EMERGENCY COMMUNITY RESPONSE FRAMEWORK (5–7 STRATEGIES)

8 Core Strategies

1. Rapid Response & Operations Strategy

2. Community Protection & Legal Strategy

3. Narrative, Media, & Amplification Strategy

4. Community Engagement & Alliance Building Strategy

5. Training, Data, & Research Strategy

6. Political & Advocacy Strategy

7. Fundraising & Resource Mobilization Strategy
8. Community inreach and coordination

1) Rapid Response & Operations Strategy

Purpose: Immediate action when raids, harassment, or crises occur.

Tactics

- Rapid Response Teams

- Operation Zones (North, South, West, specific city zones, mosque zones)

- Communication Systems (Signal, WhatsApp Groups)

- Family Emergency Preparedness

- Food & Potluck Neighbor Support (emergency meals, drop-offs)

Volunteer Roles

- On-call responders

- Drivers & transportation support

- Zone coordinators

- Communication dispatchers

- Door-to-door mobilizers

- Meal-prep volunteers

Resources Needed

- Emergency hotline

- Transportation support (gas cards, vans)

- Walkie-talkies, phones, hotspots

- Pre-built communication trees

- Printed "Know Your Rights" cards

- Emergency food packages

- First-aid kits

2) Community Protection & Legal Strategy

Purpose: Legal defense, safety, and protection from ICE & profiling.

Tactics

- Legal Fund

- Partnerships with immigration lawyers

- Community legal clinics

- Rapid legal screenings

- International Response (Somali government engagement)

Volunteer Roles

- Legal intake volunteers

- Court accompaniment teams

- Case managers

- Translators (Somali, Oromo, Arabic, Spanish)

Resources Needed

- Legal defense fund

- Directory of pro bono attorneys

- Space for legal clinics

- Secure data system for family contacts

- Translation & interpretation services

3) Narrative, Media, & Amplification Strategy

Purpose: Combat harmful narratives, elevate community voice, and influence public perception.

Tactics

- Narrative strategy development

- Social media amplification teams

- Stories on social media (testimonies, videos)

- Showcasing Somali & immigrant professionals

- Influencer partnerships

- Press conferences & media kits

Volunteer Roles

- Story collectors/interviewers

- Social media creators

- Graphic designers

- Editors & content producers

- Spokespersons

- Livestream coordinators

Resources Needed

- Social media toolkits

- Canva/Premiere tools

- High-quality cameras/mics

- Media contact lists

- Branding/visual identity package

4) Community Engagement & Alliance Building Strategy

Purpose: Build power through unity with neighbors, other ethnic groups, and faith communities.

Tactics

- Community-building circles

- Outreach to Latino, African American, and other impacted communities

- Multifaith clergy partnerships

- Potlucks, neighborhood gatherings

- Community safety walks

- Caucus strategy (building internal Somali political/diversity caucuses)

Volunteer Roles

- Community liaisons

- Faith leaders & cultural connectors

- Event planners

- Translators

- Relationship builders

Resources Needed

- Venues (mosques, churches, community centers)

- Food for gatherings

- Flyers, outreach materials

- Transportation assistance

- Multilingual outreach teams

5) Training, Data, & Research Strategy

Purpose: Strengthen community capacity and build evidence for advocacy.

Tactics

- Information training workshops (Know Your Rights, ICE response, digital safety)

- Surveys & research data collection

- Institutes/think tanks to produce reports

- Data strategy systems (collection, storage, dashboards)

Volunteer Roles

- Trainers & facilitators

- Survey distributors

- Data entry volunteers

- Analysts & researchers

- Tech support

Resources Needed

- Curriculum & training materials

- Registration & data collection software

- Tablets/phones for surveys

- Research templates

- Secure data storage (privacy-protected)

6) Political & Advocacy Strategy

Purpose: Influence policy, stop harmful raids, and build political power.

Tactics

- Political strategy development

- Meetings with elected officials

- Advocacy days at the Capitol

- Community caucus organizing

- Policy briefs & legislative asks

- International coordination (Somali government)

Volunteer Roles

- Policy researchers

- Advocacy team volunteers

- Voter mobilizers

- Lobby day coordinators

- Note-takers & logistics organizers

Resources Needed

- Policy briefing documents

- Transportation for Capitol visits

- Contacts for elected officials

- Civic engagement materials

- Meeting spaces

7) Fundraising & Resource Mobilization Strategy

Purpose: Sustain all operations financially and materially.

Tactics

- Fundraising campaigns

- Mosque collections

- Donor outreach

- Online fundraising platforms

- Events & community galas

- Legal fund campaigns

Volunteer Roles

- Donor outreach team

- Event planners

- Finance tracking volunteers

- Grant writers

- Online campaign managers

Resources Needed

- Donation platforms (LaunchGood, GoFundMe)

- Bank accounts & financial team

- Marketing materials

- Venues & equipment for fundraising events

- Partnerships with nonprofits

8. Community In-Reach & Coordination Strategy

This strategy focuses on identifying, mapping, and mobilizing the human resources, financial resources, and institutional assets that already exist within our community.

Key components include:

• Conducting a community talent and skills inventory (who can do what, who has capacity, who has networks).

• Mapping financial resources, fundraising capacity, donor networks, and potential local funders.

• Coordinating the deployment of these resources across all strategies to avoid duplication and maximize efficiency.

• Creating a central coordination hub to connect volunteers, experts, organizations, and funders to specific needs in real time.

• Ensuring transparency, communication, and shared decision-making as resources are mobilized.