

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 consisting of two stylized, overlapping shapes that resemble bridges or sails. Each shape is composed of a red outer section and a yellow inner section, with the two shapes mirrored across a central vertical axis.

# Bridges Faith Initiative

November 2022

Across the United States, voters rejected anti-immigrant rhetoric and have demanded humane policies are finally put into place. Congress must deliver permanent solutions for Dreamers and TPS holders. The lives of Dreamers and TPS holders should not be continually trapped in this legal limbo and uncertainty.

This month, we are [celebrating the encouraging news that a federal judge has ruled against the Title 42 policy](#). As Rabbi Joshia Lesser said, “This is a major step in addressing our broken immigration process that has been riddled with bigotry. We urge the Biden administration to further this step of improving the asylum process so that we can ensure the dignity of all those who seek safety.” We are honored to have worked with activists and coalitions over the years to help bring this pseudo-health policy to its ends.

The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations heard testimony on the shameful medical abuse and neglect of women held at the Irwin County Detention Center. The women victimized by medical staff within this detention center deserve the resources to heal, thrive, and to once again feel safe in the agency of their own bodies. Immigrant detention centers all across the United States have caused physical, emotional, and mental harms that cannot be repaired. Detention and deportation deprive people who are immigrants of their liberty, separate them from their loved ones, and exclude them from their communities. This goes against our deepest held faith values.

We joined with over 280 organizations to [call on the Biden Administration to reject plans to house Haitian Refugees in Guantanamo Bay](#). We have a moral obligation to welcome asylum seekers with safety. Biden positioned himself as a clear counterpoint to Trump’s cruelty but instead, Biden is carrying on like business as usual with this anti-Black treatment of Haitian migrants. Biden must take immediate steps to dismantle the detention and deportation system in its entirety, and that includes rejecting any plans to house refugees at Guantanamo Bay.

## What We Are Working On

- We are working with faith-based coalitions to introduce legislation that will permanently protect DACA recipients. We expect this legislation to be introduced after the election in November.

Thank you,  
***Rabbi Joshua Lesser***  
*and the BFI Team*