

# Vera Institute of Justice

## Criminal Justice Issues and Prisoners' Rights

**<https://www.vera.org/research/covid-19-critical-initiatives-by-local-governments-to-support-immigrant-communities>**

## Policy Issue Resources

While local governments across the country are facing precarious economic impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and harsh federal immigration policies continue, local leaders are providing bold leadership to stand up for immigrants in our communities. This webinar highlights how government leaders partnering with Vera are supporting their immigrant communities through inclusive initiatives, including supporting immigrants in detention, and through supporting legal defense funds.

This webinar is hosted by Veras SAFE (Safety & Fairness for Everyone) Network, now a network of 18 diverse local jurisdictions dedicated to the goal of providing publicly-funded universal representation for people facing detention and deportation.

### **Moderated by**

Annie Chen, SAFE Program Director, Vera

### **Featuring**

Atim Otii, Director of the Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, Denver, CO

Edmundo D. Lijo, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorneys Office, St. Paul, MN

Lidiya Girma, Senior Policy Analyst, County Managers Office, Ramsey County, MN

Michelle Maziar, Director, Atlanta Office of Immigrant Affairs

Nubia Willman, Director of the Office of New Americans, City of Chicago

Nora Adriana Preciado, Director of the Office of Immigrant Affairs, City of Los Angeles

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A Toolkit for Advocates, Organizers, Legal Service Providers, and Policymakers

The 2020 election brought much joy and relief to immigrant rights activists, many of whom worked around the clock to help defeat a president who made cruelty to immigrants a central tenet of his administration, and amplified the inhumanity of an immigration system that has been never been fair or just. But more than a year after President Bidens ...

While the U.S. government may provide pillows and booster seats for children who are too small for the chairs in immigration court, it doesn't have to give them an attorney to protect their rights. As a result, far too many children face deportation proceedings alone. They

shouldnt have to. Why arent children who are facing deportation entitled ...

Transformative change, sent to your inbox.

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