

Alternatives Statement: Sanctuary City

As an organization, Alternatives upholds the value of liberation and freedom for all people. Chicago's status as a *Sanctuary City* since 1985 - representing a promise to shield all immigrants in Chicago from federal agents, regardless of citizenship, residency status, or whether they are seeking asylum - is an essential part of Alternatives' vision of young people, free.

The recent threat to Chicago's Sanctuary City status is misguided. While the call for more resources to be put towards Black communities is justified, the conflicting fear over taxes going towards support for migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers is nothing short of xenophobic. Removing Chicago's Sanctuary City status will not reverse disinvestment in Black communities, nor will it address challenges the city is facing to care for new arrivals. This is a time for solidarity with asylum-seekers.

We ask you to call your alderperson and demand they reject attempts to undermine the City's Welcoming City Ordinance. This is not a solution to Chicago's migrant crisis. Human rights should not be determined by colonial borders.

Resources:

- <https://www.cbsnews.com/chicago/news/chicago-sanctuary-city-resolution-anthony-napolitano-anthony-beale/>
- <https://blockclubchicago.org/2023/09/25/2-aldermen-want-voters-to-decide-if-chicago-should-remain-a-sanctuary-city-amid-migrant-crisis/>