

VOCES DE LA FRONTERA ***ACTION***



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Freedom Together: Citizenship, Relief, and Recovery

Organizing for Comprehensive Immigration Reform under the Biden/Harris Ticket

(Milwaukee, Wisconsin) — In the wake of a historic turnout of Latinx and people of color voters in Wisconsin and in key swing states, Voces de la Frontera Action joins the Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM) network and immigrant advocacy organizations across the country in launching our “Freedom Together” campaign to call on President Elect Biden to follow through on his promises to Black and Brown voters to build a United States that achieves humane solutions to immigrant and racial injustice, that have only gotten worse in the last four years.

Voces de la Frontera Action worked tirelessly for over a year and a half to organize the Latinx, multiracial and youth vote in Wisconsin to flip the state blue. In Wisconsin, there was historic Latinx voter turnout statewide of 74% compared to around 50% in the last two presidential elections -- and nearly 77% of Wisconsin’s 2020 Latinx vote went to Joe Biden, per the American Election Eve Poll.

“In Wisconsin, in our conversations with Latinx voters, it was clear that they were not just voting to reject Trump’s hate mongering and incompetence but voting with hope to realize the implementation of the Biden/Harris platform on immigration and pandemic relief in the first 100

days of the Biden Presidency through executive orders and through the US Congress,” said **Christine Neumann-Ortiz, Executive Director of Voces de la Frontera Action**. “Some of our strongest “voceros” have been Dreamers or undocumented parents and while they cannot vote themselves, they have been powerful organizers with their families, friends, co-workers, congregational members and neighbors, by raising awareness of the importance of their vote at the ballot box for our collective future and well-being. Now that we won the election, the momentum will continue to build to make those election promises a reality.

This immigration platform includes restoring Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), restoring Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA), restoring humane policies and treatment for asylum seekers, and reuniting families. This includes abolishing private for-profit prisons and detention centers, ending policies such as 287G in Wisconsin and other sister policies that encourage collaboration between ICE and local law enforcement, and more broadly includes an overhaul of the criminal justice system that reimagines a new system focused on harm reduction and reinvestment in mental health treatment and education. No one should be criminalized because of their income, the color of their skin or their legal status,” said **Neumann-Ortiz**.

Joceline, a Vocera and canvass lead in Milwaukee and member of Youth Empowered in the Struggle (YES!) at Reagan High School, comes from a mixed-immigration status family: “It was important for me to get involved with Voces de la Frontera Action because, as someone who can’t vote, I wanted to make sure I would encourage those who can vote to get out there and vote. I no longer want to live in fear that at any given moment my family and I would be separated because of immigration,” she said. “I encouraged people to vote for a new vision for our country: one where all are welcomed, no matter our race, religion, or place of birth. A country where all families can be together and thrive. And where we can create the pathway to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants living here. Together, Voces de la Frontera Action and our state and national partners will create the road to citizenship, relief and recovery starting on day one of the Biden administration.” Joceline requested to stay anonymous to protect her family.

“Biden has promised to advocate for our Black and Brown communities in the first 100 days of office, and this election, people of color were decisive in delivering that victory,” said **Neumann-Ortiz**. “The real work has only just begun. In Wisconsin, Voces de la Frontera Action will draw on our statewide network of Latinx, immigrant, multiracial and youth voters to keep movement momentum strong. Unidos, venceremos! Together, we will win.”

The Freedom Together campaign will give our grassroots organizers the tools to hold the Biden Administration and their local congressional officials accountable, and lobby for a United States for all. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#) to see how you can get involved, and stay tuned for a national day of action on December 15th. *¡Adelante, sí se puede!*

For more information, please reach out to Communications Director Jacquelyn Kovarik: 414-436-9822 and jacquelyn@vdlf.org.