

## The U.S. Suffers A Migration Management Crisis—Not A Migration Crisis

The United States is facing a crisis: a migration management crisis. The result? Thousands prevented from seeking asylum, migrants forcibly expelled to the dangerous conditions from which they fled, and vulnerable populations forced to wait in Mexico for their immigration proceedings in the U.S. This is a moral crisis of walls, drones, and the nation's largest law enforcement agency stifling the humanity of the U.S.'s borderlands with militarized operations. The United States continues to funnel more than \$20 billion every year towards punitive enforcement infrastructures instead of investing in safe community-centered processes.

Rather than appreciating our nation's capacity and responsibility to administer and maintain efficient, just migration, the United States has instead chosen to rely on costly, antiquated migration management policies that abandon our legacy as a country of immigrants.

For too long, progress has been stalled by unproductive proposals and entrenched negotiations. Instead, Congress must focus on funding and legislation that:

- » **Rescinds the previous administration's funding for the border wall and transfers funds to mitigate environmental harms caused by border infrastructure construction.** Barriers and militarization are not the solutions to humanitarian crises.
- » **Embraces humane and practical border policies.** The U.S. border reception should include nonprofits and stakeholders equipped to respond healthily and safely to the needs of migrating communities. Congress must not extend or block the termination of the misused *health code Title 42*, which expels those in need of refuge under the guise of public health and safety measures.
- » **Reins in immigration detention and prioritizes cost-efficient alternatives.** The U.S. funds 34,000 daily detention beds – the largest detention system in the world. Investments in non-carceral, community-based alternatives to detention, such as case management programs, led by nonprofits are necessary. *Case management programs* support individuals navigating the legal system outside of restrictive custody.

**Support legislation that invests in humane border reception, prioritizes alternatives to detention, and rescinds funding for harmful enforcement and barriers.**

Contact:  
**Anika Forrest**  
Migration Policy,  
Legislative Manager  
[afortrest@fcnl.org](mailto:afortrest@fcnl.org)

April 2022