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Take Action Today - International Workers Day of Action May 1st

On May Day, community and immigrants' rights organizations will mobilize thousands to call for an end to the Trump Administration's mass deportation strategy. The Trump Administration's systematic attempt to criminalize immigrants is not only an assault on the civil rights of communities of color but a dangerous path that is already having dramatic consequences in communities across the country as hate crimes against immigrants and those perceived to be foreign continue to spread. [Flyer](#) (Spanish/English)



International Workers' Day

Join us as we:

[Facebook Page](#)

- Present a list of statewide demands that include the swift passage of the \$15/hour minimum wage law with no carve outs, and leaves no worker behind.
- Protect immigrants and insure that local law enforcement is not part of the deportation machinery; we demand the swift passage of the Safe Communities Act.

We must hold accountable our elected officials at the municipal, county, and state levels including the House and Senate leadership. Governor Baker must choose between the people of the Commonwealth or the Trump Administration.

Schedule, Boston Actions

12:00 Noon: Rally at the State House Steps in Support of Safe Communities Act

5:00 PM: Rally at the Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common

Schedule, March & Chelsea Rally

Everett - 4:00 PM: Gather at Everett City Hall, March to Chelsea City Hall

East Boston - 4:00 PM: UUs are gathering here

Gather at LoPresti Park (0.2 mile walk from Maverick T Station). Then, 2 mile walk to Chelsea City Hall.

Chelsea - 5:30 PM Rally at City Hall

**International Worker's and
Immigrant's Day Rally**
When: Mon May 1st, 6 - 8 PM
**Where: Framingham Center,
Corner of Union Ave
and Concord St**

Action: Call ICE to demand the release of Arturo Hernandez Garcia!

“On April 26 our brother in Sanctuary, Arturo Hernandez Garcia, was arrested by ICE at his workplace, after living in Sanctuary at the First Unitarian Church in Denver for nine months in 2014-15. We have worked closely with Arturo as part of the national Sanctuary Movement and are devastated by his arrest.” [New Sanctuary Movement Philadelphia](#)

Last week, UU Mass Action asked you to make calls and send emails to ICE Deputy Director Jeffery Lynch - and you did! Deputy Director Lynch was apparently not happy about the calls and his number is now disconnect. We can continue to make calls to the numbers below as well as to send emails to Deputy Director Lynch. Let’s keep up the pressure until Arturo is released and reunited with his family.

Send an email to Deputy Director Lynch: Jeffrey.d.lynch@ice.dhs.gov

Call the ICE Community Relations Officer, a Mr. Williams, at [720-875-2086](tel:720-875-2086)

Senior Senator, Michale Bennet DC Office Phone: [202-224-5852](tel:202-224-5852) [Email Him Here](#)



Action: Send Messages of Support for the Safe Communities Act to the members of the Joint Committee on Public Safety & Homeland Security

On Friday 4/28, opponents of the [Safe Communities Act](#) began a letter-writing campaign to members of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security, which is considering the bill. These letters are full of misinformation. The opponents likely chose this weekend thinking that activists would be too busy with the Peoples Climate March and we would not be able to take action. We need to prove them wrong!

Your help is needed to generate a quick (and overwhelming) response! Supporters began sending emails over the weekend - let’s continue sending them through the first week of May.

Links to the Joint committee members and talking points can be found [HERE](#)

Please begin your email with your personal reasons why safety for ALL is important to you, then copy and paste the talking points into your email. You can just copy your letter and send it to everyone on the list.

Thank you for taking action - it’s important that supporters voices are loud and clear and that the committee members aren’t confused by the false information being spread by the bill’s opponents.

Budget Amendment Updates

Thank you for taking action last week on a number of important budget amendments. Here's the outcome summary:

Support These Amendments

Amendment #380: Sponsor Representative Marjorie Decker: Divest the state pension fund from coal.

Outcome: Didn't pass, advocacy will continue through legislative process H.3281

Amendment #1034: Sponsor Representative Antonio Cabral: Increase funding for citizenship services (CNAP)

Outcome: Increase of \$100,000 didn't pass, CNAP remains funded at \$400,000

Amendment #1182: Demonstration Workforce Development Program for ex-prisoner and court involved youth, Rep. Keefe

Outcome: \$0, Didn't pass (received \$250,000 in last year's budget)

Amendment #858: Learn to Earn, Rep. Wagner for job training with those with CORI's being one of the priority groups

Outcome: \$1 million in House Budget (Governor Proposed \$4 million)

Amendment #41: RSVP Prison Program, Rep. Heroux

Outcome: Didn't pass, \$0

OPPOSE these three amendments that target immigrants and penalize our communities

All three of these amendments failed!

