

The logo for Bridges Faith Initiative features the text "Bridges Faith Initiative" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The text is centered and overlaid on a graphic of four overlapping, downward-pointing triangles. The triangles are colored in a gradient from red on the outer edges to yellow in the center, creating a bridge-like shape.

# Bridges Faith Initiative

August 2022 Newsletter

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Dear <NAME>

For these last few weeks, we at Bridges Faith Initiative, have been renewed in our belief that another world is possible. We celebrate our work as we persistently remind our US legislators of the hope we have for this country to realize and how ensuring dignity, safety, and support for immigrants, refugees, and asylees is a measure of our country's well-being.

On August 16th, President Biden signed the historic Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 into law. This legislation will lower healthcare and prescription drug costs, lower energy costs, invest in addressing the consequences of climate change, and make corporations pay their fair share in taxes. We are celebrating this win and the incredible work by activists that brought this law into fruition.

It was no small feat for a clean Inflation Reduction Act to be passed. There was nearly 24 hours of Senate deliberation that included attempts to introduce anti-immigrant amendments. We are grateful for the incredible efforts of our activists in calling and emailing their Senators to urge them to vote no on these anti-immigrant sentiments. A part of this effort coincided with Bridges Faith Initiative participation in the interfaith effort to ["Heal Not Harm"](#). For two weeks, organizations called and emailed into Congress in order to ensure any efforts to legislate Title 42 would be rejected.

Finally, the Biden Administration has [announced](#) it will work to end the racist and deadly Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP) or "Remain in Mexico" program. The devastating human toll of this policy, which disparately impacts Black, Indigenous, and LGBTQ+ asylum seekers, cannot be understated. Bridges Faith Initiative will continue to advocate so that these inhumane policies be repealed.

## What We Are Working On:

- Joined with 100+ organizations to [call for designation of Temporary Protected Status for Mali](#)
- Joined with 160+ organizations to call on [DHS to stop the mistreatment of religious migrants.](#)
- Amplifying Georgia Detention Watch Networks August 20th: [Rally to Shut Down Stewart!](#)
  - Stewart Detention Center is one the largest and deadliest ICE prisons in Georgia and has a track record of human rights violations. [Sign the petition to Shut Down Stewart Detention Center.](#)
- Training new citizens and especially new citizens of color and faith leaders in Georgia to advocate at the federal level for access to services and humane immigration policies.
  - Email [advocacy@bridgesfi.org](mailto:advocacy@bridgesfi.org) if you want to be a part of it.
- Supporting a legal hotline and fund to help immigrants move out of Texas and Arizona in the event they need an abortion.

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With your financial support we can ensure that a progressive faith voice is heard in Congress!

[Donate](#)

Thank you for reading, giving, and taking action with us.

***Rabbi Joshua Lesser***  
***and the BFI Team***