



January 2020

EBSC Supports the New Border Vision

EBSC is a member of the Berkeley Sanctuary City Task Force and we support the New Border Vision Resolution.

Our mission is to provide legal services, community organizing, and transformative education to support low-income immigrants and people fleeing violence and persecution.

As some of you know, EBSC was founded in 1982 by faith congregations who risked arrest and imprisonment to publicly declare their commitment to provide Sanctuary for the 60,000 Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees fleeing violence and persecution by their own governments.

EBSC has evolved over the past 38 years in direct response to the needs of the refugees and asylum seekers we serve. Now, we reach over 10,000 people every year with life-saving legal and social services.

We work primarily with recently arrived immigrants who come to the Bay Area to seek safety and begin to rebuild their lives.

The people we serve have experienced atrocious violence and deserve to be welcomed and supported, not demonized and forced into the shadows.

We are here to state that the New Border Vision Resolution aligns with EBSC's mission and values and we are proud to be part of this initiative to protect our community members from abuse by federal border authorities with little accountability, to support humanitarian acts that proactively save people, and to keep families together.

Approving this resolution will bring essential protection to the vulnerable community members we serve.

Just as Berkeley led the way becoming the country's first sanctuary city in 1971, we have the opportunity now to become the first city in the country to embrace a New Border Vision that protects human rights, expands public safety, and welcomes residents and newcomers.

Thank you for your support of this resolution.

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