

IMMIGRATION DETENTION

Social Policy Resolution
CA13.03.07d



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Resolved

To receive with gratitude the memorial of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod lifting up the needs of immigration detainees for ministry and accompaniment;

To encourage all synods in the ELCA to inform their congregations about the locations of county jails, private for-profit prisons, and other detention facilities in their communities that hold immigration detainees for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, as that information is publicly available;

To encourage all synods to provide congregations with links to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service resources on ministry to detainees;

To support and encourage synods, congregations and affiliated agencies to develop and/or participate in visitation programs for those in detention and to develop community support programs for those who are granted alternatives to detention; and

To encourage congregations and members to study the recommended social statement, *The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries*, as it relates to the detention issue.

Adopted by the Churchwide Assembly in August 2013