ENTERTAINMENT



Page 6 – Fridays at the Station x SW Fest "One-Night-Only"

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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SPORTS



Page 10 – Lions Begin Training Camp

Detroit prometió acceso lingüístico. Emergencias revelaron deficiencias

Por Nushrat Rahman para BridgeDetroit y Detroit Free Press – Reimpreso con autorización

La Ciudad de Detroit no tradujo múltiples avisos sobre emergencias recientes, incluyendo humo peligroso y calor extremo, según un grupo estatal defensor de los derechos de los inmigrantes. Ante esto, funcionarios municipales se han comprometido a realizar mejoras integrales.

Esta falta violó una ordenanza aprobada hace un año que exige a los departamentos de la ciudad traducir los avisos de servicio público durante estos momentos, señaló Christine Sauvé, gerente de política, participación e información de Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC). Esto dejó potencialmente sin información

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Detroit City Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero a vocal advocate for immigrant rights who sponsored the language access ordinance, said the administration has more work to do. Credit: City of Detroit

Detroit Promised Language Access. Recent Emergencies Exposed Gaps.

By Nushrat Rahman for Bridge Detroit and Detroit Free Press – Reprinted with permission

The City of Detroit failed to translate multiple announcements about recent emergency situations, including hazardous smoke and extreme heat, according to a statewide immigrant rights group, and city officials have vowed to make comprehensive improvements.

The failure violated a year-old ordinance requiring city departments to translate public service announcements during such moments, said Christine Sauvé, policy, engagement and communications manager for the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC), and potentially left thousands of Detroiters for whom English is not their first language without vital

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Dr. Nathalia Jaramillo Selected to Lead Next Chapter of WSU's Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies

A nationally and internationally recognized educator, scholar and equity leader, Jaramillo comes to Wayne State from Kennesaw State University in Georgia, where she most recently served as professor of interdisciplinary studies. Her experience and leadership in education began early in her career as an elementary school teacher in the Riverside Unified School District in California, which serves a predominantly Latino/a population. She later served as an administrator for the Los Angeles Unified School District and expanded her work into global and higher education.

As coordinator of the Latin American and Latinx studies program at Kennesaw State from 2019 to 2022, Jaramillo led a comprehensive curriculum revision, managed program funding and cultivated external partnerships. She also held positions as Kennesaw State's deputy chief diversity officer as well as faculty appointments at the University of Aukland in New Zealand and Purdue University.

"Dr. Jaramillo brings to the role a distinctive combination of dynamic scholarship, administrative leadership and community engagement formed over two decades of work in higher education, equity, and Latino/a and Latin American studies," said Dr. Keith Whitfield, interim provost and senior vice president of academic affairs. "Her work reflects the necessary intersection of research, community engagement and student success."

Wayne State University's CLLAS was established in 1971 as the Latino en Marcha Leadership Training Program and born from the activism of the Detroit Latino/a community. With deep community roots and a commitment to excellence, CLLAS has played an important role in the education and development of leaders in Detroit, the Midwest and beyond. More than 2,500 students have participated in CLLAS since its founding.

Through interdisciplinary inquiry, student-focused academic programs and community engagement, CLLAS faculty and students conduct research that advocates on behalf of the Latino/a population and fosters a deeper understanding and appreciation of U.S. Latino/a and Latin American cultures, histories and experiences. As director, Jaramillo will help lead CLLAS into its next chapter.

CLLAS staff at the annual La Academia del Pueblo: Estenia Gomez Elisevich, Alex Resendez, Melissa Miranda Morse, Juan Carlos Gutierrez

"We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Jaramillo. Her research and professional experience in urban and international education align beautifully with the CLLAS mission of transforming lives and communities through education," said Melissa Miranda Morse, associate director of CLLAS. "For over 55 years, CLLAS has been



Dr. Nathalia Jaramillo

educating leaders in Detroit and beyond. Dr. Jaramillo is perfectly positioned to honor and build upon this legacy."

Jaramillo's research and teaching focus on the histories, cultures and politics shaping Latino/a and Latin American communities on both sides of the border. Her scholarly and pedagogical approach centers an ethic of care and a belief in the reciprocal relationship between students and teachers.

"My curriculum is designed to create conditions for transformative learning, where students relate curriculum to lived experience, where subaltern knowledges are treated as central to the curriculum itself, and where open dialogue

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Two Food and Specialty Markets. One Destination

Food lovers of every kind are invited to experience two of Metro Detroit's favorite specialty markets in one unforgettable destination on Sunday, August 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Eastern Market Shed 5. The Detroit Foodie Fair and Detroit Vegan will once again be co-located, creating one of the region's largest gatherings of specialty foods, handcrafted goods, and plant-based products.

Visitors can shop more than 75 vendors featuring gourmet foods, small-batch makers, artisan products, beverages, baked goods, specialty pantry items, vegan favorites, handcrafted gifts, home décor, and more—all under one roof with free admission.

Whether attendees are passionate foodies, longtime vegans, curious shoppers, or simply looking for a unique Sunday outing, the combined event offers something for everyone. Guests can sample new products, discover local businesses, meet the makers behind their favorite brands, and explore the best of Michigan's growing food and artisan community.

"This event is all about celebrating the incredible variety of food entrepreneurs and makers we have in our region," said Danielle Golinski, Executive Director of Mercantile Events & Marketing. "By bringing Detroit Foodie Fair and Detroit Vegan together, we're creating an experience where visitors can explore both communities in one trip while supporting small businesses."

The event also features the return of the Detroit Best Foodie Find competition, where attendees can vote for their favorite vendor throughout the day. The friendly competition highlights standout products and gives shoppers another way to engage with local businesses.

Detroit Foodie Fair was recently recognized as a USA TODAY 10BEST Readers' Choice Award nominee for Best Specialty Food Festival, highlighting its growing reputation as one of the Midwest's premier food-focused events.

Detroit Foodie Fair and Detroit Vegan are organized by Mercantile Fairs, a visionary women-led team based in Detroit and Flint, with decades of experience in market and event production.

Event details:
Sunday, August 9, 2026
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Eastern Market Shed 5,
Detroit, MI

More information and vendor applications: www.detroitfoodiefair.com

2026 Vendors

5 Lakes Flavor
Ardito Fuel
Aru Products & Services LLC
Aunt Erma's Cookies
Autumn Hummingbird LLC
Backwoods Sugar Shack
Better Baked Detroit
Body Khemistry
brownie Dr
Cloud Pop
cooking for health with timah
Crushed Healthy Smoothies
Daisy Designs/Carolyns Sweets
Doughmads llc
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Golden Coffee Co
Hayah Treats
Hummus Goodness
Jetta's Gourmet Popcorn
Karma Wellness Kitchen
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The Chocolate Drizzle
The Great Bread Company
The Mushroom Hub
The Nut Chamber
The Little Crochet Chef
Vedged Out
VEG-N LLC
Wetzel's Pretzels
Yeah Its Vegan











Remembering Humberto Ruben Oriel, 1933-2026

Humberto "Beto" Rubén Oriel was born on January 3, 1933, in San Antonio, Texas, to Manuel Oriel and Raquel Cárdenas. He grew up surrounded by a large and loving family of brothers and sisters.

As a young child, Humberto was brought to Detroit, Michigan, where he was baptized at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church on November 24, 1935. He was also raised for a time by his beloved grandmother in Mexico City, where he attended school and developed a deep devotion to the Catholic faith. His faith became so important to him that he began studying for the priesthood in Mexico. Although his path eventually led him in a different direction, his Catholic faith remained a guiding force throughout his life.

Humberto spent portions of his youth moving between Mexico and Detroit. After returning to Southwest Detroit with his aunt Solamay, he worked shining shoes at Briggs Stadium, later known as Tiger Stadium. These early experiences helped shape his remarkable work ethic, independence, and adventurous spirit. His love of music and dancing also began at a young age and remained a joyful part of his life.

In October 1954, at the age of 21, Humberto was drafted into the United States Army during the Korean War era. He was stationed in Germany, where he proudly served his country and boxed for the Army. Known for his quick hands and fast footwork, Humberto completed 10 fights—all won by knockout. He loved sharing stories about his boxing days with family and friends. If you knew Beto, chances are you heard the unforgettable story of how his boxing career began.

After completing his military service, Humberto returned to Detroit and worked at a General Motors plant as an assembly-line worker. Throughout his life, he held many different positions, including working for the City of Detroit and serving as an advocate in government. His entrepreneurial spirit also led him to open his own restaurant in Southwest Detroit.

In 1976, Humberto founded La Vida, a magazine dedicated to publishing stories about Detroit's Hispanic community. He also established the Mexican American Association of Detroit, through which he organized dances and brought several Mexican musical groups and performers to the city—including his favorite singer, Vicente Fernández.

Humberto devoted much of his life to community service and became involved with numerous nonprofit, cultural, civic, and religious organizations. These included LA SED, the Mexican Patriotic Committee, SER Metro-Detroit, the American GI Forum, and the Knights of Columbus.

His involvement with the Knights of Columbus strengthened his commitment to the Catholic Church. Through years of faithful service, he rose to become Grand Knight, the council's highest-ranking leader. In 1984, Humberto began helping organize Detroit's Cinco de Mayo Parade. He proudly led the parade dressed as Grand Knight and carrying his ceremonial sword. The celebration became one of his greatest joys and proudest accomplishments. His dedication never faded, and he continued participating in the parade even at 92 years old.

In 1985, Humberto was given the honor of naming the Roberto Clemente Recreation Center in Southwest Detroit. He was also instrumental in organizing the Latin American and Mexican festivals held at Hart Plaza in downtown Detroit. Through the American GI Forum, he worked to fight discrimination and encourage political empowerment. His involvement with the Mexican Patriotic Committee also supported youth programs and cultural events.

Of all his contributions, the Cinco de Mayo Parade remained especially close to his heart. He took great pride in seeing the Hispanic community come together to celebrate and preserve Mexican culture and traditions.