Amendment #889 – An Act Relative to Instate Tuition (Lombardo, O'Connell, Kuros, Diehl, Campanale)

Amendment #883 – An Act Relative to Sanctuary Cities and Towns (Lombardo, O'Connell, Kuros, Diehl)

Amendment #891 – Secure Funding for Secure Communities (Lyons, O'Connell, Lombardo)

Please thank Rep. [Byron Rushing](#) (Boston) and Rep. [Jeffrey Sanchez](#) (Boston) for mobilizing such a successful rout – and Rep. [Marjorie Decker](#) (Cambridge), Rep. [Denise Provost](#) (Somerville) and Rep. [Antonio Cabral](#) (New Bedford) for their impassioned defense of immigrants and other vulnerable state residents during the House debate.

Thank you! Your action makes a big difference!

FIRST NATIONS

Building Relationship with our First Nations Partners - Western MA Opportunities

King Phillips War Battlefield Grant Meeting

When: Wed May 3, 11:00 AM

Where: Montague Town Hall (Turner Falls) 1 Avenue A, Turner Falls

just over the long bridge over the CT River on the left

This is a meeting, but those invited to participate in the planning, and sitting at the table for this regular monthly meeting have been **Tribal Reps and Historic Commissioners**, which is, in itself, unique. Each brings his/her own perspective on “King Phillips War” and the Massacre at what is now “Unity Park” at the Great Falls of the CT River. They are developing material for the National Park Service, and have been willing to open these meetings to the public. Regular meetings have been held for over 2 years. The Montague Town Hall is just over the long bridge into Turner’s Falls over the CT River, on the left. Members of the group have been willing to stay a little longer, after the regular meeting, to discuss possible plans for the upcoming, 400th Anniversary.

A Conversation with Lisa Brooks, Author of the Common Pot

When: Fri May 19th, 6:30 PM

Where: Greenfield High School, 1 Lenox Ave, Greenfield (Auditorium)

Sponsored by All Souls, Greenfield - Free event

Lisa Brooks is Abenaki, and the Chair of the Indigenous Network at U Mass and the "5 Colleges" in the CT River Valley. This older (1982) but still excellent book focuses on the Connecticut River Valley region, and offers insight into the indigenous people’s way of life prior to European contact. It also explores Indigenous leadership during extreme times of stress and violence up through King Phillips War.

4th Annual Pocumtuck Homelands Festival

When: Sat Aug 5, 10AM - 7:00 PM

Where: Unity Park, along Barton’s Cove, Connecticut River (GPS: 56 First St, Turner Falls)

Free Event

Come enjoy this festival at beautiful Unity Park with nesting eagles or waterfowl flying in the background of the Music Tent, over the River. Gather with 30 partaking artisans and crafts people, exhibits of crafts, canoes, jewelry, flutes, musicians, drum groups, elders, storytellers, a children’s games tent, walking history tours, —visiting tepees and wiki-ups—and food. Take advantage of opportunities to purchase stunning art —basketry, jewelry and many crafts, and help make the Festival a success for our dedicated vendors!!

The Rowe Center Presents:

Robin Wall Kimmerer, the author of the absolutely stunning book” Braiding Sweetgrass.”

Robin Wall Kimmerer is a remarkable writer. Poetry flows through her veins, but primarily she is a Botanist—both a Western Scientist and a practitioner of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (TEK), (Potawanami)



This event is scheduled for November 3-5 but it is expected to sell out fast - Register today!

[Register](#)

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Raise Up Mass Progress as Resistance Conference

When: Sat May 6th, 1:00 - 4:30 PM

University Hall At UMass Boston ([directions, info](#))

[Tickets](#) [Facebook Event Page](#)



Join us on May 6th for Progress as Resistance, a statewide organizing conference to move forward a progressive agenda in Massachusetts!

