



#WelcomeWithDignity's Recommendations to Restart Asylum at the Border

The [#WelcomeWithDignity Campaign](#) urges the U.S. government to welcome families, children, and adults seeking refuge in the United States with care and humanity by building an asylum system that is accessible, fair, humane, effective, and easier to navigate. This must include people trying to request protection at the U.S. border, whether at or between formal ports of entry.

The Problem: The Biden administration continues to violently and illegally expel people fleeing danger and prevent them from seeking protection in the United States. Its failure to respect U.S. laws and restart asylum at the border is endangering lives and separating families.

The Solution: We call on the U.S. government to take immediate steps to restore asylum at the border and build a system that welcomes with dignity.

- **End unlawful and cruel policies**, including “Remain in Mexico” and Title 42, that return and expel families and adults at the border to life-threatening dangers in Mexico, Haiti, and other countries.
- **Ensure that every person who fears being returned to their country has an opportunity to apply for asylum and other forms of protection in the United States**, as required by U.S. law and treaty commitments. No one should need an appointment, a humanitarian parole application, or a lawyer to access asylum at ports of entry. No one should be forced to risk their life crossing rivers or deserts to ask for protection. And no parent should be forced to send their child across the border alone to protect them.
 - Use science-based public health measures like masks, social distancing, and COVID-19 tests at ports of entry and Border Patrol facilities.
 - Develop policies to identify, document, and protect the identities, languages, and distinct rights of Indigenous peoples and ensure immigration officials are trained in and observe these protocols.
 - Coordinate with and provide much-needed support to nonprofits, community-based shelters, faith-based groups, and other organizations that provide housing, clothes, food, and information, and help arrange transportation for people to reach their destinations and reunite with family in the United States.
 - The Department of Homeland Security should prioritize legally required processing of migrants and asylum seekers by ensuring adequate staffing and resourcing of ports of entry and along the border.





- **Build a fair, orderly, and dignified process for people seeking refuge in the United States:**
 - Never use accelerated deportation processes. These often send refugees back to persecution, torture, and even death.
 - Do not jail people seeking protection. Immigration detention centers put people's lives at risk and block many from a fair chance to apply for asylum and other protections. Instead, allow people to stay in the community. Do not replace detention with invasive and harmful electronic monitoring.
 - Make it easier for people waiting for the outcome of their cases to work and support themselves.
 - Ensure access to evidence-based and appropriate community-based support provided by trusted non-profit organizations.
- **Provide independent monitoring, oversight, and accountability for immigration detention facilities and immigration officers**, including Border Patrol, who abuse their authority through violence, denial of medical care, or other illegal acts.
- **Do not criminalize people**, many of whom are exercising their right to seek asylum, for crossing the border, and prevent state and local officials from illegally prosecuting immigrants for being in the United States.



Join the movement and [sign our pledge to #WelcomeWithDignity](#).

