
Sheriffs and Immigration in Florida

Building Power, Ending Mass Incarceration
and Stopping Deportations



ADVANCEMENT
PROJECT

...just democracy!



hispanic**federation**

INTERPRETATION LINES

Para español llame (305) 707-5958

Pou kreyol, rele (305) 928-7611

Purpose of Webinar

- Learn about Freedom4Florida Coalition.
- Learn about role of sheriffs in your community and how they impact immigration enforcement.
- Find out how Florida is ground zero for deportation-pipeline tools.
- Demand change for your community.

Panelists

Jessica Cruz, Community Leader, Faith in Florida

Pamela Gomez, Tampa Bay Regional Organizer, FLIC

Losmin Jimenez, Project Director, Immigrant Justice, Advancement Project

Nanci J. Palacios, Deputy Director, Faith in Florida

Yanidsi Velez, Florida and Southeast Director, Hispanic Federation

Freedom4Florida Coalition Values

- End War on Poverty
- Let Kids be Kids
- Decarcerate and Expand Alternatives
- Protect Immigrant Communities
- Transparency and Accountability
- Expand Democracy
- Learn More at <https://freedom4florida.org/>



Open Poll!

- 1. Have you or someone you know experienced racial profiling?** | ¿Usted, o alguien conocido, ha experimentado discriminación racial? | Eske oumenm oubyen yon moun ke ou konnen te fè eksperyans pwoblèm rasyal?
- 2. Do you have a loved one who has been deported?** | ¿Algún ser querido suyo ha sido deportado? | Eske ou gen youn nan manb fanmi w' ki te depòte?
- 3. Have you or someone you know been detained because of local law enforcement collaboration with ICE?** | ¿Usted, o alguien conocido, ha sido detenido debido a la colaboración de las autoridades locales con ICE? | Eske oumenm oubyen yon moun ke ou konnen te anprizone akòz kolaborasyon otorite lokal yo ansanm ak ICE?
- 4. Have you or someone you know been stopped for a traffic offense? (Examples of traffic offense could be: speeding, not signaling, broken tail light, not wearing a seatbelt)** | ¿Usted, o alguien conocido, ha sido parado en la carretera por una infracción de tránsito? (Ejemplos de una infracción de tránsito pueden ser: manejar en exceso de velocidad, no poner las direccionales, una luz trasera dañada, no llevar el cinturón de seguridad puesto) | Eske yo te kanpe ou oubyen yon moun ou konnen pou dezòd sikilasyon? (Egzanp dezòd sikilasyon ka ye : vitès, ou pat bay signal, limyè dèyè w' kraze, ou pat mete senti sekirite)

The Power of Sheriffs: What Most Don't Know



- Sheriffs are **elected** officials
- Law enforcement and jail authority county-wide
 - Manage county or regional jails
 - Most have the power to make arrests and detain people throughout the county
- Jails are entry point for detention and pipeline for deportation
- **In most cases, sheriffs have sole decision-making authority over how and whether to work with federal authorities**
- Example: FL Sheriff have direct communication with ICE, State Legislators & are drafting policies that further criminalize immigrants in the state.

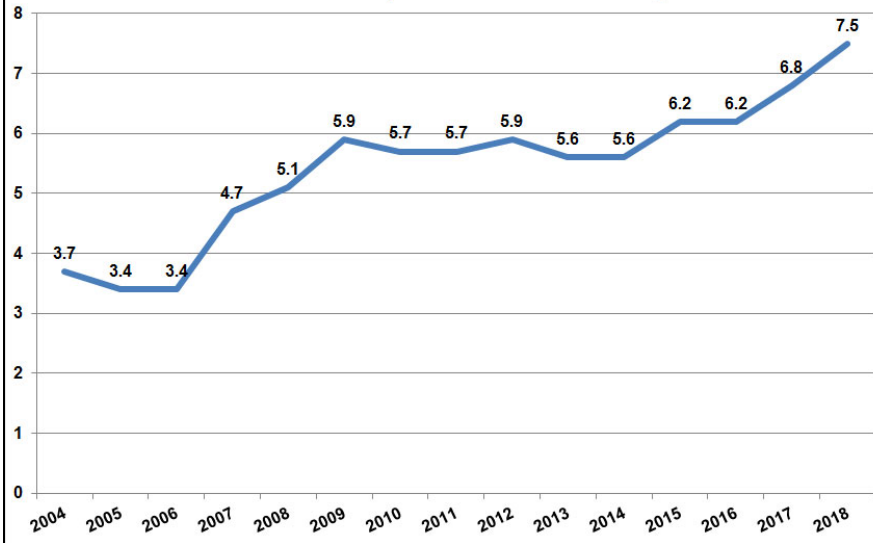
Administration's Goals on Detention and Deportation