Come together with members of the Raise Up Massachusetts coalition and activists from across the Commonwealth as we use resistance to make progress on economic, racial, and immigrant justice at home. This event will feature a briefing on how activists can engage in our campaigns and other allied progressive issues against the Trump agenda, including campaigns for a \$15 Minimum Wage, Paid Family and Medical Leave, the Fair Share Amendment, labor rights, ending mass incarceration, jobs not jails, protecting public education, immigrant rights, and safe communities. Don't miss this event, sign up to join us today!

Upcoming in District Meetings: Hold your legislator accountable and Advocate for [Raising the Minimum Wage](#), [Paid Family And Medical Leave](#) and [The Fair Share Amendment](#)

Representative: Gailanne Cariddi

When: Mon May 8, 3:30 PM

Where: City Hall, North Adams, 10 E Main St., North Adams

Sponsor: MA Jobs with Justice

Representative: Joseph Wagner

When: Thur May 11, 3:00 PM

Where: River Mills Senior Center, 5 West Main St., Chicopee

Sponsor: MA Jobs with Justice

Representative: Aaron Vega

When: Tue May 30, 6:00 PM

Where: Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St, Holyoke

Sponsor: SEIU 1199

EVENTS, EDUCATION AND FORUMS

Looking for ways to live your values?

*Note: Events Below are sponsored or co-sponsored by
UU Mass Action, or are being offered by our UU
partners*

Environmental Committee's Climate and Energy Solutions Series: On the Path to 100% Renewable Energy

When: Tue May 2, 5:30 PM

Where: First Baptist Church, 111 Park Ave, Worcester

This 'green' event will be powered by 100% renewable energy and is free and open to the public. Co-sponsored by [LWVMA](#) and League of Women Voters of the Worcester Area. Support for the Climate and Energy Solutions Series provided by Mass Power Forward.

Speakers ([Find bios here](#))

- David Ismay, Senior Attorney, Conservation Law Foundation
- Eugenia Gibbons, Clean Energy Programs Director, Mass, Energy Consumer Alliance
- Marla Marcum, Climate defense Project, grassroots Organizer

Resistance School - Session 3: How to Structure and Build Capacity for Action

When: Wed May 3, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

Where: Beverly Library, 32 Essex St, Beverly

President Trump's election highlighted the long-term organizing effort needed to re-establish a progressive vision for our country. Our movement needs the structure and capacity to outlast any attack on our values and to move to offensive strategic effort. Marshall Ganz will engage us in a workshop on how to structure our organizing to build capacity and create widely distributed leadership opportunities. He'll zoom in on launching strong leadership teams based on shared-purpose, interdependent roles, and norms to help us build strong organizations and leaders for lasting resistance.

Sponsored by [Together North Shore](#) Visit www.resistanceschool.com for more info about the training videos and recommended readings

Environmental Justice and Nuclear Waste: The Road from Pilgrim to Texas

When: Wed May 3, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Where: Kingston Council on Aging, 30 Evergreen St, Kingston [FLYER](#)

Forum on High Level Nuclear Waste (HLNW), federal waste policy, and environmental racism of the nuclear waste industry.

Speakers include:

- Rose Gardner, Sierra Club Texas, a resident of a community impacted by both a Texas low-level waste dump and a proposed centralized interim storage site for HLNW in Andrews County Texas
 - Kevin Kamps, Beyond Nuclear, on the vulnerabilities of on-site storage of HLNW and federal policy
 - Deb Katz, Citizens Awareness Network, will address the issue of NorthStar, decommissioning, and hardened on-site storage at nuclear reactors
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Solar Power--Short Circuited or Wired In?

When: Thur May 4, 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Where: Peace Lutheran Church, 107 Concord Rd., Wayland

Why is Eversource looking to short-circuit solar power? What legislation is proposed to expand solar, stop spending ratepayer money on unneeded fossil fuel infrastructure, and allow the Public Utilities Commission to consider projects that would enhance a sustainable and just energy future? We invite all to attend to learn and to share ideas about advocacy and local actions at this public event.

Featured speaker: Nathan Phelps, VoteSolar.org, Program Manager

Light refreshments available

Sponsored by 350.org for more information, contact: metrowest@350MA.org
<https://www.facebook.com/350MAMetrowestNode>

Black Lives Matter Boston presents:

The Power of Now: Where Do We Go From Here?

