

Marci Peebles

From: Sheryl Rajbhandari <sheryl@heartfeltdbits.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2025 11:33 AM
To: Marci Peebles
Subject: Re: request for before April 7

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Here is a current update.

This month, we have started to see Bhutanese/Nepali persons with green cards in the detention centers in Butler County, Boone, Oldham, and Fayette Counties in KY.

While we have not seen direct gardeners in the detention centers, we have 3 families with loved ones in the detention center.

The persons at Butler County were picked up in Harrisburg, PA, while visiting family members. They came in to arrest one with a criminal record and took all 6 of them into custody. Two of these individuals included a couple who are 76 and 82 years old and were detained in Harrisburg. Two people were brought to Butler County since they lived in Cincinnati.

The two they were holding in Butler County have been deported and didn't get a bond hearing. This has been the status quo in many arrests.

Here is a count from Butler County today.

Nepal/Bhutanese with relatives in garden - 3

Other populations -
135 Latino
10 Africans
2 Middle Eastern

We have people monitoring the detention centers each day, contacting attorneys who then try to get bond hearings. It's not happening, nor are they allowed to plead their case.

We also know that as of last month, 4400 persons across the US were returned to Nepal, who were refugees or their families who came from the camp. They all had green cards, TPS, or fiancé visas.

We were told over 8,200 persons from India were returned to India.

Valley Interfaith, the food pantry in Lockland, is requiring everyone who is receiving food from their pantry to complete a form providing their immigration status, and Americans to provide their SSNs. This isn't legal so I'm having groups looking into it. Their CEO is standing behind this stating that they may have to provide it to get food so he can do this.

Each day, on top of serving our new neighbors, those of us who are serving them are on countless local, state, and national calls to stay current on what is happening to the new neighbors and what executive orders are going to impact our organization. We have put temporary coverage over our doors so that ICE isn't able to see if we have persons in our space.

New neighbors feel safe here because from the outside we sit off of the road and our name isn't visible from the parking lot.

Hope this helps.

Sheryl

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Sheryl Rajbhandari
Exec. Director, Heartfelt Tidbits