

Juliette Rezzato

From: Board Of Supervisors
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 2:07 PM
To: Agenda Management Support
Subject: #10 comment_King, W

From: Wendy King <wking108@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2025 6:56 PM
To: Justin Cummings <Justin.Cummings@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Cc: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Funding for immigrant services

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Supervisor Cummings,

As a member of the Welcoming Network, as the child of immigrants, as a local Santa Cruz community member, and as a citizen of our USA, I urge you to increase funding for immigration services from \$100,000 to at least \$150,000. With an estimated 16,000 undocumented individuals in Santa Cruz County, the need for legal, financial, and emotional support has never been greater.

The Santa Cruz County Immigration Coalition (SCCIC), informed by input from over 120 direct and indirect service providers, has identified the following urgent priorities:

- **Deportation Defense Fund (\$25K)** – Legal support for families facing deportation is essential to keeping our communities intact.
- **Bail Bond Fund (\$20K)** – Ensuring access to bail prevents unnecessary detention and family separation.

- **Household Support Fund (\$10K)** – Deportation disrupts entire households, leaving families struggling to meet basic needs.
- **Legal and Educational Services (\$55K)** – Families need access to immigration pathways education, personalized case assessments, and legal document preparation.
- **Family & Child Safety (\$25K)** – Childcare and asset planning help families prepare for the unthinkable, ensuring children’s well-being and financial security.
- **Mental Health & Community Support (\$15K)** – The fear and trauma of deportation impact mental health, and community-based infrastructure, such as rapid response networks, help keep families informed and safe.

The current \$100,000 allocation is simply not enough to meet these growing needs. Increasing funding to at least \$150,000 is a necessary step toward ensuring the safety, stability, and dignity of our undocumented community members—individuals who contribute so much to our local economy and culture.

In these very scary times, I urge you to lead with compassion and justice by increasing this allocation.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Wendy King

Santa Cruz 3rd District