

March for America Washington Delegation

5 of the 50 immigration reform activists from the
Washington Immigration Reform Coalition
heading to D.C. to march for America



Celeste Addai
Bellevue, WA

Celeste is a U.S. Citizen who met her Ghanaian husband when both were attending university. While her husband was in the process of extending his visa, he had the misfortune of dealing with corrupt attorneys that let his case fall through the cracks, resulting in him overstaying his visa and losing legal status. He currently lives in the shadows as an undocumented immigrant, forcing him to live apart from Celeste and their 6 year-old-son Kwazii with no hope to be reunited until the current immigration laws are reformed.



Carlos Padilla
Seattle, WA

Carlos was brought to the U.S. from Mexico when he was two years old because his mother wanted to provide a better life for her son. He is currently a senior in high school and his lack of legal status has greatly affected his high school experience by not being able to leave the country for school trips and by putting his future goals into question. Carlos is active in the community and is vice president of his high school student government. Carlos aspires to become a lawyer and fight for human rights.



Jose Ortiz
Mount Vernon, WA

Jose is a Mexican immigrant that has been an active member of his community in Mount Vernon. He has been working for the Catholic church for over 25 years and is a lead coordinator of the Youth Migrant Project in Skagit Valley, a summer program through which teens distribute donated goods to poor or low-income communities and local migrant workers. Jose has been committed to working for immigrant rights his entire life and is the leader of the OneAmerica Skagit community group.



Hassan Wardere
Seattle, WA

Hassan is a Seattle resident and immigrant from Somalia. He currently works as a Program Coordinator and Youth Media Instructor at Horn of Africa Services, a multi-lingual multi-cultural non-profit that offers individual and family counseling and referral services where he teaches media production to East African youth.



Thao Tran
Seattle, WA

Thao and his family came to the U.S. from Vietnam in 1982 seeking political asylum after living in a refugee camp in Hong Kong. The Tran family settled in the Rainier Vista neighborhood of Seattle and Thao attended the University of Washington where he received his degree in political science and international relations. Thao is committed to working for social justice and currently works at the Office of the Mayor of Seattle.

WASHINGTON IMMIGRATION
REFORM COALITION (WIRC)

FOR America

For more photos, interviews, and additional information contact:
Naomi Ishisaka - naomi@weareoneamerica.org 206.853.3339
Charlie McAteer - charlie@weareoneamerica.org 917.223.5241