When: Sat May 6, 9 AM - 1 PM

Where: First Parish in Brookline, 382 Walnut Street, Brookline MA

Brookline Hills T stop, and Number 60 bus to Cypress and Walnut streets. Street Parking available

[Tickets](#) Workshop fees support Black Lives Matter Boston

Presenter: Karlene Griffiths Sekou

The current political moment in the United States presents some not so new challenges in immanent ways. There are real opportunities for resistance, growth, cultivating authentic and connecting relationships, and building collective power within a strong mass social movement.

This Level I Workshop will:

A. Will use personal stories, film, case study, and/or role play to build and strengthen participant conversations

B. Offer a framework for interpreting historical and current racialized, ethnic, and religious social and political violences

C. Will discuss what it means to grow--From Ally to Solidarity: Turning Privilege into Power and how we can support the Black Lives Matter Movement

Resistance School - Session 4: How to Sustain the Resistance Long-Term

Sunday, May 7, 1:30 - 4:30 PM

Where: Beverly Library, 32 Essex St, Beverly

In our final session, we will learn how to build coalitions that leverage the talent and expertise of organizations across the progressive community. New York Assemblyman and DNC Vice Chair Michael Blake will teach us how to form winning coalitions that strengthen the connective tissue between progressive groups and build the political power necessary to sustain the resistance long-term. Bringing everything together, Assemblyman Blake will send us off with the tools we need to take the resistance from political moment to social movement.

Sponsored by [Together North Shore](#) Learn more here <https://www.resistanceschool.com/session-four-1/>

Give Light: Spiritual Nurture for Climate Activism

An interactive workshop led by Rev. Fred Small

When: Sun May 7, 1 to 4 PM

Where: First Parish Church, 353 Great Road, Stow

As we come to understand the gravity of climate disruption, it's easy to become disheartened. How do we convert informed anxiety into effective action in our congregation, community, state, nation, and world? In this interactive workshop, Rev. Fred Small will invite us into meditation, reflection, conversation, and song, strengthening our spirits and deepening our resolve in the struggle for climate justice.

We would like to know in advance who will attend. To register or for more information, write rickmlent@gmail.com. The workshop is \$20/person.

Key Information for Immigrants & Their Allies

When: Mon May 8, 6:00 - 7:45 PM

Where: Boston Public Library, Connolly Branch, 433 Centre St, Jamaica Plain

Janet Ceja and Monica Colón-Aguirre, professors at Simmons College, present this workshop on immigrant rights. Learn how to identify legal records, recognize warrants, and document raids. This workshop is designed for immigrants and allies with little to no knowledge about immigration rights. After attending the workshop participants will be able to:

- Identify essential records to prepare in case of detainment

- Distinguish between an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Warrant and Judicial Warrant
- Document raids

Sanctuary & Solidarity Event

When: Wed May 10 at 7:00 PM

Where: First Parish Church in Bedford, 75 Great Road, Bedford

Attorney and President of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association, Susan Church, will give a presentation at First Parish in Bedford. The presentation is designed to inform immigrants and their allies of their rights and to empower them in the era of significant ICE enforcement. In addition, Ms. Church will also be prepared to answer our questions about offering physical sanctuary and its legal implications. Don't miss this opportunity to become informed and, importantly, to prepare for the support of a person(s) in sanctuary at First Parish. AND, please do invite any immigrants you may know who would benefit from this presentation.

We'd like to get a sense of how many people will attend; so, please let Vito (vito@deblam.net) or Christine (chdudleymarling@gmail.com) know if you think you'll be able to join us. Thanks!

The 4th Annual Criminal Justice Reform Coalition Policy Summit

Finding Common Ground: To Move Comprehensive Criminal Justice Reform to the Top of the Legislative Agenda in the Commonwealth

When: Mon May 15, 9:00 AM (registration opens at 8:30 AM)

Where: Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Boston [REGISTER](#)

Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Ralph Gants, Congresswoman Katherine Clark, and Marc A. Levin, director of the Center for Effective Justice & Right on Crime, will each participate in the fourth annual Criminal Justice Reform Coalition Policy Summit.



The annual Criminal Justice Reform Coalition Summit brings together 300 leaders from around the Commonwealth interested in comprehensive reform. Participants include elected officials, policy makers, public safety and corrections officials, advocates, and civic and religious leaders from Massachusetts and beyond.