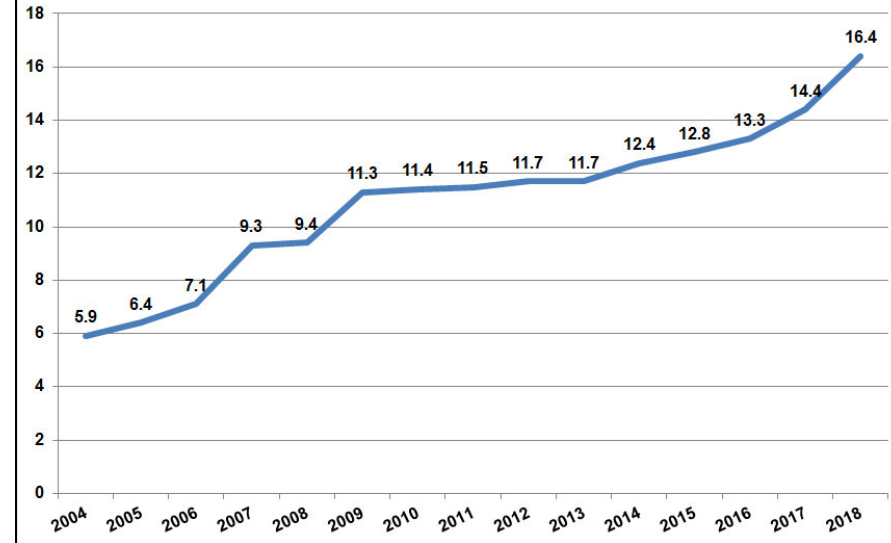
- ICE wants 52,000 daily available detention beds by 2020-- a 25 percent increase over 2016 (Almost there)
- Goal ½ Million Detentions/Year
- Internal and Border Police Force

Currently \$24 Billion for Mass Detention and Deportation

ICE Budget
2004 - 2018 (in billions of dollars)



CBP Budget
2004 - 2018 (in billions of dollars)



Source: <https://immigrantjustice.org/staff/blog/principles-negotiating-dhs-budget>

Increasing Local Collaboration: 287g Agreements

- Currently, ICE has 287(g) agreements with 74 (In 2017, 59) law enforcement agencies in 21 states.
- Only six new agreements were added between 2012 and 2016.
- ICE plans to continue this higher rate of expansion.
- **All but 7 are contracts with Sheriffs**

(Source: <https://www.ice.gov/287g>)

07/31/2017

ICE announces 18 new 287(g) agreements in Texas



GRAPEVINE, Texas – U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) formally announced the signing of 18 new 287(g) agreements throughout the state of Texas at an event in Grapevine today attended by Acting ICE Director Tom Homan and sheriffs from each of the 18 counties.



