

# Angela S. Davis

*First Grace Community Alliance Executive Director  
Project Ishmael Founder  
Hagar's House Co-Founder, Executive Director*

Angela Davis has spent her career putting her beliefs into action.

While at Princeton Theological Seminary she took to heart the potential of liberation theology and volunteered in Palestine to learn from and work with displaced people.

It was there that Davis had an inkling she would do well in the legal industry. She is modest and speaks softly, but her actions have had a dramatic benefit on those around her.

"Good people and community are what I enjoy the most," she said.

It was from this axiom that Davis entered Loyola School of Law and became a champion of immigrants' rights. She considered immigration law the best way for her to help at-risk populations, especially women and children in the New Orleans area.

Davis continues to work in social justice through First Grace Community Alliance. There she co-founded Project Ishmael, a

pro bono immigration legal program, and Hagar's House, an intentional community for homeless women and children.

"From the children and youth I represent, to other social justice and movement lawyers, to activists and organizers in the city .. it is a gift to work and learn among so many beautiful people," she said.

Davis brings missionary zeal to common societal concerns, and says the "challenge is the absolute lack of respect for human rights in the current US immigration system."

But Davis remains hopeful of the future and the impulse toward reform.

It should come to no surprise that Davis believes potential is the word that best applies to her.

"Keep learning," she said. "Learning about parenthood, about justice, about kindness."

—Edwin Smith