This year's program will feature a two-part conversation on justice reinvestment in Massachusetts, informed by a new opinion poll as well as new MassINC research. The first piece of the conversation is how to save resources and maintain public safety through sentencing reform. The second component is how these resources could be reinvested into other public safety efforts as well as proven programs and services to build stronger communities and improve outcomes for people who were formerly incarcerated.

Know Your Rights as an Immigrant

When: Mon May 15, 6:00 - 7:45 PM

Where: Boston Public Library, Connolly Branch, 433 Centre St, Jamaica Plain

The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project will conduct a “Know Your Rights” presentation. Come learn more about your rights when interacting with immigration officials, understanding your legal status and the immigration court process, where to find trusted legal resources, and what programs might be available to you.

Push Back at Trump, Tillerson and Trotsky* - Join the Billionaire’s Bash

When: Tue May 16, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM [Flyer](#)

Where: Demonstration at The Ma Pension Fund (Prim) Office, 84 State Street, Boston

**M. Trotsky is the Exec. Dir. and CIO of the MA Pension Fund*

[Facebook Event Page](#)

Invited speakers/guests: divestment bill sponsor, Marjorie Decker; fossil fuel free investment expert Bob Massie; the Second Line Social Aid and Pleasure Society Brass Band

The PRIM (Pension Reserve Investment Management Board) has invested billions of state employees’ and teachers’ pension money in fossil fuel funds, including:

- almost \$2 billion in coal, gas and oil,
- \$200 million in Exxon Mobil, and
- over \$50 million in the companies building the Dakota Access Pipeline.

PRIM has steadfastly refused to consider divesting from these companies and it is time to shine a spotlight on their complicity with climate degradation and disruption. Experts agree that most fossil fuel reserves must remain underground if we are to have any chance of avoiding the most catastrophic results of climate change. Now more than ever - with the CEO of Exxon Mobil as Secretary of State and climate deniers in high office - we must take a stand here in Massachusetts. JOIN US ON MAY 16! Stay tuned for more details. *Part of the May 2017 Global Divestment Mobilization*

Upstander Workshop, With True Story Theater

When: Tue May 23, 6-8:30 PM

Where: Parish Hall, First Unitarian Society in Newton, Parish Hall, 1326 Washington Street, Newton

[FLYER](#)

Learn how to support people targeted by bigotry. Workshop includes dramatically exploring the challenges of intervening, short presentations and handouts, and role plays.

RSVP requested, but not required: <https://www.facebook.com/events/767326933416068/>

Refreshments & childcare provided. Facility is wheelchair accessible.
Free and open to the public. Donations welcomed.

Questions? kyrazn@gmail.com

Cosponsors: Jewish Voice for Peace - Boston, Newton Human Rights Commission, First Unitarian Society in Newton, Temple Shalom, The Walker Center, The Protestant Chaplaincy Council, Just Peace Players, Newton Highlands Congregational Church, West Suburban YMCA Food donated by BJ's

Learn How To Be An Active Upstander, Not a Passive Bystander

When: Wed May 24th, 5:15 PM- Registration and Refreshments; 6-9pm - Training

Where: Hope Central Church, 85 Seaverns Ave, Jamaica Plain

Join True Story Theater to develop skills to intervene if you witness identity-based harassment. As the Trump Administration continues its wave of racist, sexist, hateful, anti-Muslim, anti-Jewish, anti-immigrant sentiment, we all need to strengthen our skills to take concrete action to defend our Muslim friends, as well as all of the other communities that are directly impacted by Trump's policies.

RESOURCES

UU Advocacy Day was great! We met with 73 legislators- but our work continues! We need to build relationship with our elected officials by keeping in touch with them on our priorities, inviting them to gatherings at your congregation, and meeting with them in district either individually or in small groups.

Help us keep track of what you learn at your meetings and let us know which bills you are speaking with your legislators about. You can download the legislative feedback form [HERE](#). You can also find it on our website www.uumassaction.org, under "Pathways" then click on "Legislation"

Attention Worship Committees -

Are you planning your worship calendar for next year? UU Mass Action would love to join you in leading a worship service! Please feel free to contact us. This is a great way to support the work of UU Mass Action and collaborate on our shared work! Thank you!

Laura Wagner, Executive Director (Justice Building Theme) lwagner@uumassaction.org

Evan Seitz, Climate Justice Organizer (Climate Justice Theme) eseitz@uumassaction.org