

Join Us!

2nd Monday of Each Month

6:00 PM

River Falls United Methodist Church

127 South 2nd Street

River Falls, WI 54022

advocates
FOR
IMMIGRANTS



- ✓ Raising awareness about immigration and the social, economic, and cultural benefits of an open society
- ✓ Advocating for the rights, safety, and well-being of our immigrant neighbors
- ✓ Providing a hotline for the concerns and questions of immigrants (Se habla español) 612-999-5413

PERCEPTION
Immigrants take American jobs

- Immigrants are 30% more likely than U.S.-born citizens to form new businesses.
- Immigrant labor is complementary to native labor, resulting in limited competition in the short-run and increased job opportunities in the long-run.
- Immigrants go where jobs are available or they create their own.

"Shattered Families: The Perilous Intersection of Immigration Enforcement and the Child Welfare System" (Applied Research Center, 2011).

- Over the past two decades, immigrants have played a central role in the cycle of economic rebirth of American cities.
- Cities with thriving immigrant populations – with both high-earning and lower-wage workers – have seen increased standards of living for all residents.

Julia Preston, "Workforce Fueled by Highly Skilled Immigrants" and Text Economic Facts about Immigration (The Brookings Institute, 2010)

PERCEPTION
Immigrants drain resources

PERCEPTION
Immigrants increase crime

- States with the highest immigration rates have the lowest crime rates.
- Immigrants – regardless of where they are from, what immigration status they hold, and how much education they have completed – are less likely than native-born citizens to commit crimes or become incarcerated.

immigrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/scr/the_criminalization_of_immigration_in_the_united_states_final.pdf

- More than half of undocumented immigrants have federal and state income, Social Security, and Medicare taxes automatically deducted from their paychecks.
- They contribute more than \$13 billion annually to Social Security.
- Undocumented immigrants are ineligible for any of the federal or state benefits their tax dollars fund.

presidency.ucsb.edu/economicreports/2005.pdf and Stephen Goss, et al., "Effects of Unauthorized Immigration on the Actuarial Status of the Social Security Trust Funds"

PERCEPTION
Immigrants don't pay taxes

REALITY