

FEB-MAR 2018



AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE OF THE CAROLINAS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE MUSLIM BAN

On January 27th immigrant and refugee organizations took actions to mark the one year anniversary of the announcement of the first Muslim Ban, an executive order announced in the early weeks of the Trump Administration in 2017. Though the ban has faced many judicial challenges since then, groups like Church World Service, New Arrivals Institute, Center for New North Carolinians and African Services Coalition came together to hold a rally in downtown Greensboro. Refugees, immigrants, and advocates spoke to a crowd of over 100 supporters about the effects of the restrictions on entries into this country and the repercussions it has had in their lives and in attitudes felt across the nation.

On that same day, AFSC also held a "Communities against Islamophobia" training at Guilford College. The training focused on educating participants on the history of Muslim surveillance and restrictions, how anti-Muslim attitudes can have policy implications, tips for how to respond to Islamophobia, and concrete practice for doing so. Most importantly, it highlighted what is going on presently and how to assist communities we live in in fighting against hateful xenophobia and discrimination against our Muslim neighbors.

In Raleigh that morning, supporters and immigrant advocates gathered for another rally in support of immigrants and refugees. North Carolina came together to show solidarity and support for our Muslim friends and neighbors, and stood together.



EXCERPT OF AFSC OP-ED IN THE GREENSBORO NEWS & RECORD:

"As we reflect on the one-year anniversary of the Muslim ban, we join with thousands of others across the country to urge our political leaders to put into place policies and laws that protect targeted communities from profiling and surveillance, welcome refugees and immigrants, and respect the dignity and humanity of all.

But we also know that simply calling on politicians to act is not enough. That is why we will continue our work — providing refugee relief, training our friends and neighbors to stand against Islamophobia, rallying, marching and working together."

MORAL MARCH / HKONJ BRINGS THOUSANDS TO RALEIGH

On February 10th, despite the cold and rain, thousands again united in the streets of downtown Raleigh for North Carolina's largest social justice march. The NAACP celebrated their 12th Moral March and also welcomed the new NAACP president, Rev. Anthony Spearman. Masses marched in the streets demanding lawmakers to address social issues that are in the political landscape at a national and local level. Among those concerns include gerrymandering, immigration, and racism in our country.



COMMUNITY FORUM HIGHLIGHTS THE CRISIS OF MASS INCARCERATION

In February, we recognized the contributions of African-Americans in our country. At the same time, we also highlight some of the struggles, obstacles, and social issues that affect the communities in our country. The YWCA's Social Justice Committee put together a forum to discuss the effects of mass incarceration in Guilford County and how we see this play out in families.

Panelists discussed the effects it has on children, women, and some of the legal questions that organizations like ACLU are bringing out about the rights of prisoners. Hana Brown, Wake Forest Professor also spoke about the role that immigrant detention plays in the private prison system and how immigrants fare in the criminal justice system. Attendees were able to hear more local stories and this conversation raised awareness about the situations that affect millions in our country. Most importantly, it demonstrated why there should be more urgency when it comes to tackling this issue.



UPDATE ON DACA AND THE STATUS OF DREAMERS

Since January, Greensboro residents have spoken out repeatedly in favor of a resolution for undocumented youth who are at risk of losing their DACA if no solution is found by Congress. Community organizations and faith leaders have hosted multiple press conferences to urge Congress to pass a clean Dream Act, all to no avail. The only change that has given a ray of hope to undocumented youth are the court rulings that temporarily blocked the rescission of DACA. As long as the Trump Administration does not request a stay, DACA holders can continue to renew their DACA work permits. This does not solve anything for those who are just turning 16 and are unprotected without DACA. The last option left is for Congress to pass something in the March 23rd appropriations bill. Otherwise, undocumented youth will not see another proposal until the Fall. We will continue to support folks who are affected by this and keep pressuring for a solution that is fair, humane, and preserves the dignity of all immigrants.

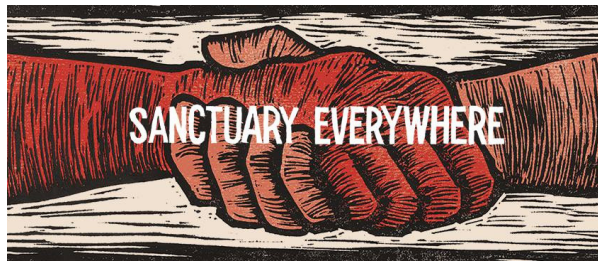
SAVE THE DATES:

Resisting Surveillance Webinar

March 15th 8:30-10 pm EST

Join us to track and disrupt surveillance in our communities.

Register at
afsc.org/SanctuaryEverywhereLive



MONTHLY TIP FOR TALKING ABOUT #SANCTUARY EVERYWHERE

Tip #1: Lead with values. Sanctuary Everywhere is about standing together to ensure that every member of our community is respected and welcomed. In the month after the election, the Southern Poverty Law Center documented more than 1,000 hateful incidents across the country. Sanctuary is about individuals and communities proclaiming that harassment, hate crimes, and inhumane policies are unacceptable to us. We are all in this together.

NO BAN! NO WALL!
SANCTUARY FOR ALL!



PILGRIMAGE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE
sun. march 25 thru fri. march 30

Walk with us!

We walk in support of Sanctuary Churches, immigrants' rights, farmworkers, workers' rights, Black Lives, and climate justice. We stand against the death penalty, mass incarceration and detention, the drug war, police brutality, and U.S. militarization at home and abroad.

Sun, March 25: **Asheville**
Mon, March 26: **Morganton**
Tues, March 27: **Winston Salem**
Wed, March 28: **Greensboro**
Thurs, March 29: **Durham**
Fri, March 30: **Raleigh**

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Witness for Peace
Southeast



International Women's Day Celebration

March 14, 2018

6:00pm to 8:00pm



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING TO CELEBRATE THE GLOBAL DIVERSITY OF WOMEN, RECOGNIZE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS, AND #PRESS FOR PROGRESS IN OUR INTERNATIONAL CITY!

FOOD-VENDORS- HENNA ARTISTS-KIDS' ACTIVITIES
MUSICAL & DANCE PERFORMANCES