

MEMBERSHIP FORM: Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition (BAIRC)

Date: _____

Type of Membership: Organizational Individual

Type of Organization: Service Provider Public Policy Grassroots*
 Labor Union Other:

* BAIRC defines *Grassroots* Organizations as groups that have:
 1) An active and consistent membership 2) Organizing and mobilization components 3) An infrastructure that supports leadership roles for community members 4) Members that are empowered to make key organizational decisions

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Type of Address: Business Home

Phone Number: _____ Extension: _____

Type of Phone Number: Business Home Cell Phone

Fax Number: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Primary Organizational Contact
 Title: Mr. Mrs. Dr. Ms. Other: _____

Full Name: _____ Position: _____

Other staff that will be involved in BAIRC: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your support will help BAIRC move our collective work forward!

Organizational Budget	Individual Income	Annual Membership Dues
Up to \$100,000	Up to \$50,000	\$100.00
\$100-500,000	\$50-75,000	\$200.00
Above \$500,000	Above \$75,000	\$300.00

BAIRC relies on membership dues and donations to offset the costs of our advocacy, alliance-building, public awareness and capacity-building activities. If you have the capacity to make an additional contribution to BAIRC, please consider giving \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or whatever you can afford.

Membership Dues: _____ + Additional Donation: _____ = **TOTAL:**

Please make checks payable to "BAIRC" and mail along with your Membership Form to:
Bay Area Immigrant Rights Coalition
 Attention: Membership
 310 Eighth Street, Suite 303
 Oakland, CA 94607

If you have any questions, please contact Evelyn Sanchez, Interim Director at evelyn@immigrantrights.org

*****Please MAIL this form back to BAIRC or FAX it to 510.465.1885*****



Member Questionnaire for 2009 Annual Summit

Please consult with your organizational staff and membership to fill out this brief questionnaire and **return it by MAIL, FAX or E-MAIL to BAIRC by Friday, January 16th, 2009**. This questionnaire will help BAIRC determine how best to support the work of our members in 2009. Someone from the BAIRC summit organizing committee will be following up with you by phone.

Please send the questionnaire back to BAIRC in one of the following ways:

MAIL: BAIRC / 310 8th Street, #303 / Oakland, CA 94607

FAX: 510.465.1885

EMAIL: evelyn@immigrantrights.org

Thank you for your time!

What issues will your organization want to focus on in 2009?

1. ____ Immigration Reform advocacy
2. ____ Countering immigration enforcement
3. ____ Promotion of local immigrant rights policies
4. ____ Affordable Housing
5. ____ Healthcare at the state and federal level
6. ____ State and federal budget cuts
7. ____ Workers' rights - please specify campaign: _____
8. ____ Other: _____

What resources / tools / skills might your organization need support with in order to work on the above issues?

1. ____ Media support (messaging and media outreach)
2. ____ Advocacy tools (talking points and fact sheets)
3. ____ Technical assistance for electoral work (voter ID, contacting voters, getting out the vote)
4. ____ Movement Building spaces (information sharing, networking, exploring collaborations)
5. ____ Educational tools (workshop curriculum, trainer trainings, community forums)
6. ____ Other: _____

Based on your organizational capacity, which of the following facilitate your organization's participation in BAIRC activities? Please choose all that apply.

1. _____ Quarterly meetings (once every 3 months)
2. _____ Members-only listserv
3. _____ Conference calls
4. _____ Website postings
5. _____ Mailings
6. _____ Other: _____

In which regional, state and national coalitions / spaces is your organization currently participating in?

In the opinion of BAIRC staff, federal immigration reform will be identified as a top issue for members in 2009. Please review BAIRC's Immigrant Rights Platform of 2005 (please see below) and comment on the following:

1. Which elements of the platform most appeal to your organization? Why?

2. Which elements of the platform do you find challenging? Why?

3. What elements of the platform need to be supported with deeper education?

4. Other comments:

BAIRC Platform on Immigrant Rights

September 2005

◆ Fair and Just Immigration Policies

Economic forces that produce poverty around the world often drive people to migrate to the United States in order to ensure the survival of their families. The U.S. economy is part of a network of economies across the world that relies on immigrant labor; as trade in goods moves across borders, so do people. Once in the U.S., immigrants contribute to our society in numerous ways – paying billions of dollars in local, state and federal taxes, fueling key industries like agriculture, manufacturing, and household work, starting businesses that create jobs, and bringing innovation, diversity of language and culture as well as an interest and willingness to participate in civic life.