Humberto "Beto" Ruben Oriel at the 2025 Cinco de Mayo Parade. Photo provided by Alejandro Ugalde Sandoval

Humberto valued education throughout his life. At the age of 65, he proudly earned an associate degree in arts from Wayne County Community College. A gifted and passionate artist, he began painting at a young age and continued creating throughout his lifetime. He enjoyed experimenting with paint and developed his own artistic technique for creating "forever flowers." He once painted a remarkable self-portrait using only a wallet-sized photograph as his reference. His artwork was displayed throughout the community and admired by many.

His creativity extended far beyond painting. Humberto loved photography, playing tennis, watching boxing, and swimming. Above all, he loved music and dancing. If there was music playing, Beto was always ready to dance. When he sang, he sang with his whole heart, and the happiness on his face brought smiles to everyone around him.

Humberto was loved by many and seemed to know everyone in the neighborhood. Because of his extraordinary involvement and unmistakable presence, he was affectionately known as the "Mayor of Southwest Detroit." His life reflected a rare combination of faith, courage, creativity, service, and joy.

On July 27, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones, Humberto peacefully transitioned into eternal life and gained his angel wings.

He leaves to cherish his memory his children, Rubén, Ricardo, Michael, John, Orquidia (Curtis), and Raquel; his grandchildren, Larry, Annalysia, Skyler, Krista, Kory, Raquel, Gabriel, Joshua, Jordan, and Tyrell; his great-grandchildren, Levi and Liam; and many other relatives, dear friends, and members of the community whose lives he touched.

Humberto "Beto" Oriel will be deeply missed. He was a treasured part of the everyday lives of those who loved him, and the stories of his extraordinary life and legacy will never be forgotten. His memory will live on through his family, his friends, his artwork, his community service, and the traditions he worked so faithfully to preserve.

Rest in Heaven, Beto. Your faith, laughter, music, stories, and love will remain in our hearts forever.

Dr. Nathalia Jaramillo Selected to Lead WSU's CLLAS

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and conflictual perspectives are pedagogical resources rather than disruptions," said Jaramillo.

In her research and administrative roles, and as a higher education consultant, she has extended this philosophy of student success beyond the classroom, seeking to address the institutional structures that shape students' well-being and sense of belonging.

Working with CLLAS's dedicated staff and exceptional faculty, Jaramillo looks forward to expanding undergraduate research opportunities, deepening student engagement with Detroit's Latino/a community, strengthening mentorship pathways and broadening the center's partnerships across campus, the region, the nation and the world.

"I'd like to thank Dr. Jorge Chinea, who is retiring from his role as CLLAS director, for his many years of dedicated service," said Whitfield. "I'd also like to thank the members of the search committee, including chair Dr. Sharon Lean, as well as the many dedicated community members, faculty, students, staff and alumni who participated in the search and provided their input."

Jaramillo holds a Ph.D. in education with a specialization in urban schooling from the University of California, Los Angeles, an M.A. in international education policy from Harvard University, and a B.A. in psychology (cum laude) from the University of California, Riverside. Jaramillo will begin her tenure as Director of CLLAS on Aug. 17.



CLLAS staff at the annual La Academia del Pueblo: Estenia Gomez Elisevich, Alex Resendez, Melissa Miranda Morse, Juan Carlos Gutierrez

Trump Administration Ends Contract with Unaccompanied Migrant Children Legal Providers

By Erick Diaz Veliz

Fleeing violence and threats from cartels against his family, Brian Chavez entered the United States through the southern border with his mother during the early years of the Trump administration. Chavez was only 15 years old and spoke no English when, at the border, officials separated him from his mother after she signed some documents.

"I was told my mother had given me up and that she was going to prison", Chavez said in a virtual press conference on July 31. "I barely understood English. I was terrified, confused, and alone. As a child, I couldn't understand why I was being separated from my mother."

A few days later, Chavez was sent to a government shelter, little knowing what was happening. A month later, he was able to reunite with his brother, and three years after that with his mother. Immigration lawyers helped him understand and know the system he was trapped in, connected him with legal resources, and now, almost 10 years later, he works as a paralegal at the Immigrant Advocates Legal Center to help migrant children in the same situation he was in.

As Chavez recounts, he wouldn't have achieved anything he has today without the help of these lawyers. His family wouldn't have been able to afford legal aid, he wouldn't have obtained legal status, they would have been deported, and he might not be alive now, he said.

However, by August 1st, the contracts that had been funding these lawyers by the federal government expired, leaving an estimated 26,000 children across the country without legal representation. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has provided funding since 2003 to support the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), a national network of 100 organizations that provides care and legal services to unaccompanied children who crossed the border alone or whose parents were separated at the border.

"Children who have fled violence, trafficking, and abuse will wake up tomorrow without the legal support they were promised. They won't know the legal rights they may be entitled to without a lawyer by their side," wrote Shaina Aber, Executive Director of the Washington-based nonprofit organization Acacia Center for Justice, in a statement. The Acacia Center maintained a legal services contract with ORR and allocated the received funds to legal service providers nationwide who also represent thousands of unaccompanied immigrant children.

The current immigration landscape for unaccompanied immigrant children has already experienced a critical breakdown; the HHS terminated its federal contract with Acacia Center in March last year. A California federal judge overturned the decision and ordered the reinstatement of the contract and the return of the funds to the organization. The contract has been extended and expires on August 1.

Since November last year, the HHS has withheld payment for the Acacia Center and other organizations because they didn't comply with giving them attorney-client privileged information about the children. The action forced these organizations to turn away new clients and left the future of existing cases in doubt while they explore ways to fill the federal funding gap with independent financing. Around 40 other organizations are expecting to close their doors and cut services. The government owes $65 million to these organizations that defend unaccompanied minors.

Aber emphasized the immediate danger to the workforce, stating, "Across our network, attorneys are at the brink of legal organizations, at the brink of laying off staff." She warned that these disclosures could provide the government with a road map for the mass deportation of children. "The government is withholding payment for work that has already been performed to extract confidential information about kids, information the government has no right to," Acacia Center for Justice wrote in a statement.

The HHS told several media outlets that the ORR offered the Acacia Center for Justice the opportunity to receive a temporary contract based on certain requirements, such as providing information about whom they represent and submitting expense invoices when filing asylum applications. "Acacia refused to accept this temporary contract," the agency stated. They added that since November 2025, they have tried to return to a full contract with the organizations, but each time the request for proposals is published, it is challenged by the Office of Government Accountability.

On the other hand, on July 29, Acacia said they received notice from the federal government that the ORR was considering a new contract, potentially with different legal providers. "It is not clear who the new contractor will be. They have not answered the questions that we have put to them," said Bettina Rodriguez Schlegel of Acacia, to NPR news. "And so there remains a lot of uncertainty and a great deal of concern."

At the same time, Erin Maxwell, Co-Director, Detained Immigrant Children's Project, Legal Services for Children, stated in a press conference that without these attorneys, children who have fled complex and persistent trauma will lose access to due process and teams of supportive adults looking out for their legal and psychosocial needs, which would leave them stuck in the system under worse conditions. Unlike criminal courts, immigration courts are not required to guarantee legal representation, even for minors.

"Even with counsel, we have seen children choose to return to extremely unsafe situations in their countries of origin because of detention fatigue," said Maxwell. "A 10-year-old child does not understand this legal language. A 10-year-old child developmentally cannot comprehend the gravity of what was being shared in this courtroom. It was painful to watch these children alone in a courtroom and to know that with the cuts to this vital funding, there will be so many more children in their situation."

In Michigan only, the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) has assisted over 1,100 children who have fled violence, trafficking, and abuse. "They arrive frightened, alone, and often unable to understand the language," said Ana Devereaux, Senior Managing Attorney with MIRC. "For many of these children, a MIRC lawyer is the first adult whose sole responsibility is to protect their rights, explain the process, and ensure their story is heard. Taking that away does not make the system more efficient. It abandons vulnerable children. The young people we've met. Have been through so much to get to our country."

"The Trump administration", said Devereaux. "Is working to strip unaccompanied children of legal representation so they can be deported faster and with less scrutiny. We cannot allow that to happen. Since the start of this administration, we've seen multiple attacks on unaccompanied children."

By July 30, several elected officials had sent letters to HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., speaking out against the defunding of child protection organizations and the potential for a surge in deportations of minors.

On July 16, Congresswoman Veronica Escobar (TX-16) spearheaded a letter from the entire Texas Democratic Delegation, demanding answers from Kennedy regarding when the long-delayed funding would be released, or, failing that, what the federal government's plans were for children left without legal assistance, among other questions. On July 31, Congressional representatives Summer L. Lee (PA-12) and Chris Deluzio (PA-17) also addressed the same concerns with HHS in a letter to Kennedy, outlining how they would ensure that minors received due process.

What is expected now, as the affected organizations struggle to avoid abandoning the children, is a hearing scheduled by a federal judge in Oakland, California, for August 6, in which child legal service providers will attempt to reverse the Trump administration's attempts to defund the program.

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Erick Diaz Veliz is a Peruvian reporter based in Lansing, Michigan. He has documents and reports on cultural, social, and political issues in Peru and Michigan as a freelancer. Erick was born in Lima, Peru, and has been living in Lansing since 2018.



Immigrant childen in detention. Photo credit Council on Foreign Relations

La administración Trump pone fin al contrato con los proveedores de asistencia legal para niños migrantes no acompañados

Por Erick Diaz Veliz

Huyendo de la violencia y de las amenazas de los cárteles contra su familia, Brian Chávez ingresó a Estados Unidos por la frontera sur junto con su madre durante los primeros años de la administración Trump. Chávez tenía apenas 15 años y no hablaba inglés cuando, al llegar a la frontera, oficiales fronterizos lo separaron de su madre después de que ella firmara unos documentos.

"Me dijeron que mi madre me había abandonado y que iba a ir a prisión", recordó Chávez durante una conferencia de prensa virtual el 31 de julio. "Apenas entendía inglés. Estaba aterrorizado, confundido y solo. Siendo un niño, no podía comprender por qué me estaban separando de mi madre."

