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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Cosecha GR & GR Rapid Response to ICE Demand an End to GRPD–ICE Collaboration and Call on Grand Rapids to Adopt Sanctuary Policies Now!**

**Grand Rapids, MI — Movimiento Cosecha GR and GR Rapid Response to ICE** began a campaign in January to pressure the City of Grand Rapids to adopt Sanctuary policies. Those policies include:

1. Policies restricting the ability of state and local police to make arrests for federal immigration violations, or to detain individuals on civil immigration warrants.
2. Policies restricting the police or other city workers from asking about immigration status.
3. Policies prohibiting “287(g)” agreements through which ICE deputizes local law enforcement officers to enforce federal immigration law.
4. Policies that prevent local governments from entering into a contract with the federal government to hold immigrants in detention;
5. Policies preventing immigration detention centers in Grand Rapids.
6. A policy that will not allow the GRPD to share Flock camera images or any other information gathered by the city of Grand Rapids with ICE or any other law enforcement agency seeking to arrest, detain and deport immigrants.

GRPD Chief Eric Winstrom has repeatedly stated that the Grand Rapids Police Department does not engage in immigration enforcement. However, recent incidents show a disturbing pattern of cooperation between GRPD and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), directly contradicting the department’s public position and further endangering immigrant communities in Grand Rapids.

### **Two recent examples of GRPD–ICE collaboration:**

- **June 4th, 2025:** As ICE agents arrested immigrants during their ISAP check-in appointments, members of **Movimiento Cosecha GR and GR Rapid Response to ICE** mobilized to try to prevent detentions. GRPD officers arrived and threatened to arrest the community members, forcing them to leave the building and making it easier for ICE to intimidate and detain individuals that day.
- **Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025:** GRPD officers responded to the ICE office where members of **GR Rapid Response to ICE** were nonviolently attempting to support an immigrant being detained and prevent a family separation. In an unnecessary show of force, GRPD deployed eight police cruisers, arrested two volunteers, and impounded their vehicles—an unmistakable attempt to intimidate and suppress community efforts to defend immigrant families.

Movimiento Cosecha is an immigrant movement fighting for permanent protection, dignity, and respect for the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States.



Despite these unjust arrests, the volunteers remain committed to showing solidarity with their undocumented neighbors. These events have only made more visible the ongoing collaboration between GRPD and ICE.

This comes at a time when the federal budget for immigration enforcement has increased by \$170 billion under the “Big Beautiful Bill,” allowing for the hiring of more ICE agents and the expansion of immigration raids. As a result, more immigrant families will be targeted, traumatized, and torn apart in cities like Grand Rapids.

### **A Call to Action for the City of Grand Rapids:**

The City of Grand Rapids claims to be a "Welcoming City," but actions speak louder than words. The city has the opportunity to adopt six concrete Sanctuary policies that won't stop ICE entirely but will ensure Grand Rapids is not complicit in immigrant family separation and state-sponsored terror.

**Movimiento Cosecha GR** and **GR Rapid Response to ICE** will be speaking during public comment at the upcoming Grand Rapids City Commission Meeting on:



**Tuesday, July 29th**



**7:00 PM**



**Gerald R. Ford Academic Center, Madison Ave SE, Grand Rapids**

We invite all who believe in immigrant justice to attend, show support, and demand that the City adopt the six Sanctuary policies to protect and stand with our immigrant neighbors.

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