ICE Detention Population

- LOCAL
- PRIVATE
- ICE

AVERAGE POPULATION FY2017

1.9k

257

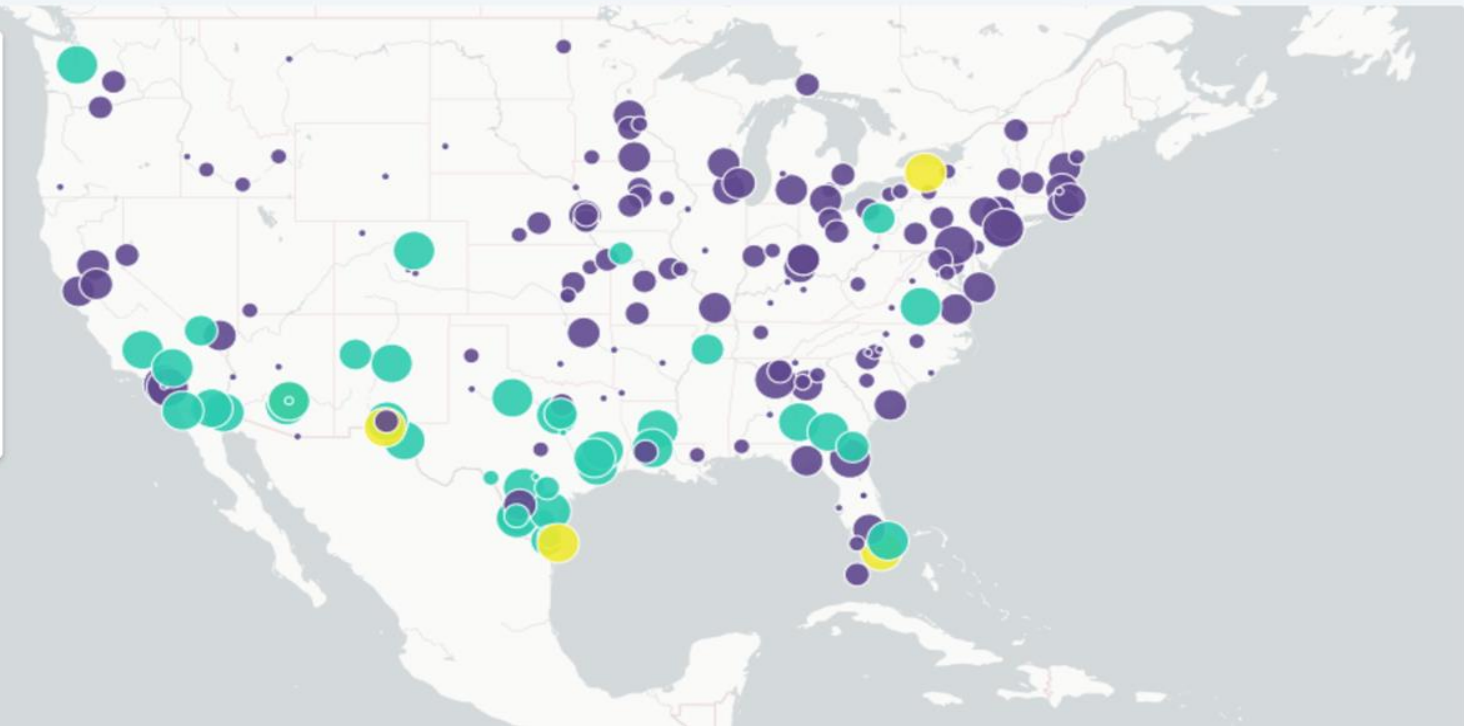
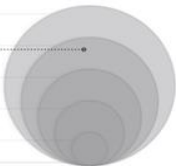
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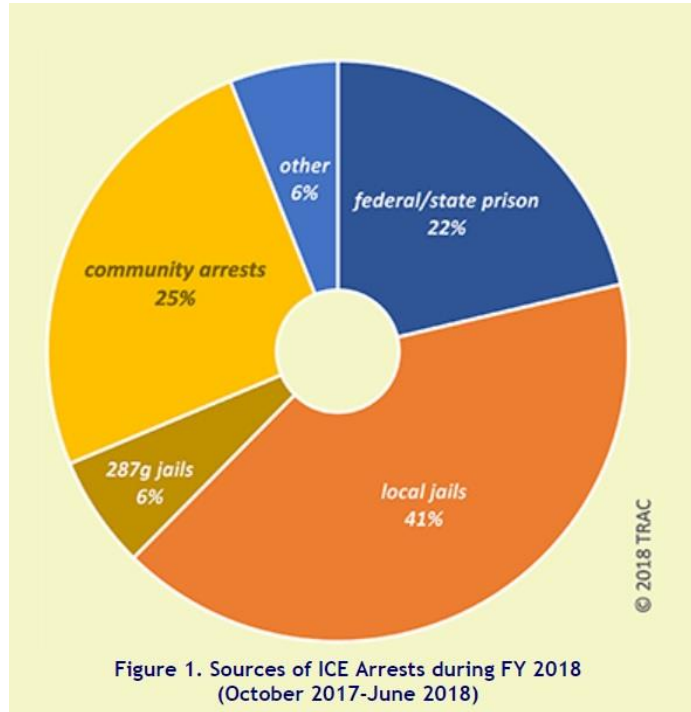
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Administration can't reach deportation numbers without sheriffs

Fact: 47% of deportations are initiated in local jails.