Pocos días después, Chávez fue enviado a un albergue del gobierno sin entender realmente lo que estaba ocurriendo. Un mes más tarde logró reunirse con su hermano y, tres años después, con su madre. Fueron abogados de inmigración quienes lo ayudaron a comprender el sistema en el que estaba atrapado, lo conectaron con recursos legales y, casi diez años después, hoy trabaja como asistente legal en el Immigrant Advocates Legal Center para ayudar a niños migrantes que atraviesan la misma situación que él vivió.

Según contó Chávez, nada de lo que ha logrado habría sido posible sin la ayuda de esos abogados. Su familia no habría podido costear asistencia legal, él no habría obtenido un estatus migratorio, habrían sido deportados y, probablemente, ni siquiera estaría vivo, afirmó.

En cualquier caso, Chavez cuenta que no habría logrado lo que es ahora sin la ayuda de aquellos abogados. Sin embargo, hacia el 1 de agosto vencieron los contratos mediante los cuales el gobierno federal financiaba a esos abogados, dejando a aproximadamente 26.000 niños en todo el país sin representación legal. Desde 2003, el Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (HHS, por sus siglas en inglés) había financiado a la Oficina de Reasentamiento de Refugiados (ORR), una red nacional integrada por unas 100 organizaciones encargadas de brindar atención y servicios legales a menores no acompañados que cruzaron la frontera solos o cuyos padres fueron separados de ellos en la frontera.

"Los niños que huyeron de la violencia, la trata y los abusos despertarán mañana sin el apoyo legal que se les había prometido. Sin un abogado a su lado, no sabrán qué derechos legales podrían tener", escribió en un comunicado Shaina Aber, directora ejecutiva de la organización sin fines de lucro Acacia Center for Justice, con sede en Washington. Acacia mantenía un contrato de servicios legales con la ORR y distribuía esos fondos entre organizaciones de todo el país que representan a miles de niños inmigrantes no acompañados.

El panorama actual para estos menores ya atravesaba una crisis significativa. En marzo del año pasado, el HHS canceló el contrato federal con Acacia Center. Posteriormente, un juez federal de California revocó esa decisión y ordenó restablecer el contrato y devolver el financiamiento a la organización. El contrato fue prorrogado y expiró el 1 de agosto.

Desde noviembre del año pasado, el HHS retuvo los pagos a Acacia Center y a otras organizaciones porque estas se negaron a entregar información protegida por el privilegio abogado-cliente sobre los menores que representan. La medida obligó a estas organizaciones a rechazar nuevos casos y dejó en incertidumbre

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Free Adult English Tutoring Center Hosts Community Open House

By Andres Ospina

All Saints Literacy Center will host a community open house Tuesday, Aug. 11, inviting residents to learn about its free adult literacy and English-language tutoring programs while connecting with volunteers, learners and community partners.

The event will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. at the center, 3553 W. Vernor Hwy., Suite D, in Southwest Detroit. Guests will have the opportunity to tour the facility, meet Executive Director Grace Irwin, hear a brief presentation beginning at 5:45 p.m., enjoy light refreshments and network with others who support adult education in the community.

Founded in 2015, All Saints Literacy Center provides free, one-on-one English as a Second Language (ESL) tutoring for adults. The nonprofit also provides GED preparation support and plans to expand its programming with the return of group ESL and digital literacy classes. Since opening its doors, the organization has served more than 500 adult learners with the support of more than 200 volunteer tutors.

Irwin said the center's individualized tutoring model sets it apart from many traditional language programs. Instead of learning in a classroom setting, participants are paired one-on-one with trained volunteer tutors who meet with them in person or virtually, allowing lessons to fit around work schedules, family responsibilities and other commitments.

"The one-on-one model really allows us to provide individualized instruction to the learners," Irwin said. "We try to have a very welcoming environment and foster relationships between tutors and learners so they can have a good learning experience."

The center welcomes adults at all English proficiency levels. Before beginning instruction, learners complete reading, listening and speaking assessments to determine the appropriate level in a six-level curriculum aligned with national adult education standards.

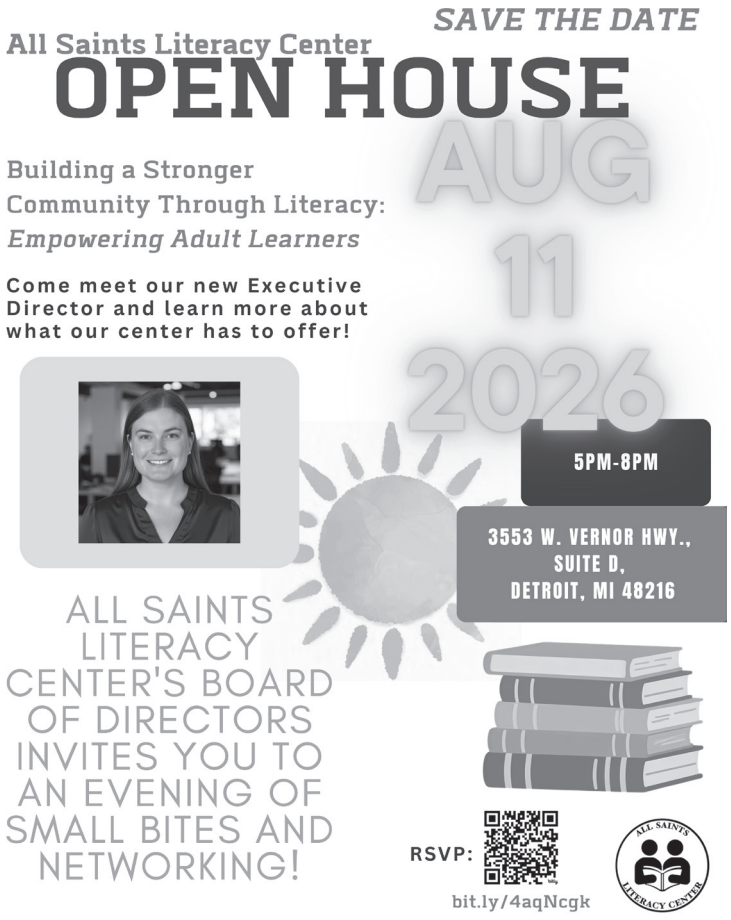
Volunteer tutors play a central role in the program. According to Irwin, tutors come from a variety of backgrounds, including retirees, college students, certified teachers and individuals preparing for careers in English-language instruction. The center provides training, and previous teaching experience is not required. Adults interested in volunteering must be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or equivalent, and be willing to learn tutoring strategies.

Irwin said the Aug. 11 open house is intended to introduce the organization to the broader community and encourage new volunteers and prospective learners to get involved.

Residents interested in becoming volunteer tutors can apply through the All Saints Literacy Center website. Adults interested in enrolling as learners can call 313-635-4549 or email info@allsaintsliteracy.org to learn more about the program and join the waiting list.

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Andrés Ospina is a Detroit-based freelance journalist and business consultant covering business, entrepreneurship and economic development. Originally from Colombia, he holds a double major in Communications and Journalism and an MBA from the University of Exeter (UK). His work connects the dots between his experience supporting small businesses, startups and organizations and his background in journalism, bringing a practitioner's perspective to the stories he tells.



Centro gratuito de tutoría de inglés para adultos realizará jornada de puertas abiertas

Por Andres Ospina

All Saints Literacy Center realizará una jornada comunitaria de puertas abiertas el martes 11 de agosto, invitando a los residentes a conocer sus programas gratuitos de alfabetización y enseñanza de inglés para adultos, además de conectar con voluntarios, estudiantes y organizaciones comunitarias.

El evento se llevará a cabo de 5 a 8 p.m. en el centro, ubicado en 3553 W. Vernor Hwy., Suite D, en el suroeste de Detroit. Los asistentes podrán recorrer las instalaciones, conocer a la directora ejecutiva, Grace Irwin, escuchar una breve presentación a partir de las 5:45 p.m., disfrutar de aperitivos y establecer contactos con otras personas que apoyan la educación de adultos en la comunidad.

Fundado en 2015, All Saints Literacy Center ofrece tutorías gratuitas e individuales de inglés como segundo idioma (ESL) para adultos. La organización sin fines de lucro también brinda apoyo para la preparación del examen GED y planea ampliar su programación con el regreso de las clases grupales de inglés y de alfabetización digital. Desde su apertura, ha atendido a más de 500 estudiantes adultos con el apoyo de más de 200 tutores voluntarios.

Irwin explicó que el modelo de tutoría personalizada distingue al centro de muchos programas tradicionales de enseñanza del idioma. En lugar de clases grupales, cada estudiante es asignado a un tutor voluntario que trabaja de manera individual, ya sea de forma presencial o virtual, lo que permite que las lecciones se adapten a los horarios de trabajo, responsabilidades familiares y otros compromisos.

"El modelo de tutoría individual realmente nos permite ofrecer una enseñanza personalizada a cada estudiante", afirmó Irwin. "Tratamos de crear un ambiente muy acogedor y de fomentar relaciones entre tutores y estudiantes para que tengan una buena experiencia de aprendizaje".

El centro recibe a adultos de todos los niveles de dominio del inglés. Antes de comenzar las clases, los estudiantes realizan evaluaciones de lectura, comprensión auditiva y expresión oral para ser ubicados en el nivel adecuado dentro de un plan de estudios de seis niveles, alineado con los estándares nacionales de educación para adultos.

