

Santa Fe: Living Our Values

Mayor Alan Webber

Santa Fe is a Sanctuary City with leadership that is committed to “living our values” on immigration and refugee issues. Santa Fe does not turn over data to ICE or release information regarding its residents or visitors unless strictly required by law. The City is working closely with refugee-rights and immigrant groups such as Somos Un Pueblo Unido and the Santa Fe Dreamers Project to make sure all residents know their rights and have access to that information in English and Spanish. These resources have been shared on cards that are available at all public buildings and on the Mayor’s social media including Facebook and Twitter.

Mayor Alan Webber issued the following statement in response to threats of ICE raids: "Cities from Santa Fe to San Francisco, Chicago to Boston, are refusing to cooperate or provide information for ICE raids and are sending the message to residents ‘you are safe here.’ The notion of coordinated nationwide raids is fundamentally un-American and antithetical to our values. Even the suggestion is enough to foster fear among all our people, not just immigrants. It hurts our law enforcement, hampers our economy, traumatizes families and children, and casts a shadow on the whole community.”

Santa Fe is in frequent contact with leadership in Las Cruces and Albuquerque. Several weeks ago the Mayor assigned senior staff to visit Las Cruces and Albuquerque and assess needs of the asylum-seekers and refugee populations, then create protocols for aiding these cities and asylum seekers.

The City worked with the Santa Fe Community Foundation to raise money to create a Children’s Corner for refugee and asylum-seeking children in Deming. The donations, including one anonymous donation of \$150,000, have helped create a place where youngsters can feel safe and creative. A photo of the Children’s Corner was shared on Mayor’s social media.

Mayor Webber, a member of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, joined 21 other mayors of municipalities on or near the Mexico border that called for bipartisan support for government agencies and NGO’s that are dealing with the humanitarian crisis at the border. The letter asked for Federal dollars and resources to help those working at the local level dealing with federal policy.

Mayor Webber issued the following statement after efforts by Trump administration to require citizenship question on Census. “The best that you can say about the Supreme Court decision concerning the inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census is that it averted a guaranteed disaster—a politically motivated effort to disenfranchise immigrants and people of color. Now we have to do the real work of making sure that everyone gets counted. For democracy to win, we need to do everything in our power to see to it that everyone is counted—everyone.”

Our work to ensure that all our residents and visitors can live without fear continues.