

Latino Memphis will Stand with Our Community
Statement on Trump's Executive Orders on Immigration

President Trump's executive actions fail to address the real immigration issue, and building a wall or not issuing visas is not going to solve it. We must address the current and future needs of our country. These are complex issues that can be addressed in a humane and practical way that reflects our values.

Logistically, humanly, or economically we cannot deport millions of people. We do not have the resources and it would devastate families, business and communities. With executive actions that attack immigrants, are we going to continue to attract people to this country?

Instead of designing a wall, we should design an immigration system that addresses the security and economic needs of our country while securing the border in a humane way and upholding our moral values.

There are economic and labor needs in this country. Instead of turning our backs and ignoring the problem by building a wall, halting the issue of new visas and other nonsense measures, we should be addressing these needs. The President has talked about building infrastructure. We deserve an immigration system that works. Yes, there are many people unemployed, but there are many job opportunities being unfilled. Let's find those employment gaps, find the opportunities and build a work program that makes sense and benefits businesses, communities and strengthens our country's safety and economy.

We will continue to support our community through this process and will work to make sure that rights are upheld. We are more committed than ever to advocate for and protect the rights of all people and we demand that Congress does the same thing.

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Latino Memphis is the largest Latino-serving nonprofit in West Tennessee, connecting thousands of clients each year to needed services in the areas of health, education and justice. The work of Latino Memphis is a collective approach that aims to create a vibrant Latino middle class in Memphis; a concept that will not only impact Latinos, but the entire community. Latino Memphis remains more committed than ever to raising the voice of Latinos in our region and working toward building a vibrant city.