



Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative

Alameda County | City of Berkeley | Contra Costa County | Marin County | City and County of San Francisco | San Mateo County | Santa Clara County | Solano County

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BAY AREA PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS CONDEMN ICE RAIDS

Oakland, CA. Bay area public health officials from Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin and San Mateo Counties, the City and County of San Francisco and the City of Berkeley today released a joint statement criticizing recent raids conducted by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) branch of the Department of Homeland Security. “As public health officials, we have great concerns about the methods used in recent immigration enforcement activities. When families are separated, children are afraid to go to school and contact with any public agency, including health facilities, is avoided for fear of reprisal, it undermines the health of our communities. We have come to understand the fundamental importance for public health of people feeling safe and secure, that they are part of a supportive community and that they have not been arbitrarily or maliciously marginalized because of their race or ethnicity. There can and must be better ways to enforce immigration laws than the recent use of raids and intimidation.”

The statement was released on behalf of public health officials from bay area health departments who collaborate through the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (BARHII). See www.barhii.org.