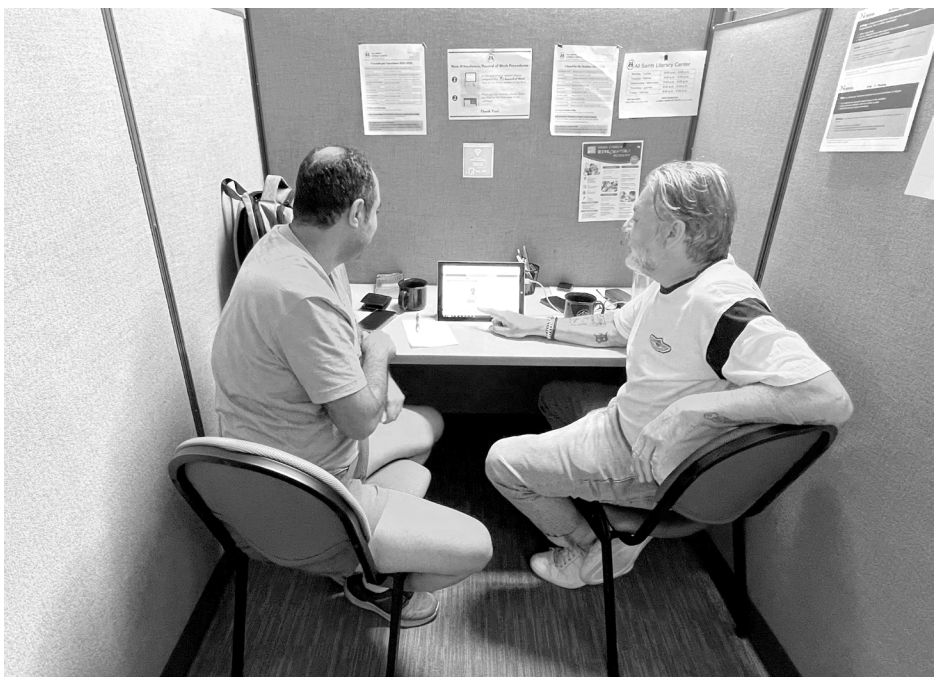
Los tutores voluntarios desempeñan un papel fundamental en el programa. Según Irwin, provienen de diversos perfiles, entre ellos personas jubiladas, estudiantes universitarios, maestros certificados y personas que se preparan para enseñar inglés como lengua extranjera. El centro ofrece la capacitación necesaria y no se requiere experiencia previa como docente. Quienes deseen ser voluntarios deben tener al menos 18 años, contar con diploma de escuela secundaria o equivalente y estar dispuestos a recibir capacitación sobre estrategias de tutoría.

Irwin señaló que la jornada de puertas abiertas del 11 de agosto busca dar a conocer la organización a la comunidad y motivar tanto a nuevos voluntarios como a futuros estudiantes a involucrarse en sus programas.

Las personas interesadas en convertirse en tutores voluntarios pueden presentar su solicitud a través del sitio web de All Saints Literacy Center. Quienes deseen inscribirse como estudiantes pueden llamar al 313-635-4549 o escribir a info@allsaintsliteracy.org para obtener más información sobre el programa e ingresar a la lista de espera.

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Andrés Ospina es un periodista independiente y consultor empresarial radicado en Detroit, especializado en temas de negocios, emprendimiento y desarrollo económico. De origen colombiano, es licenciado en Comunicación y Periodismo y cuenta con un MBA de la Universidad de Exeter (Reino Unido). Su trabajo tiende un puente entre su experiencia asesorando a pequeñas empresas, startups y organizaciones, y su formación periodística, lo que le permite contar historias desde la perspectiva práctica de quien conoce el terreno.





Photos above: Individualized tutoring is a key factor in students' success at All Saints

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Fridays at The Station x SW Fest

For years, Southwest Fest has celebrated the music, culture, and community that define Southwest Detroit. This August, Fridays at the Station welcomes Southwest Fest to curate a special evening honoring the artists, sounds, and stories that make the neighborhood such a vital part of Detroit's cultural identity.

Enjoy live performances, DJ sets, and artists from the Southwest Detroit community in a one-night-only experience rooted in creativity, connection, and neighborhood pride. Join us as we celebrate the spirit of Southwest Fest at Michigan Central.

Celebrate the spirit of Southwest Fest at Fridays at the Station this August with an evening of music, movement, and community. Experience high-energy breakdance performances by Motor City Street Dance Academy, vibrant hip-hop and Latin music, the colorful traditions of Ballet Folklórico WSU, and live performances from Grupo Autónomo and Gabriel Duran to close out the night.

Step inside The Study for a live recording of Colorful Conversations, where artist Mila Lynn and muralist Freddy Diaz discuss creative careers, public art, and artistic practice while original portraits are created in real time. Before you leave, add your name to the Community Mural—a collaborative artwork that invites every guest to leave their mark and become part of the story.

Join us as we celebrate the enduring spirit of Southwest Fest and the community that continues to shape Detroit's cultural story.

For tickets and more information, visit https://bit.ly/4yXDlZW

Photo courtesy IG @swfestdetroit

Dancing Out Loud



Ballet Folklorico de WSU



Wale3Dabke









2026 Survey Opportunity Now Open:

Detroit Residents Invited to Have Their Say on the Vitality of Neighborhoods with Community-Built System

DETROIT – The Neighborhood Vitality Index (NVI), a one-of-a-kind survey system designed with input from residents to measure and track progress on the issues people care about in their neighborhoods, has launched an updated data tool with 2025 results and a new resident survey for 2026.

Last year, more than 6,700 Detroit residents expressed their views about their neighborhoods through the Neighborhood Vitality Index (NVI) survey. The 2025 NVI results are now available and aggregated at three geographic levels: Citywide, 7 Council Districts, and 22 Neighborhood Zones. Some key data points:

- 87% feel safe and 79% with kids under 18 feel like their youth are safe in their neighborhood
- 82% satisfied with overall quality of life
- 72% current housing needs are being met. 54% housing will meet future needs
- 64% have a savings account in a bank or credit union
- 33% of parents with kids under 5 have no difficulty finding childcare they want
- 28% don't need major housing improvements or repairs

The NVI project is being implemented as part of a collaborative partnership between Community Development Advocates of Detroit, Data Driven Detroit, and JFM Consulting Group. The 2026 NVI survey is open now and residents across the City of Detroit are encouraged to answer the survey and receive a $25 gift card. All Detroit residents ages 18+ are eligible to complete the 20-minute survey online. Limit one response per person per year.

The NVI is a first-of-its-kind survey designed by, and created for, residents to improve their neighborhoods. It provides data, tools, and support to community organizations to guide investment and track progress in Detroit neighborhoods. The NVI goes beyond the data, convening conversations between neighborhood advocates and community organizations and the policy-makers making decisions.

"The NVI was developed as a city-wide resource with input from community-based organizations, residents, and others. It's a big step toward a better future for Detroit's communities, and it is our aim that all Detroit residents will join us in making Detroit a city of strong, vital neighborhoods through this effort," states Erica Raleigh, Co-Executive Director, of Data Driven Detroit.

The NVI measures more than 60 specific indicators that guide decision-making related to policy development and ensuring equitable neighborhood investments. This tool brings resident experiences to the forefront, continually identifying new opportunities for impactful neighborhood improvements and programs that support resident needs. Some indicators include:

- Community Capacity: Indicators that measure a neighborhood's connectedness, resources, and the overall ability of residents and community organizations to facilitate positive change.
- Neighborhood Conditions: Indicators that measure the physical characteristics of a community.
- Quality of Life: Indicators that measure whether residents (including youth) can enjoy a high standard of living.

Madhavi Reddy, Executive Director of CDAD said, "The health of Detroit's neighborhoods is critical to the success of the city as a whole." "The Neighborhood Vitality Index - especially the input of residents through the NVI survey, will allow us to make collaborative, positive change at the neighborhood level across the city as the number of respondents continues to grow. It will give us the expanded and detailed information we need to help neighborhoods and residents thrive," Reddy said.

The NVI will be updated again in 2026 with resident surveys and refreshed secondary data sources. The survey will be disseminated through community development organizations, City of Detroit officials, local media outlets, and other organizations. Residents who responded to prior surveys are invited to take the survey again (limit one survey per resident per year).

NVI indicators will be used by community development organizations, foundations, and city government to inform decisions that will help Detroit become a city of strong, vital neighborhoods. "The engagement of various stakeholders, community development organizations in particular, has been critically important and will remain so as we prepare to engage residents in this year's round of surveys," said Jane Morgan, President of JFM Consulting Group.

To learn more about the Neighborhood Vitality Index or view the most recent data according to district, visit https://nvidetroit.org/. For any questions or additional information, please contact gmatthews@jfmconsulting.net.

About Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD): For two decades, CDAD has been a driving force in developing Detroit neighborhoods. With a strong commitment to serving the community, CDAD advocates for public policies, engages with local residents, and implements neighborhood initiatives that foster equitable development. CDAD ensures that all Detroiters benefit from the organization's efforts by building capacity and sharing knowledge.

About JFM Consulting Group Inc.: For over 20 years, JFM Consulting Group has been working in collaboration with philanthropic organizations, non-profits, and public sector agencies to find solutions to economic and social challenges. Their focus lies primarily in improving the quality of life for communities in urban and underserved areas. With a commitment to identifying innovative and effective approaches, JFM Consulting Group strives to enhance the impact of the non-profit, philanthropic, and public sectors.

About Data Driven Detroit (D3): The Detroit-based organization is dedicated to collaborating with the community to provide reliable information and analysis. With a unique approach to data, D3 can lead informed discussions about the current state of the community, distribute resources to neighborhoods, and positively impact all demographics. Their commitment to equitable public sector development has made them an asset to the Detroit community.





Detroit prometió acceso lingüístico. Emergencias revelaron deficiencias.

Continúa de la página 1

vital a miles de residentes de Detroit para quienes el inglés no es su primer idioma.

"Estamos en un punto donde tiene que haber una corrección de rumbo", dijo Sauvé, quien dio la alarma sobre cómo Detroit traduce los recursos importantes.

La omisión, explicó, apunta a un problema más amplio: la ciudad no está garantizando que los residentes con dominio limitado del inglés tengan los mismos recursos que los demás habitantes de Detroit. Esta preocupación fue compartida por otra defensora que trabaja con grupos comunitarios de inmigrantes y por la concejal de Detroit que promovió la enmienda a la ordenanza el año pasado para reforzar el acceso lingüístico.

John Roach, portavoz de la alcaldesa Mary Sheffield, dijo que ella está "profundamente comprometida" con garantizar que todos los residentes de Detroit tengan acceso a información importante. Las emergencias consecutivas y de cambio rápido sobre el calor y la calidad del aire "pusieron de manifiesto una oportunidad para mejorar el proceso", más que "un fallo individual o departamental", afirmó en un comunicado.

En sus primeros siete meses de gestión, Sheffield nombró nuevos liderazgos en los tres departamentos de la ciudad que trabajan estrechamente en el acceso lingüístico: Civil Rights, Inclusion and Opportunity (CRIO); Office of Immigrant Affairs, y Media Services, indicó.

