognized and -accredited organization offering low-cost immigration legal services including USCIS applications and Immigration Court representation.
- **IMPORTA SB**: US Department of Justice-authorized organization that monitors immigration policies and provides community education about civil rights.
- **Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County**: Provides free civil legal services to low-income residents, including immigration-related legal assistance and advocacy.
- **MICOP (Mixteco Indigenous Community Organizing Project)**: Community-based organization that advocates for the rights and needs of indigenous communities, including Mixteco farmworkers and their families.
- **Santa Barbara County Immigrant Legal Defense Center**: Provides free legal services to adults and children in detention centers and removal proceedings, ensuring that no one faces immigration court alone.
- **The Fund for Santa Barbara**: Dedicated to helping find solutions to current and emerging social problems.

How SBF Supports Our Local Nonprofits

- We fund local nonprofits through targeted grantmaking
- We match donors with emerging needs
- We train and build capacity of nonprofits
- We open doors for communities to access new opportunities and resources

Looking Forward Together

Our diverse communities make us stronger, safer, and more prosperous. The Santa Barbara Foundation remains committed to supporting initiatives that build community resilience and ensure that all residents feel safe and valued. We envision Santa Barbara communities in which everyone thrives, and we will continue to work alongside our community partners and neighbors to make this vision a reality.

For more information about supporting our immigrant communities or to discuss establishing a fund, please contact Jessica Sanchez, Senior Director of Donor Relations, JSanchez@SBFoundation.org.

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