

Lane County Network for Immigrant Integration

Statement of Principles

October 25, 2011

With the historic and ongoing arrival of immigrants to our community, we recognize the growing diversity that has occurred in Lane County. As leaders in business, education, government, labor, law enforcement, social services, faith-based, and community organizations, we value the economic, social, cultural, and civic contributions that immigrants have made and are continuing to make in building stronger and more vibrant communities.

In an effort to create a more welcoming environment for our immigrant neighbors and promote a more thoughtful public dialogue about immigration, we affirm the following principles:

- **Committing to Inclusion and Integration**

Our economic, social, and civic success as twenty-first century communities hinges on our ability to help immigrants become fully involved in all aspects of community life. We recognize that successful integration is a two-way process in which immigrants and all communities work together to achieve common goals.

- **Recognizing the Contributions of all Immigrants to our Society**

For many generations, immigrants have come to the United States seeking better futures for themselves and their families. Their financial and cultural activities have enriched our communities. We value immigrants' historic and contemporary contributions as business owners, workers, consumers, taxpayers, civic leaders, artists and craftspeople.

- **Supporting Immigrant Families**

The family is a vital source of strength and security for immigrants and the foundation for a strong, vibrant community. We endorse community-based organizations, programs, and policies that strengthen and support immigrant families and their children, especially in the areas of education, health, and employment.

ORGANIZATIONAL PLEDGE OF SUPPORT

- **Promoting Respect and Non-Discrimination**

We commit to creating a community that respects the human right of all members of our society to be free from discrimination. We deplore all forms of racism, bigotry, or acts of harassment that are directed at any person, regardless of their country of origin or legal status. The rights of immigrants as workers and community members should be recognized and respected as a matter of both law and morality.

- **Affirming a Common Sense Approach to Public Safety and Community Partnerships**

In keeping with Oregon state law (ORS 181.850), we believe that public safety resources are best focused on the prevention of criminal activity and the protection of community members. Public safety is enhanced when law enforcement officials cultivate relationships of trust with all members of the community, including immigrants, regardless of legal status.

- **Advancing Humane and Just National Comprehensive Immigration Reform**

National immigration policy needs to be addressed at the federal level. We encourage local elected officials and other community leaders in Lane County to support all efforts to achieve comprehensive federal immigration reform that makes our nation's immigration policies more consistent, just, and humane.

Organizational Pledge of Support

My organization supports the Lane County Network for Immigrant Integration's Statement of Principles.

ORGANIZATIONAL PLEDGE OF SUPPORT

Name of Organization

Name of Authorizing Person

Signature

Date

____ *YES please keep me informed of the Network's projects and activities*

Contact Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please return to bussel@uoregon.edu or to:

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