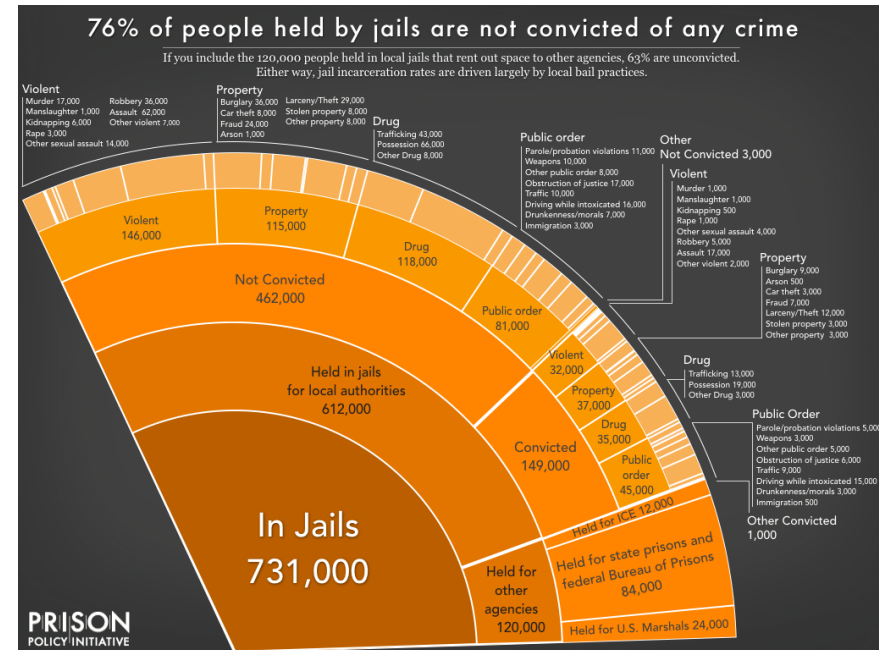
(Source: <https://trac.syr.edu/immigration/reports/529/>)



Fact: There are more than 3,000 sheriffs' offices and 3,163 local jails operating across the United States.

Fact: 76% of People in Jails not convicted

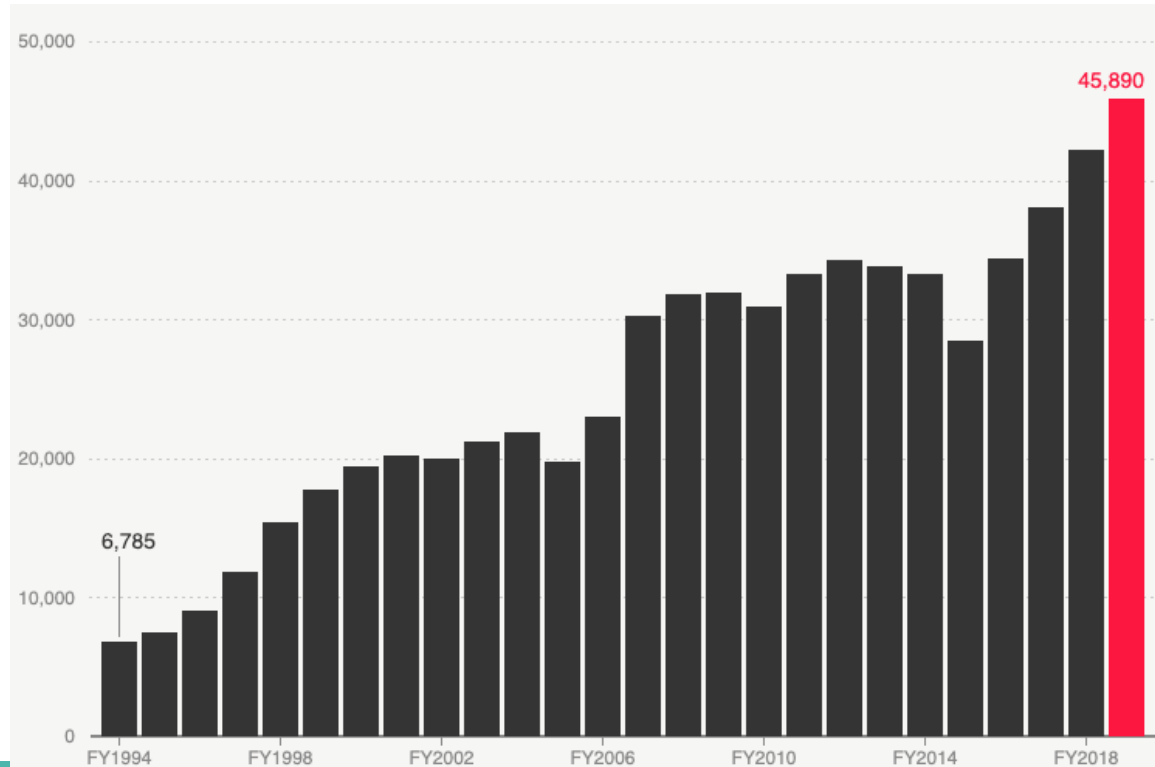
(Source: <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2019.html>)



