

TAKE ACTION:

Tell Congress to Address the Needs of ALL Survivors and Improve Support and Protections for Immigrants



Congress has started discussions on the next coronavirus aid package, and they need to hear from you and our communities to ensure that survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, including immigrant survivors, get the support they urgently need to during this public health and economic crisis.

While the first several phases of stimulus packages, including the [CARES Act](#), provided initial responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, they did not sufficiently address the urgent needs of survivors nor address the critical needs of many immigrant workers and families.

More information is provided below with links to key policy recommendations. We encourage you to take these four action steps:

1. Ensure that your organization has signed on to the [letter](#) led by the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence calling on Congress to allocate additional resources and create policies that address the urgent safety needs and long-term stability needs of survivors and their children in the next federal COVID relief package, including priorities to improve protections for immigrant survivors.

Over 400 organizations have endorsed this letter. If your organization has not yet endorsed this letter and would like to do so, please [click HERE](#). An updated letter with additional endorsements will later be shared with members of Congress. (This letter is for national/state/local organizations only; individual sign-ons will not be accepted. Instead, individuals are encouraged to contact their Members of Congress to ask them to support vital funding for domestic violence and sexual assault programs and help amplify this letter with your representatives).

2. Help amplify the [policy alert and key recommendations](#) from the Alliance for Immigrant Survivors;
3. Contact your members of Congress in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate to encourage them to address these priorities in the next COVID relief package (see additional information below); and
4. Use social media to help amplify these messages (see sample messages below).

Future COVID-19 aid packages must go further to address the needs of ALL survivors of violence to ensure that they have access to crucial economic, health care, and housing resources. Additionally, it is important to ensure increased access to resources to domestic violence and sexual assault services programs that primarily focus on providing culturally specific services to survivors from racial and ethnic minority communities and immigrant

survivors who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and face increased barriers in accessing services and support.

We must do better to address the heightened risks and increased barriers faced by survivors and to ensure essential protections and increased support for immigrant communities. It is important that policy makers hear from you!

Contacting your Members of Congress:

Please call or email your members of Congress TODAY. To find your [Representative click here](#), to find your [Senators click here](#). Both of these sites will provide you with contact information to call and/or email your members of Congress.

Suggested Email/Call Script:

“Hello. My name is [your name], and I am your constituent calling from [your location and, if applicable, your program]. I appreciate what Congress has been doing to address the COVID pandemic, but COVID-19 disproportionately impacts victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and survivors from Communities of Color and immigrant survivors are particularly vulnerable. I urge you to address their needs when you negotiate the next stimulus package. To help all survivors, please support the policy recommendations as outlined in the [letter to Congress](#) by the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence to provide increased emergency funding for local programs that support them; ensure survivors have access to services, housing, language access and economic stability; and improve access to safety and support for immigrant survivors.

Please support key policy recommendations for immigrant survivors as outlined further in the [policy priorities](#) from the Alliance for Immigrant Survivors and also support immigrant survivors by co-sponsoring the Coronavirus Immigrant Families Protection Act ([HR 6437](#)) that protects them from deportation and improves pathways to safety for them to seek services. We're counting on you to protect all victims and survivors.”

Here are some suggested posts to share on social media. Please tag @4immsurvivors and your member of Congress or Senators when possible.

Twitter:

#COVID19 doesn't discriminate based on immigration status & neither should access to #coronavirus #healthcare & economic support. Any future #COVID19 legislation MUST ensure that ALL victims and survivors of #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault receive the help they need & deserve.

#COVID19 is continuing to create instability & uncertainty & immigrant survivors of #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault are particularly vulnerable. Congress must provide more funding for domestic violence & sexual assault programs to help ensure access to safety and well-being for all.

Tell Congress that we are counting on them to protect ALL survivors of #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault in the next #coronavirus bill. Survivors need access to housing, #healthcare & economic supports to be independent, safe & healthy during this crisis.

Now is a time to come together & support ALL survivors of #DomesticViolence & #SexualAssault. The next #COVID19 bill MUST #ProtectImmigrantSurvivors from deportation & encourage them to seek #healthcare services without fear.

Facebook:

Immigrant survivors of domestic violence & sexual assault are facing high risk for increased violence, deportation, homelessness, health issues & economic hardship during this COVID-19 crisis. Congress must address their needs in the next coronavirus aid bill and provide them with the support and protection they need. Tell Congress to increase funding for local programs that support them to be safe, healthy, housed & economically independent. <https://www.immigrantsurvivors.org/take-action>

If you need additional resources to help inform you on these issues, please visit:

- [Esperanza United's COVID-19 bilingual resource library](#) for links to additional resources and information
- [AIS COVID-19 Pandemic Resources for Immigrant Survivors & Advocates](#)
- [Coronavirus Immigrant Families Protection Act \(HR 6437\)](#)
- [AIS Statement on COVID-19](#)

If you know someone who wants to stand with survivors and highlight the needs of immigrant survivors in this unprecedented moment, please forward this email and invite them to join our National Latin@ Newsletter email list by [clicking here](#), and join the policy email list of the Alliance for Immigrant Survivors by completing [this form](#). Thank you!