Yet, our current immigration system discourages immigrant inclusion and is out of touch with the reality of the U.S.'s reliance on immigrants and immigrant labor. Under the current system, hard working, tax-paying immigrants without documentation are forced to live in the shadows, vulnerable to abuse at home and in the workplace. Undocumented immigrant students, often brought by their families to the U.S. at a young age, cannot attend college or share their skills in the U.S. labor force because they lack proper documentation. Immigrant families must also endure the hardship of separation from their loved ones due to long visa waiting periods and processing delays that can last up to twenty years.

BAIRC supports efforts that:

- Provide permanent residency, by legalizing immigrant workers regardless of status, students and their families.
- Keep families together by investing public funds where they are needed most – in eliminating the growing immigration backlog and barriers to family reunification, rather than in supporting misguided enforcement attempts.
- Uphold the right of same sex couples to family-based immigration.
- Fix the draconian 1996 Act to restore fairness and due process to legal permanent residents in immigration legal proceedings, eliminate misdemeanors as deportable offenses, and make discretionary relief available
- Uphold the due process rights of asylum seekers
- Ensure economic justice and workers' rights, including :
 - Rejecting guest worker proposals that make undocumented workers vulnerable to employer abuses and exploitation and pit immigrant workers against U.S. workers.
 - Rejecting English-only policies in the workplace, and making workplace policies related to health and safety accessible to all regardless of language barriers.
 - Eliminating workplace and housing raids that destabilize families, violate constitutional and civil rights, and undermine fair wages and safe working conditions.
 - Overturning the Hoffman Plastics ruling to restore the right to organize to undocumented workers
 - Rejecting employer sanctions that in reality punish workers and criminalize immigrant labor.

◆ Upholding Civil Rights and Civil Liberties for All

Since September 11, 2001, lawmakers have poured millions of dollars into the enforcement of over-reaching immigration policies – policies that increase the militarization of our borders, sanction workplace raids and harassment, undermine public trust between local authorities and immigrant communities, and erode the due process rights of all. These sweeping enforcement policies have undermined our security, separated families, and stripped away the very liberties and rights that make our nation a democracy. BAIRC believes that our local communities and nation are more vibrant when immigrant families are safe and able to share their many contributions with the rest of society.

Therefore, we support efforts to:

- Restore and protect fundamental and due process rights at the core of the United States' democratic values.

- Allow local authorities to serve our communities and keep them out of the business of federal immigration law enforcement.
- Adopt policies and practices that put an end to racial and ethnic profiling.
- Refute distorted representations of immigrants as criminals, and
- Recognize the important roles immigrants play in strengthening our communities and country.

◆ **Access to Services and Political Participation**

Immigrants and their families contribute to every sector of California’s economy, on average paying more in taxes than they ever receive in services. Immigrants in California pay approximately \$4.5 billion in state taxes each year; their federal tax contribution is more than \$30 billion annually.

Immigrants who fall on hard times should have access to the very safety net programs that are supported by their tax dollars. Despite eligibility for such programs, immigrants often face numerous barriers that prevent them from enrolling in those services such as lack of awareness of existing programs, fears that utilizing services could impact their immigration status, a lack of translated materials and interpretation services, and confusion about eligibility requirements. As contributing members to our state and our nation, immigrants deserve to access services with safety and dignity. Under the current situation, many immigrants are unable to obtain identification such as a driver’s license to take their children to school or to the hospital during emergencies. Additionally many immigrants are disenfranchised from the political process. Even when eligible to vote, immigrants often do not vote in proportion to their numbers. With the right tools, we can eliminate barriers to political engagement – including the lack of multilingual voter information – while increasing the power and representation of immigrants and their children who make up more than half of California’s population.

BAIRC supports efforts to:

- Eliminate linguistic and cultural barriers that prevent full and equal access to services and the political process for low-income, limited-English proficient immigrants.
- Protect and maintain access to critical safety net programs for all immigrants.
- Allow all immigrants to obtain identification, such as driver’s licenses, so they can access services with dignity.
- Increase immigrant voter registration, education and turn out on Election Day.
- Increase accountability of elected officials and other policy makers to immigrant communities.