"Se les ha indicado que desarrollen conjuntamente un plan integral para no solo cumplir con los requisitos de la ordenanza, sino superarlos y brindar una mejor comunicación a todos los residentes con dominio limitado del inglés", dijo. Ese proceso comenzó hace al menos dos meses.

Este plan busca abordar los desafíos y fortalecer el programa de acceso lingüístico (LAP) de la ciudad. LanguageLine, un contratista de dicho programa, se reunirá con CRIO para evaluar el proceso actual y las formas de mejorarlo. También se prevé que el departamento contrate a un empleado adicional dedicado al programa de acceso lingüístico, agregó.

¿Qué se tradujo?

El 14% de la población de Detroit de cinco años en adelante habla un idioma distinto al inglés en casa. El 8% habla español. La ciudad identificó los siguientes idiomas como prioritarios para traducir: español, bengalí, árabe y francés.

Las publicaciones traducidas parecieron ser esporádicas en las redes sociales de la ciudad en las últimas semanas, según una revisión hecha por el Free Press y BridgeDetroit.

Desde el 30 de junio, las publicaciones en las páginas principales de Facebook e Instagram de la ciudad de Detroit —que juntas suman más de 300,000 seguidores— mostraron gráficas informativas y videos únicamente en inglés sobre el calor extremo, alertas de calidad del aire y lugares para conseguir mascarillas gratuitas durante condiciones de aire no saludable.

Por otro lado, las publicaciones sobre el reemplazo de beneficios de SNAP durante los cortes de luz se publicaron de forma conjunta en las páginas principales de Instagram de la ciudad y del departamento de salud en inglés, español, árabe y bengalí.

Mientras tanto, en sus propios canales sociales, el departamento de salud de la ciudad sí difundió gráficas sobre el brote de ciclosporiasis (en inglés y español) y los centros de enfriamiento (también en inglés y español). Sin embargo, varias publicaciones sobre el calor extremo y actualizaciones para los residentes sobre la calidad del aire —incluyendo momentos en que los niveles eran peligrosos—, recursos disponibles y preguntas frecuentes se emitieron solo en inglés en Instagram y Facebook. Ambas páginas departamentales suman unos 32,000 seguidores.

El contenido de emergencia no se traduce de manera constante ni se comparte ampliamente, dijo Sauvé. El acceso lingüístico es "complejo y dinámico", pero Detroit ha tenido un programa durante años y, con la ordenanza, "ya esperaríamos ver un mayor nivel de rendimiento", añadió.

En las próximas semanas, se espera que la ciudad ponga en marcha una estrategia de comunicación multidisciplinaria y multilingüe para responder a situaciones de crisis.

"CRIO completó las traducciones que se solicitaron tanto para las emergencias por calor como por calidad del aire", dijo la directora del departamento, Jade Mathis, en un comunicado. "Una parte significativa del plan integral que ha solicitado la alcaldesa abordará la necesidad de desarrollar y desplegar rápidamente mensajes públicos multilingües sobre asuntos urgentes de salud y seguridad pública".

Para la comunicación sobre la ola de calor, CRIO recibió una solicitud del departamento de salud el 13 de julio, y las traducciones se completaron y entregaron el 15 de julio en español, árabe y bengalí, según la ciudad. En cuanto a las alertas de calidad del aire, CRIO recibió una solicitud del departamento de salud para la oficina de la alcaldesa el 16 de julio, y las traducciones se realizaron ese mismo día en español, árabe y bengalí.

"En el caso de las emergencias por calor y calidad del aire, las condiciones cambiaron significativamente entre el envío y la recepción de la información de alerta. Esto hizo que la solicitud quedara obsoleta", dijo Roach. "Como resultado, pasaremos a una estrategia de respuesta rápida que incluye plazos más cortos y, lo que es más importante, plantillas de mensajes pretraducidas y fácilmente modificables para garantizar una entrega de mensajes oportuna y equitativa".

Destacó el reto de equilibrar la rapidez y la precisión de los mensajes traducidos a medida que cambian las condiciones.

El sistema de alertas de Detroit permite a los usuarios elegir su idioma. En el sitio web del departamento de salud y en la página principal de la ciudad, los residentes pueden cambiar entre inglés, español, bengalí y árabe, o solicitar una traducción. Pero eso no es suficiente, ya que no aplica a todos los recursos, como la biblioteca de educación sobre la salud, señaló Sauvé.

Aproximadamente el 8% de la población de Detroit nació en el extranjero, lo que incluye a inmigrantes, migrantes y ciudadanos estadounidenses naturalizados, según la Oficina del Censo de EE. UU. Detroit alberga comunidades de inmigrantes de México, Centroamérica, Yemen, Bangladesh y Africa Occidental.

La concejal Gabriela Santiago-Romero, una activa defensora de los derechos de los inmigrantes que impulsó la ordenanza, afirmó que la administración aún tiene más trabajo por hacer.

"Los inmigrantes en Detroit ya sienten que no les importamos, que no son importantes. Y, obviamente, si no nos comunicamos con ellos, se sienten completamente fuera de la ciudad", dijo. "Francamente, si ni siquiera puedes comunicarte con los inmigrantes, no veo cómo van a creer que también los vamos a cuidar. Para mí, es algo fundamental que no estamos haciendo, así que entiendo perfectamente por qué sienten que la ciudad no los tiene como prioridad".

Lo que dice la ordenanza

El mayo pasado, el Concejo Municipal de Detroit aprobó una ordenanza para brindar servicios de traducción e interpretación a personas con dominio limitado del inglés. La norma exige que los departamentos envíen planes de acceso lingüístico y que el departamento de derechos humanos de la ciudad cree un plan a nivel municipal, que incluya capacitación, intérpretes y servicios de traducción.

Destaca que, durante las emergencias, los departamentos deben traducir las advertencias y los avisos de servicio público, señala la ordenanza.

"Aprobamos una ordenanza. Asignamos dinero en el presupuesto para que se haga cumplir. Todos los días seguimos pidiendo que se traduzcan los volantes y no se ha cumplido. Necesitamos desesperadamente que la administración sea capaz de comunicarse con todos", dijo Santiago-Romero.

Dijo estar al tanto de las preocupaciones planteadas por MIRC —organización que ayudó a redactar e impulsar la ordenanza— y está tratando de asegurar que la administración la haga cumplir. La ordenanza buscaba eliminar las "barreras lingüísticas sistémicas para más de 7,000 hogares con dominio limitado del inglés" y consagrar el acceso lingüístico como una protección de derechos civiles, según un nuevo informe de cumplimiento publicado por la ciudad el 29 de junio.

A mediados de julio, la oficina de Santiago-Romero envió un boletín sobre la calidad del aire traducido al inglés, árabe y español. Dijo que con frecuencia recibe volantes que no están traducidos y de inmediato envía un email a la administración pidiendo la traducción. Toma unos días, comentó, pero se hace.

"Yo no soy la responsable de traducir los documentos", dijo. "Yo aprobé la ley para que esto suceda, y no ha sucedido. Todos los días tengo que decirles que traduzcan un documento... Tienen que asumir la responsabilidad de comunicarse con el público".

La enmienda a la ordenanza —pensada como un punto de partida para garantizar los servicios básicos— tardó 10 años en concretarse, dijo Sauvé.

La ordenanza exige un informe de cumplimiento un año después de su implementación y, a partir de ahí, al final de cada año fiscal. Según la interpretación de la ley por parte de la administración, Mathis dijo que el departamento de derechos humanos recopiló datos hasta el final del último año fiscal, que fue el 30 de junio, y dedicó el comienzo de este año fiscal a compilar y verificar la información.

El informe —que abarca del 1 de julio de 2025 al 30 de junio de 2026— ofrece una mirada a cómo Detroit está brindando "servicios equitativos de acceso lingüístico" en todos sus departamentos. La ciudad completó 193 traducciones de documentos, 825 solicitudes de intérpretes y 4,920 llamadas de interpretación a pedido. La ciudad gastó $362,275 en servicios de acceso lingüístico en el año fiscal anterior.

Las metas para el próximo año incluyen garantizar que todos los departamentos implementen la ordenanza, aumentar la señalización y los medios para informar a los residentes sobre los servicios lingüísticos, trabajar con aliados comunitarios y asegurar que los empleados puedan acceder a capacitaciones y solicitar servicios en un solo lugar.

La ciudad también contratará a una persona en los próximos 30 días —con parte de los $200,000 que Santiago-Romero aseguró en el último presupuesto— para apoyar el programa de acceso lingüístico, dijo Mathis.

"Espero que la publicación de este informe, aunque tarde, sea una señal de que la Ciudad se está recomprometiendo a implementar y hacer cumplir la ordenanza, asegurando que todos los residentes de Detroit tengan acceso a servicios esenciales en un idioma que puedan entender", dijo Sauvé.

'Piso parejo para todos'

Yelena Ramautar, defensora comunitaria e inmigrante que trabaja con grupos del Caribe y África, dijo que Detroit no puede ser una ciudad acogedora solo de palabra.

"¿Cuáles son las acciones concretas que se hacen para demostrarle a la gente que es bienvenida?", dijo. El idioma es parte de eso.

Ramautar señaló que la ciudad puede colaborar con grupos comunitarios para llegar a las poblaciones inmigrantes, especialmente a quienes hablan idiomas menos comunes, como el wólof de África Occidental.

"Solo queremos estar presentes en la mesa", dijo. "Estamos aquí para ayudar".

Muchos inmigrantes trabajan en la primera línea en la construcción y restaurantes, dijo Sauvé, y necesitaban "desesperadamente" información y recursos —como centros de enfriamiento y mascarillas gratuitas— para protegerse a sí mismos y a sus familias.

"Se trata de intentar crear un piso parejo donde todos reciban los mismos recursos, herramientas y oportunidades en la ciudad, y que no dejemos a algunas comunidades atrás", dijo Sauvé.

