

PRAYING FOR FREEDOM



A Summer prayer resource and call to action in solidarity with families detained at Berks family detention facility, which houses 89 migrant moms & kids.

CALLED TO SOLIDARITY

Within the quiet region of **Berks County, PA** lies a facility holding mothers and their children in detention. Unlike its counterparts in Dilley, Texas and Karnes, Texas, this facility is significantly smaller, and the public is largely unaware of its existence. Unfortunately, the stories of its residents are all too familiar. Many who reside at Berks have fled violence and abuse in their home countries, and are now mentally and physically suffering the effects of being detained. We invite you to join us as we celebrate our nation's independence, to remember and pray for our migrant and refugee brothers and sisters for whom freedom is still out of reach.

"There were so many children in there who were struggling, falling sick with fevers and yet the staff weren't doing anything to help them." -Gladys Checas, Honduran

Share their Stories



<http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/may/12/migration-detention-center-enfilmg-1>

"No child deserves to go through that."

-Cristina, Former resident at Berks family detention center

"ICE says that Berks isn't a jail, just because it has a few more amenities, but it's still a jail. When I would ask the officials about my case, they would never give me any information or say how long we might be there. I was so desperate during those 14 months, not knowing when we would get out. For the first six months my depression was so bad I cried all the time and they kept giving me anti-depressants. We suffered terribly. The children there are traumatized. Sometimes my son wakes up shaking from nightmares that he's still inside. And he tells me that he never wants to go back there. No child deserves to go through that." [Read Cristina's full story at LatinoRebels.com](#)

PRAYING FOR FREEDOM



Share in Prayer



Prayer for Families in Detention

Loving and Gracious God,

As we celebrate our nation's independence, we know that you are watching over mothers and their children who are not yet free.

We pray that you will guide our elected officials to end the practice of detaining families, and instead support alternatives to detention.

Give us and our brothers and sisters in detention the resilience and strength necessary to overcome this immoral act.

Guide us in leading all of your people to practice loving kindness. Amen

Join people of faith for a National Week of Action to End Immigrant Detention

July 7-July 11

1. Join the Campaign! Take a "Selfie" and post it on social media with the hashtag: **#FreeFamilies**
2. Sign the Petition Online: bit.ly/Not1MorePetition
3. Host an Action or Prayer Vigil. Add your event online at: bit.ly/WeekOfAction

Share in Action

"We want everyone's family to be as free to have fun as we do!"



End Family Detention. #freefamilies

July 7th-July 11th, tell everyone why you want to #FreeFamilies by posting a selfie!