Increasing Local Collaboration: Bed Mandate

- ± 650 Facilities house ICE Detainees
- ± \$3 Billion spent on ICE Detention every year
- ± 46,000 Average Daily Immigrant Detained Population

<https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/detention-statistics>



“The biggest setback the Trump administration has suffered so far in the 2018 primaries might have come in a sheriff’s race in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina — where the victorious challenger has promised to reduce his office’s cooperation with federal agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).”

—DARA LIND, VOX.COM

“Traditionally tough-on-crime sheriffs have been a major contributor to mass incarceration...But now, as people begin to understand the extent of their power, things may be changing.”

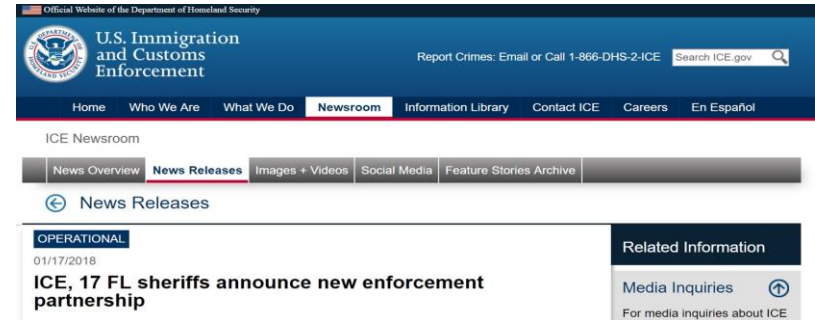
—JOSIE DUFFY RICE, THE APPEAL

Florida, COVID-19, and Mass Incarceration

- Florida COVID-19 statistics, <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/>
- *Anthony Swain, et al., v. Daniel Junior, et al.*: Litigation filed in April 2020 in Miami to free people trapped inside Metro West Jail. People were making their own masks from a sock, had to get a court order to get soap.
- *Patrick Gayle, et al. v. Krome Service Processing Center, et al.*: Litigation filed to free people inside Florida immigration detention centers.
- On May 21, ICE revealed in federal court that 336 out of the 338 individuals detained at Glades at the time had been exposed to the virus and that a sheriff's deputy had tested positive.
- What have Florida Sheriffs done?

Power of the Sheriff: Florida Ground Zero For Experiment

- **Basic Ordering Agreements**
 - January 17, 2018
 - Detainer Policy
 - Payment for each detainer
- **Anti-Immigrant State Legislation (SB 168)**
 - May 3, 2019
 - Drafted & pushed heavily by Pinellas Sheriff
 - Bars local authorities from ignoring ICE detainer requests
- **Warrant Service Officer Program**
 - May 6, 2019: 3 Days after Anti-Immigrant Bill Signed by Governor
 - Allows local authorities to detain beyond the point at which they would have been otherwise released if ICE has requested their detention
 - 64 law enforcement agencies in 9 states



