

# Help End Detention of Asylum-Seeking Mothers and Children

## Join Us:

Thursday, September 1, at noon.  
Congressman Brad Ashford's office  
7126 Pacific St.

We will gather to ask for the Congressman's support for ending family detention and hear from a lawyer and faith leaders who have first-hand experience at the detention centers.



## Did You Know?

Mothers and children fleeing violence in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador have come to the United States seeking asylum. Once here, they are being held in detention centers while they await their hearings.

**Imagine being an infant or small child who travels with your terrified mother to the United States only to be put in a detention center housing unit with bunk beds for 12 with other moms and kids. Imagine being a mom trying to console your child in this chaotic situation.**

There are three "family residential detention centers" in the U.S. located in: Karnes City, Texas; Dilley, Texas; and Berks County, Pennsylvania. The name sounds like these centers are a haven for families, but the mothers and children are not free to leave. **This spring, the population of babies and toddlers under the age of two held in Dilley, Texas suddenly grew from three to nearly 100!**

## How You Can Help!

- Attend the short meeting at Rep. Brad Ashford's Office at noon on Thurs., Sept. 1.
- Continue to educate yourself by attending **an information session on Thurs., Sept. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Urban Abbey**, 1026 Jackson St. Parking available across the street.
- **Write President Barack Obama, Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and your members of Congress:** Representatives Brad Ashford and Jeff Fortenberry and Senators Deb Fischer and Ben Sasse. Download postcards and suggested messages at [www.otoc.org](http://www.otoc.org).
- On the pre-addressed postcards, **write a personal message** asking the government representative to **end the detention of women and children**.
- Before sending, take a picture of the postcard, **tag it #DiapersInDetention** and post on Facebook and other social media to spread the word.
- **Attend OTOC Accountability Session with Candidates for Congress** at 7 p.m. on Mon., Oct. 17, at St. Leo's Catholic Church, 1920 N. 102nd St. Omaha, NE 68114.

### Local sponsors:

Omaha Together One Community (OTOC) Immigration and Refugee Action Team  
Schlegel Center for Service and Justice • Sisters of Mercy • Servants of Mary • Notre Dame Sisters  
Nebraska Appleseed • Justice For Our Neighbors

### National sponsor:

Interfaith Immigration Coalition, led by CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network)