Freedom for Immigrants (FFI) is devoted to ending the deadly practice of caging people for their civil immigration process by supporting the survival, dignity, and powerful leadership of those most impacted by this profit-driven system.

A successful Annual Appeal will enable FFI to continue to grow and contribute to the movement for abolition.

**GOAL:**

$400,000

Your contribution will support ongoing and future efforts like:

- Developing Laura’s vision for FFI by resourcing and following the leadership of detained advocates
- Funding for full-time, fully paid fellowships to people with lived experience in immigration detention

**MONITORING AND VISITATION**

Provided 3 fellowships to previously detained people

Added 3 new visitation groups to FFI’s National Visitation Network

9 Direct Advocacy volunteers

17 Direct Advocacy Complaints submitted by volunteers

A core component of FFI’s fight for abolition, we monitor human rights abuses and overall conditions inside detention centers. FFI supports the National Visitation Network—a network of grassroots groups across the country offering immediate support to people inside. FFI supports the Visitation Network by providing resources, training, technical assistance, capacity-building and leadership development.

**IMMIGRATION BOND FUND**

Reunited 28 individuals with their communities by posting nearly $300,000 in immigration bonds

2 Immigration Bond Fund Interns

Through our National Immigration Detention Bond Fund, FFI posts bonds in California and Louisiana for those who are most vulnerable. We know that Black and brown immigrants, people with medical and mental health conditions, and members of the LGBTQ+ community are most likely to face neglect, abuse, and prejudicial violence while in custody. Posting bond gives them their first opportunity to fight deportation with the support of their community.

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Allies:

As people around the world continue to struggle for survival and against oppression, Freedom for Immigrants is ever more committed in the hope that our fight for true freedom for all people will provide much-needed relief to our communities.

We thank you for your support of our mission to end immigration detention nationwide and hope you will continue to join us in this fight. As we enter a bold new chapter as FFI, we’re thrilled to introduce our new Annual Appeal: Freedom for Immigrants Until Everyone is Free: Powered by the People.

First, I would like to honor and acknowledge the history of the phrase, “All Power to the People,” originally coined by the Black Panther Party (BPP). Co-Founder and Minister of Defense for the BPP, Huey P. Newton, wrote this in his autobiography: “Another expression that helped to raise Black People’s consciousness is ‘All Power to the People’, it was coined by the Black Panther Party...the slogan ‘All Power to the People’ sums up our goals for Black People, as well as our deep love and commitment to them.”

Our Powered by the People campaign will be crucial to funding the work we are moving toward; work which includes not just centering those with lived experience, but following their leadership, engaging with organizers on the inside to dismantle carceral systems from within, while fighting for racial equity. We will work in solidarity with Black migrants and engage our communities in new ways that celebrate their deep knowledge and tell their stories.

We hope you will join us in this movement and align yourselves with the people to bring dignity to our communities and ourselves. Our work is powered by people. And we cannot do this work without you.

In Solidarity,

Laura Hernandez
Executive Director
Freedom for Immigrants

The National Immigration Detention Hotline is the nation’s largest immigration detention hotline, connecting people inside to a team of trained hotline volunteers who provide compassionate support, ethically record their personal testimonies, and build solidarity for their organizing efforts. FFI’s 180+ Hotline Volunteers are able to support over 1,600 callers in a given month. Our volunteers provide callers with referrals for further support, prepare and file federal civil rights complaints, identify cases of extreme neglect or abuse for direct advocacy campaigns, and report abuses and dehumanizing conditions in detention centers, all while building and strengthening relationships with people inside as a form of resistance.

**POLICY ADVOCACY**

Co-coordinated a Defund Hate briefing with Rep. Ilhan Omar and 56 partners

Co-organized a briefing on immigrants detention with 198 congressional offices

Secured 63 co-sponsors for NY Dignity Not Detention Act

We conduct legislative and administrative advocacy aimed at abolishing immigration detention by: 1) strengthening oversight, 2) reducing the size and scale of the detention system through legislation and the federal budget, and 3) investing in community-based services as alternatives for freedom. As part of our national strategy, FFI also supports state-based legislation to end the practice of detention, like in California, New Jersey, and New York.

**NARRATIVE CHANGE AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS**

658 media hits in print and digital media outlets, and dozens more on TV and radio

Generating in 19,609 engagements from reporters and news outlets on social media

Resulting in an average of 4.51 million unique views on print and digital media outlets per month

*All info represents FFI work from fiscal year 2023