Increasing Local Collaboration: More on Basic Ordering Agreements

- Basic Ordering Agreements:
 - 54 county Sheriffs in Florida collaborating with ICE
- ICE's detainer system has been under attack through the courts and through grassroots organizing
- Holding people on detainers found unconstitutional in multiple court rulings
- DHS, ICE and sheriffs view BOA as a "solution" to unconstitutionality of detainers
- If pilot program is "successful" in Florida, BOAs will spread nationwide



January 2018: 17 Florida Sheriffs at Press Conference
announcing ICE Collaboration

Pinellas County Sheriff Bob Gualtieri Named NSA'S 2019 Ferris E. Lucas Sheriff of the Year

🕒 19 April 2019

📍 Major County Sheriffs of America

💬 No comments

📁 Categories: [News](#)



Sheriff Bob Gualtieri from Pinellas County, FL will be the recipient of the 2019 Ferris E. Lucas Sheriff of the Year award from the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA). The Sheriff will receive the award for his contribution to the law enforcement community this summer in Louisville, KY at the association's annual conference.

The award, given annually by the NSA, recognizes a sheriff who has made outstanding contributions to law enforcement and the criminal justice profession, demonstrates exceptional service to his or her community, and has contributed to the betterment of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA). The prestigious national award is awarded to any active sheriff who has performed the duties of his or her office in the highest professional manner as well as enhance the Office of Sheriff. The award is given in memory and honor of Ferris E. Lucas, who served as President of the National Sheriffs' Association (1944-1946) and Executive Director of the National Sheriffs' Association (1964-1982).

"Sheriff Gualtieri embodies what this award was created to recognize," said NSA Executive Director Jonathan Thompson. "Not only are there no limits or obstacles for him in keeping his community safe but he has continually answered the call as a national leader on the biggest issues facing law enforcement across the country."

Impact of these policies in Florida: Deportation Pipeline

- 118,277 detainers issued in Florida through Sept. 2019
- Top 5 counties issuing detainers include:
 - Miami-Dade, Collier, Leon, Palm Beach, and Broward
- 141,393 total deportations from Florida through Aug. 2018
 - **Of these, 81,752 people had no conviction, but were deported**
 - **The number one conviction that led to deportation in Florida was a traffic offense (4,918 people deportation had a traffic offense).**

Source: TRAC Immigration, <https://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/detain/>,
<https://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/remove/>



Demands for Florida Communities

- Use discretionary powers to limit number of arrests for misdemeanors.
- Limit state law enforcement collaboration with ICE.
- Repeal SB 168 (2019 Florida Anti-Immigrant Law).
- Sign U and T visa certifications
- Freedom4Florida Demands : <https://freedom4florida.org/>

Call to Action

You have power to choose who will be the next Sheriff in your community.
Pledge to Vote.

- **Your vote is your voice!**

- Ways to register to vote
- Electoral process during COVID-19
 - Absentee Ballot
- Pinellas Sheriff Vote Pledge (I Pledge): bit.ly/IPledge2/

- **Need help?**

- FLIC.VOTE | FLIC Hotline: 1888-600-5762
- Movimientohispano.org or Hispanicfederation.org
- 1-844-HF-Ayuda (English and Spanish)



Call to action: Connect, Learn and Participate

Join these events:

- **FLIC upcoming events**

- The Fight for Black Liberation: From Voting Rights to Prison Abolition: July 17th 4-6PM bit.ly/liberationtownhall
- Primary Push August 7th, 12-5pm Phone/Text/Social media banking

- **Hispanic Federation livestream upcoming events**

- Orange County Sheriff candidate forum July 16th 6:30 PM FB Live @HispanicfedFL
- Osceola Major Candidate Forum August 6th @ 6:30PM FB Live @HispanicfedFL
- Statewide Voter Forum 10:30 AM @HispanicfedFL
- Statewide Environmental Forums September 3rd and 4th @HispanicfedFL

Follow us to stay connected!



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Faith in Florida



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Advancement Project



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advancementproject

Questions?

Please submit your question in the chat!

- If you have additional questions, please email:
- Advancement Project: Ljimenez@advancementproject.org
- Florida Immigrant Coalition: info@floridaimmigrant.org
- Hispanic Federation Florida: 1-844-HF-Ayuda (29-8320)
- Faith in Florida: npalacios@faithinflorida.org

Thank you for coming!