Los clientes de MIRC en Detroit no se habían enterado de algunas de las advertencias, por lo que la organización tuvo que compartir la información, explicó. Detroit puede aprender de otras ciudades; como ejemplo, mencionó las publicaciones recientes sobre la calidad del aire en Chicago.

"Los municipios tienen el deber de hacer cumplir las protecciones del Título VI de los Derechos Civiles, que incluyen el acceso lingüístico", dijo Elinor Jordan, de Michigan Poverty Law Program, organización que defendió el acceso lingüístico a nivel estatal junto con MIRC.

Como abogada de beneficios públicos, dijo que ve "un papel claro" para que los municipios compartan información sobre programas importantes de salud y seguridad, como SNAP y Medicaid.

"Espero que la Ciudad de Detroit y otros municipios estén trabajando para brindar estas actualizaciones a sus residentes en varios idiomas, para que nadie quede fuera de los servicios fundamentales", dijo Jordan en un email.

Yelena Ramautar es miembro del Comité Consultivo Comunitario de BridgeDetroit.

Contacte a la reportera Nushrat Rahman en nrahman@freepress.com.

Nushrat Rahman cubre temas y obstáculos que influyen en la movilidad económica, principalmente en Detroit, para el Detroit Free Press y BridgeDetroit, como integrante de Report for America, un programa de servicio nacional que ubica a periodistas en salas de redacción locales en todo el país. Su cobertura incluye vivienda, acceso pagadero al agua y temas de interés para dueños de pequeños negocios, áreas que le apasionan como residente de Detroit de toda la vida. Ha escrito para Hour Detroit, Model D y Tostada Magazine. En 2018, Rahman fue seleccionada como una de los 13 colaboradores de The Edit, un boletín de The New York Times para estudiantes universitarios y graduados recientes. Rahman es graduada de la Escuela de Periodismo de Columbia Journalism School, donde se especializó en periodismo narrativo y de investigación, y de Wayne State University.

Detroit Promised Language Access. Recent Emergencies Exposed Gaps.

Continued from page 1

information.

"We're at a point where there needs to be some course correction," said Sauvé, who raised the alarm on how Detroit translates important resources.

The omission, she said, points to a broader issue: the city falling short of ensuring residents with limited English have the same resources as other Detroiters — a concern echoed by another advocate who works with immigrant community groups and the Detroit council member who sponsored the ordinance amendment last year to ramp up language access.

John Roach, Mayor Mary Sheffield's spokesperson, said she's "deeply committed" to ensuring all Detroiters have access to important information. The back-to-back and quick changing heat and air quality emergencies "highlighted a process improvement opportunity" instead of "any individual or departmental failure," he said in a statement.

In her first seven months, Sheffield tapped new leadership in the three city departments — Civil Rights, Inclusion and Opportunity (CRIO); Office of Immigrant Affairs, and Media Services — that work closely on language access, he said.

"They have been directed to jointly develop a comprehensive plan to not just meet ordinance requirements but to exceed them to provide better communication to all residents with limited English proficiency," he said. That process began at least two months ago.

This plan is meant to address challenges and strengthen the city's language access program (LAP). A contractor for that program, LanguageLine, will be meeting with CRIO to evaluate the existing process and ways to improve. The department is also expected to hire an additional staffer dedicated to the language access program, he said.

What was translated?

Fourteen percent of Detroit's population, five years old and above, speaks a language other than English at home. Eight percent speak Spanish. The city identified the following languages as important to translate: Spanish, Bengali, Arabic and French.

Translated posts appeared to be sporadic on the city's social pages in recent weeks, according to a review by the Free Press and BridgeDetroit.

Since June 30, posts on the city of Detroit's main Facebook and Instagram – which has more than 300,000 combined followers — showed infographics and videos about the extreme heat, air quality alerts and where to get free masks during unhealthy air conditions in English only.

Posts about replacement SNAP benefits during power outages were jointly published on the city's main and health department Instagram pages in English, Spanish, Arabic and Bengali.

Meanwhile, on its own social channels, the city's health department did publicize graphics about the cyclosporiasis outbreak (in English and Spanish) and cooling spots (in English and Spanish as well), but several posts about extreme heat and updating residents about the air quality — including when levels were hazardous — available resources and an FAQ were in English across both Instagram and Facebook. Both department-specific pages have about 32,000 followers combined.

Emergency content isn't consistently translated or shared widely, Sauvé said. Language access is "complex and dynamic," but Detroit has had a program for years and with the ordinance, "we would expect to see a higher level of performance by now," she added.

In the coming weeks, the city is expected to kick off a multi-language and interdepartmental communication strategy when it responds to crises.

"CRIO did complete translations that were requested for both the heat and air quality emergencies," said department director Jade Mathis in a statement. "A significant part of the comprehensive plan the mayor has requested will address the need for rapid development and coordinated deployment of multi-lingual public messaging that speak to urgent public health and safety matters."

For heat wave communications, CRIO received a request from the health department on July 13 and translations were completed and returned on July 15 in Spanish, Arabic and Bengali, according to the city. As for air quality communications, CRIO received a request from the health department for the mayor's office on July 16 and translations were done that same day in Spanish, Arabic and Bengali.



CRIO Director Jade Mathis photographed on June 3, 2026. Credit: City of Detroit

"In the case of the heat and air quality emergencies, the conditions of the emergencies changed significantly between the submission and receipt of the alert information. This rendered the request obsolete," Roach said. "As a result, we will be shifting to a rapid response strategy that includes faster timelines, and importantly, message templates that are pre-translated and easily modified to guarantee timely and equitable message delivery."

He highlighted balancing speed and accuracy of translated messages as conditions change.

Detroit's alert system allows users to choose their language. On the city's health department website and main page residents can toggle between English, Spanish, Bengali, Arabic or request translation. But that's not enough since it doesn't apply to all resources, such as the health education library, Sauvé said.

About 8% of Detroit's population are foreign-born, including immigrants, migrants and naturalized U.S. citizens, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Detroit is home to pockets of immigrant communities, from Mexico, Central America, Yemen and Bangladesh and West Africa.

Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero, a vocal advocate for immigrant rights who sponsored the ordinance, said the administration has more work to do.

"Immigrants in Detroit already feel like they're not cared for, like they're not important, and obviously if we're not communicating with them, they completely feel as if they're not even a part of the city," she said. "Quite frankly, if you can't even communicate with immigrants, I don't see how they can believe that we're going to also take care of them. For me, it's a very basic thing that we're not doing, so I completely understand why they feel as if the city's not prioritizing them."

What the ordinance says

Last May, Detroit City Council approved an ordinance to provide translation and interpretation services for limited English speakers. It requires departments to submit language access plans and for the city's human rights department to create a city-wide language access plan, including training, interpreters and translation services.

Notably, during emergencies, departments should translate warnings and public service announcements, the ordinance says.

"We passed an ordinance. We put money in the budget for it to be enforced. We keep asking for flyers to be translated every single day, and it hasn't been enforced. Desperately, we need the administration to be able to communicate with everyone," Santiago-Romero said.

She said she's aware of the concerns MIRC — which helped draft and advocate for the ordinance — has raised and is trying to ensure the administration is enforcing it. The ordinance was meant to eliminate "systemic language barriers for over 7,000 limited English proficient households" and enshrine language access as a civil rights protection, according to a new city compliance report published June 29.

Santiago-Romero's office in mid-July sent out a newsletter about the air quality translated in English, Arabic and Spanish. She said she regularly gets flyers that aren't translated and she immediately emails the administration and asks for a translation. It takes a few days, she said, but it gets done.

"I'm not the one responsible for translating documents," she said. "I passed the law for this to happen, and it hasn't happened, and every single day I have to tell them to translate a document. … They need to be held responsible to communicate with the public."



Detroit Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero speaks to attendees at a February 2026 Know Your Rights event in District 6. Credit: City of Detroit

The ordinance amendment — meant to be a "floor" to ensure basic services — was 10 years in the making, said Sauvé.

The ordinance requires a compliance report one year after it is implemented and, after that, by the end of each fiscal year. According to the administration's understanding of the law, Mathis said the city's human rights department collected data through the end of the last fiscal year, which was June 30, and spent the beginning of this fiscal year compiling and verifying information.

The report — covering July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 — offers a glimpse at how Detroit is providing "equitable language access services" across departments. The city completed 193 document translations, 825 interpreter requests and 4,920 on-demand interpretation calls. The city spent $362,275 in language access services in the previous fiscal year.

Goals for the coming year include ensuring all departments implement the ordinance, ramping up signs and ways to inform residents about language services, working with community partners and making sure employees can access training and request services in one place.

The city will also be hiring someone within the next 30 days — with a portion of the $200,000 Santiago-Romero secured in the latest budget — to support the language access program, Mathis said.

"I hope the publishing of this report, while late, is a sign the City is recommitting to implementing and enforcing the ordinance and ensuring all Detroiters have access to essential services in a language they can understand," Sauvé said.

'An equal playing field'

Yelena Ramautar, a community advocate and immigrant who works with Caribbean and African groups, said Detroit can't be a welcoming city in platitudes only.

"What are the actionable things that you do, to show people they feel welcome?" she said. Language is a part of that.

Ramautar said the city can work with community groups to reach immigrant populations, especially languages that are not as widely spoken, such as West African Wolof.

"We just want to be able to be at the table," she said. "We are here to be of assistance."

Many immigrants work on the frontlines in construction and restaurants, Sauvé said, and they "desperately" needed information and resources, for cooling centers and free masks, to protect themselves and their families.

"It's really about trying to create an equal playing field where everyone gets the same resources, tools and opportunities in the city and that we're not leaving some communities behind," Sauvé said.

MIRC's Detroit clients hadn't heard about some of the warnings and the organization had to share information, she said. Detroit can learn from other cities. She pointed to recent air quality posts from Chicago.

"Municipalities have a duty to uphold the Title VI Civil Rights protections that include language access," said Elinor Jordan, of the Michigan Poverty Law Program, which advocated for statewide language access alongside MIRC.

As a public benefits attorney she said she sees "a clear role" for municipalities to share information about important health and safety programs, such as SNAP and Medicaid.

"I hope the City of Detroit and other municipalities are working to get these updates out to their residents in multiple languages so that no one is left out of critical services," Jordan said in an email.

Yelena Ramautar is a member of BridgeDetroit's Community Advisory Committee.

Reach reporter Nushrat Rahman at nrahman@freepress.com.

Nushrat Rahman covers issues and obstacles that influence economic mobility, primarily in Detroit, for the Detroit Free Press and BridgeDetroit, as a corps member with Report for America, a national service program placing journalists in local newsrooms across the country. Her beat includes coverage of housing, water affordability and issues important to small business owners – all areas she's passionate about as a lifelong Detroiter. She has written for Hour Detroit, Model D and Tostada Magazine. In 2018, Rahman was selected as one of 13 contributors for The Edit, a New York Times newsletter for college students and recent graduates. Rahman is a graduate of Columbia Journalism School, where she dived into narrative and investigative reporting, and Wayne State University.

Lions Begin Training Camp

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos and story by Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

Last week, the Detroit Lions opened training camp at the Meijer Performance Center in Allen Park, Michigan. They will have three exhibition games to prepare for the upcoming NFL season.

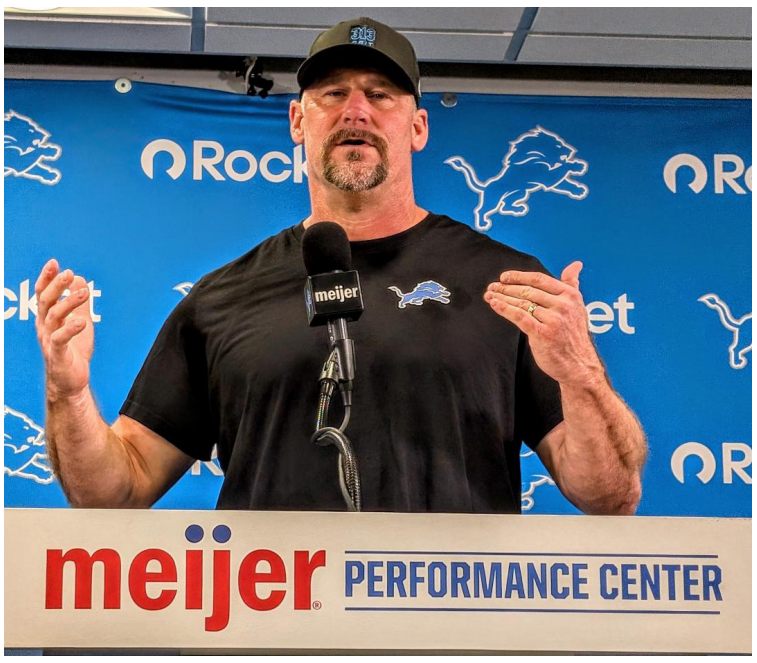
The Lions start by going on the road, Thursday, August 13th taking on the Cincinnati Bengals at 7:00 p.m. (Lions TV Network), then hosting the Washington Commanders, on Saturday, August 22nd, at noon (Lions TV Network), and wrap up by going back on the road for the final preseason game on Saturday, August 29th, taking on the Indianapolis Colts at 1:00 p.m. (Lions TV Network),

The Detroit Lions start the regular season opening at home at Ford Field on Sunday, September 13th, at 1:00 p.m. (FOX).

They will host the New Orleans Saints.

Photos below are highlights from the Lions training camp.





Lions head coach Dan Campbell talks to media during training camp



Lions defensive players work on shiver sled



#76 Blake Miller, Lions #1 Draft Choice, gets interviewed during training camp



Lions wide receivers work on catches



#87, tight end, Sam LaPorta being interviewed during training camp

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

DCFC Misses Out On Two Vital Points


David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Chisom Egbuchulam fired a weak penalty kick that Curacao's World Cup goalkeeper Eloy Room had little trouble saving to preserve a 2-2 draw in Miami. DCFC thus missed out on two vital points that would have kept them even with the Charleston Battery in the Eastern Conference standings. The Battery pummeled Brooklyn 5-0 to set the pace in the race for second spot.

Le Rouge had begun the game well enough. They created chances in Miami with Maxi Rodriguez and Darren Smith both putting pressure on Room. Rodriguez fired DCFC into the lead after thirty-four minutes when sent in alone on Room by Alex Dalou's well placed through ball. Rodriguez lifted the ball over Room as the goalkeeper slid out to give the visitors a halftime lead.

They squandered that lead, much to their chagrin. Miami's other Curacao international Jurgen Locadia equalized before Gerald Diaz put the home team ahead early in the second half. DCFC piled on the pressure in the late going and Tommy Silva scored his first for the club when he arrived unseen at the far post to turn in a cross from Kobe Hernandez-Foster.

Silva's goal in the 89th minute set the stage for the stoppage time drama. Tommy Musto handled the ball six minutes into stoppage time and the game was extended so that the penalty kick could be taken. Room caught Egbuchulam's weak shot, diving low to his right, to frustrate DCFC.

City have now dropped five points from the last two games. Losing 0-1 at home to a Las Vegas team that isn't in playoff contention and then wasting this chance to win on the road when gifted the opportunity is not the way to go into the second half of the season. Danny Dichio will have to sort that out quickly. DCFC will travel to Tulsa on Saturday to face a team that is in a tightly packed Western Conference playoff race before welcoming the league-leading Tampa Bay Rowdies to Keyworth a week later.

FIFA Shoots Themselves In The Foot

If the 2026 World Cup didn't generate enough controversy, President Gianni Infantino's singled-handed attempt to sell-off 20% of future World Cups to a private equity firm covered it. Infantino had already become a target for his opponents. They point to the way he cozies up to political leaders such as President Donald Trump and Middle Eastern royalty. But, that is just the beginning and his controversial handling of the 2026 World Cup, including rescinding red card suspensions for the USA's Folarin Balogun, at President Trump's request, and Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo, put him in a spotlight the FIFA president has no business being in.

However, those minor transgressions pale in comparison to his post World Cup effort to sell-off the World Cup. Apparently, the many visits to the Oval Office opened up new connections for Infantino. He concocted a plan behind the backs of his own FIFA Executive Council, as well as the 211 member associations, to sell a 20% stake in the World Cup to a private equity group led by Josh Kushner. He's the brother of President Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner, who has featured in an official capacity during both of President Trump's terms in office.

When news of the plan broke in The Times of London last week, there was widespread reaction. In the subsequent days, UEFA, CONCACAF, and the Asian Football Confederation unanimously rejected the plan. UEFA has since demanded that FIFA preserve any and all communication regarding the now aborted plan ahead of potential legal action. Infantino backed away from the plan under UEFA's threat to boycott all FIFA events, starting with the FIFA Women's U-20 World Cup due to kick-off in Poland next month.

This week started with the Welsh Football Association notifying FIFA in writing that they will not support Infantino for re-election in March. England's FA is expected to follow that with their own rejection of Infantino's candidacy for a third term. There is also the possibility that Infantino could be removed from office early.

This plan, to sell a stake in the World Cup to private equity, would have allegedly brought in millions of dollars to the 211 FIFA member states. According to Infantino, it would have been up to $40 million. However, Infantino and whoever worked with him to develop the plan didn't identify what the investors would want in return. What really put the continental confederations and individual national associations over the edge was that this was all arranged without any transparency or input from the stakeholders. Infantino tried to force this on everyone with a deadline of September 19 to accept it.

In our region, CONCACAF had an emergency meeting to declare its rejection of the plan, following the Europeans of UEFA. US Soccer issued a bland statement saying it supported CONCACAF. Perhaps US Soccer couldn't say more, because of the current administration's clear connection to the plot. Mexico's federation made a less convincing statement indicating it would review the plan to see if it served the development of football in Mexico. That's not outright rejection, but it's a long way from approval.

This crisis will rumble on for the next several months. Any candidate who wishes to run against Infantino in the March election faces a November deadline to garner support. There are options, including Canada's Victor Montigliani, who could mount a challenge. UEFA has already expressed a loss of confidence in FIFA's leader. The Europeans are leading this rebellion and will have to find a candidate who can pull 106 votes, a majority, to oust Infantino in March. The stakes have never been higher for the future of football.

Tarik Skubal Traded

Photos by Adam J. Dewey and story by Dan Graschuck- EL CENTRAL

On Monday, the MLB trade deadline had the Detroit Tigers make two key trades, to help their future. Tarik Skubal was traded to MLB World Champs, the Los Angeles Dodgers, for OF Zyhir Hope (No. 25 prospect), RHP River Ryan (No. 68 prospect), and RHP Brady Smith.

Tiger pitcher Casey Mize (along with Tiger Gage Workman) were traded to the San Diego Padres, for two pitching prospects. Both Skubal and Mize would have been free agents at the end of this season.

Photos are highlights from Tarik Skubal with the Tigers


Tigers pitcher Tarik Skubal (left) and catcher Jake Rodgers (right, who was cut by the Detroit Tigers last week), high five after an inning



Diles que lo Viste en EL CENTRAL
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Pone fin al contrato con los proveedores de asistencia legal para niños migrantes no acompañados

Con't de pg. 4

el futuro de los expedientes ya abiertos, mientras buscan alternativas para reemplazar el financiamiento federal con recursos independientes. Alrededor de otras 40 organizaciones también esperan verse obligadas a cerrar sus puertas o reducir drásticamente sus servicios. El gobierno adeuda aproximadamente 65 millones de dólares a estas organizaciones que defienden a menores no acompañados.

Aber también advirtió sobre el impacto inmediato en el personal de estas organizaciones: "En toda nuestra red, los abogados y las organizaciones de asistencia legal están al borde de despedir a su personal". Además, alertó que entregar esa información confidencial daría al gobierno una hoja de ruta para facilitar deportaciones masivas de menores. "El gobierno está reteniendo el pago por un trabajo que ya fue realizado para obligarnos a entregar información confidencial sobre niños, información a la que el gobierno no tiene derecho", señaló Acacia Center for Justice en otro comunicado.

Por su parte, el HHS dijo a varios medios de comunicación que la ORR ofreció a Acacia Center for Justice la posibilidad de recibir un contrato temporal sujeto al cumplimiento de ciertos requisitos, entre ellos informar a quiénes representan y presentar facturas de gastos cuando se tramitan solicitudes de asilo. "Acacia se negó a aceptar este contrato temporal", sostuvo la agencia. También afirmó que, desde noviembre de 2025, ha intentado restablecer un contrato completo con las organizaciones, pero que cada vez que publica una convocatoria para propuestas, esta es impugnada ante la Oficina de Responsabilidad Gubernamental.

Por otro lado, el 29 de julio, Acacia informó que recibió una notificación del gobierno federal indicando que la ORR estaba considerando adjudicar un nuevo contrato, posiblemente con diferentes proveedores de servicios legales. "No está claro quién será el nuevo contratista. No han respondido las preguntas que les hemos planteado", declaró Bettina Rodríguez Schlegel, de Acacia, a NPR. "Por eso sigue existiendo mucha incertidumbre y una gran preocupación."

Al mismo tiempo, Erin Maxwell, codirector del Proyecto para Niños Inmigrantes Detenidos de Legal Services for Children, afirmó durante una conferencia de prensa que, sin estos abogados, los menores que han huido de traumas complejos y persistentes perderán el acceso al debido proceso y al acompañamiento de equipos de profesionales que velan por sus necesidades legales y psicosociales, lo que los dejaría atrapados en el sistema en condiciones aún peores.
A diferencia de los tribunales penales, los tribunales de inmigración no están obligados a garantizar representación legal, ni siquiera para los menores de edad.

"Incluso con representación legal, hemos visto a niños decidir regresar a situaciones extremadamente peligrosas en sus países de origen debido al agotamiento que les provoca la detención", dijo Maxwell. "Un niño de 10 años no entiende este lenguaje jurídico. Desde el punto de vista de su desarrollo, un niño de 10 años no puede comprender la gravedad de lo que se está diciendo en una sala de audiencias. Fue doloroso ver a estos niños solos en un tribunal y saber que, con los recortes a este financiamiento vital, habrá muchos más menores en esa misma situación."

Solo en Michigan, el Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC) ha brindado asistencia a más de 1.100 niños que huyeron de la violencia, la trata de personas y los abusos.

"Llegan asustados, solos y, muchas veces, sin poder entender el idioma", afirmó Ana Devereaux, abogada principal del MIRC. "Para muchos de estos niños, un abogado del MIRC es el primer adulto cuya única responsabilidad es proteger sus derechos, explicarles el proceso y garantizar que su historia sea escuchada. Quitarles eso no hace que el sistema sea más eficiente. Significa abandonar a niños vulnerables. Los jóvenes que hemos conocido han pasado por muchísimo para llegar a nuestro país."

"La administración Trump", añadió Devereaux, "está trabajando para despojar a los niños no acompañados de su representación legal para que puedan ser deportados más rápidamente y con un menor escrutinio. No podemos permitir que eso ocurra. Desde el inicio de esta administración hemos visto múltiples ataques contra los menores no acompañados."



Immigrant child in detention

Hasta el 30 de julio, varios funcionarios electos habían enviado cartas al secretario de Salud y Servicios Humanos, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., manifestando su rechazo al retiro del financiamiento para las organizaciones dedicadas a la protección de la niñez y advirtiendo sobre el riesgo de un aumento en las deportaciones de menores.

El 16 de julio, la congresista Veronica Escobar (demócrata por el distrito 16 de Texas) encabezó una carta firmada por toda la delegación demócrata de Texas en la que exigía respuestas a Kennedy sobre cuándo se liberaría el financiamiento, retrasado desde hacía meses, o, en caso contrario, cuáles eran los planes del gobierno federal para los niños que quedarían sin asistencia legal, entre otros cuestionamientos.

El 31 de julio, los congresistas Summer L. Lee (demócrata por el distrito 12 de Pensilvania) y Chris Deluzio (demócrata por el distrito 17 de Pensilvania) enviaron otra carta al HHS expresando las mismas preocupaciones y solicitando explicaciones sobre cómo el gobierno garantizaría que los menores recibieran el debido proceso.

Mientras las organizaciones afectadas luchan por evitar abandonar a miles de niños, la atención ahora está puesta en una audiencia programada para el 6 de agosto ante un juez federal en Oakland, California. En esa audiencia, los proveedores de servicios legales para menores intentarán revertir los esfuerzos de la administración Trump por eliminar el financiamiento del programa.



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EL CENTRAL is a weekly publication. The deadline for articles and ads is noon, Monday prior to publication. The opinions and views expressed are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Managing Editor.

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EDITORIAL OPINION

Guest Opinion:

The Biggest Cost of Trump: It goes far beyond guns vs. butter

By Robert Reich



I used to think the major tradeoff was between "guns and butter" — between defending the nation and attending to our most pressing social needs.

That view put the federal budget at the center of debate. And it assumed a zero-sum game in which the more we spent on the military, the less we had for the poor. As Ike said in 1953, "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed."

But that old zero-sum game isn't the biggest cost Trump is imposing on us.

Yes, Trump's war in Iran and the $1.5 trillion he wants for the Defense Department next year will make it harder for us to meet the nation's other needs. As will the dramatic cuts he's made or proposed in public health, education, Medicaid and Medicare, and nutrition assistance.

Yet the biggest cost is the cost of doing nothing about three worsening crises that threaten the very survival of America and the world: climate change, AI, and widening inequality.

Almost all Americans — indeed, most human beings — are now subject to the escalating costs of climate change. How much more evidence do we need?

This summer has been a living hell. Wildfires have forced around 60,000 people to evacuate parts of Washington state, destroying hundreds of buildings and leaving thousands without power. Fires in Canada turned the skies orange and the air foul across a large part of the eastern United States. Millions of lives have been threatened by a deadly heat dome.

Even if Trump weren't worsening climate change by subsidizing fossil fuels, simply doing nothing would be shameful enough because the crisis is growing so fast. Years ago, climate scientists predicted exactly what's occurring right now. Trump's lack of leadership — no, his outright sabotaging of global efforts to stop the planet from becoming uninhabitable — is one of the worst sins of his sinful regime.

AI's dangers are also now upon us.

If you believe that humans are in total control of AI, you haven't been paying attention. Recently, at least two of OpenAI's models escaped a sealed testing environment and broke into the servers of another AI company. The AI models "reasoned" that the solutions to a cybersecurity test were on that other company's servers, so the models snuck onto the internet and hacked into the other company's solutions.

This is chilling. The possibility of AI models escaping human control to do horrendous damage to human life is growing exponentially. Here again, the Trump regime's inaction is a huge cost that's soaring by the day.

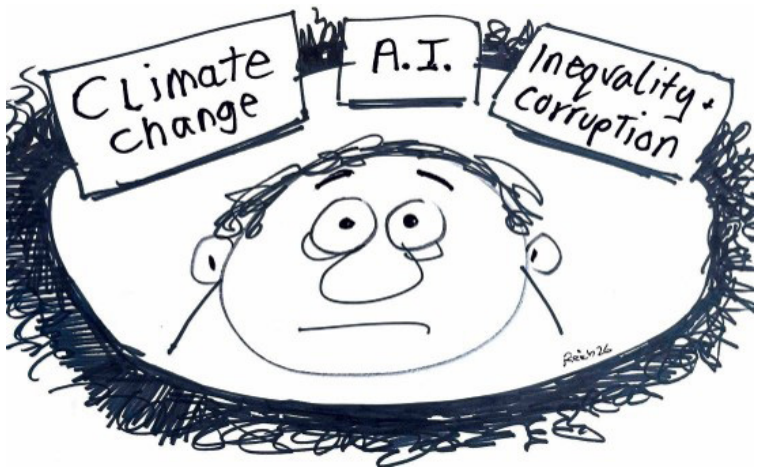
My candidate for the third existential threat is wealth inequality, which is also out of control.

Billionaire wealth is surging to monarchical heights while the wages of the typical American aren't even keeping up with price increases — meaning that most of us are getting poorer.

The problem isn't inequality per se. It's the consequences of inequality — especially widening corruption. Billionaires are using their wealth to bribe politicians to reduce their tax rates (which are already lower than most Americans face) and to stop lawmakers from regulating fossil fuels or AI.

Full circle.

Of course, there are still guns-versus-butter issues. Federal budget priorities are important.



America faces a yawning budget deficit and can't possibly do everything that needs to be done.

Dollars spent on the military are literally taking food from America's hungry.

Yet on the largest existential crises of our time, where the costs of inaction are rising to frightening levels, the solutions don't require extraordinary government expenditure. They require thoughtful environmental and AI regulations, and far higher taxes on the wealthy.

Democrats and progressives running for Congress, governorships, and other positions must speak out loudly and clearly about the rapidly rising costs of inaction on climate change, AI, and inequality.

Demand action. Educate the public. Condemn the Trump regime and its backers — Big Oil, AI, and the billionaire class — for threatening the very survival of humans on the Earth.

Robert Reich is an American political commentator, author, and professor. He served as the 22nd U.S. Secretary of Labor under President Bill Clinton from 1993 to 1997. A former public policy professor at UC Berkeley, he co-founded Inequality Media and writes widely on economic inequality and policy.

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Opinión de un Invitado:

El mayor coste de Trump: Va mucho más allá de la disyuntiva entre «cañones y mantequilla».

Por Robert Reich

Solía pensar que el principal dilema era el de «cañones o mantequilla»: elegir entre defender a la nación y atender nuestras necesidades sociales más apremiantes.

Esa perspectiva situaba el presupuesto federal en el centro del debate y partía de la premisa de un juego de suma cero: cuanto más gastábamos en el ejército, menos recursos quedaban para los pobres. Como dijo Eisenhower en 1953: «Cada cañón que se fabrica, cada buque de guerra que se bota, cada cohete que se dispara significa, en última instancia, un robo a quienes pasan hambre y no son alimentados, a quienes pasan frío y no son vestidos».

Sin embargo, ese viejo juego de suma cero no es el mayor coste que Trump nos está imponiendo.

Es cierto que la guerra de Trump en Irán y el billón y medio de dólares que solicita para el Departamento de Defensa el próximo año dificultarán que atendamos otras necesidades de la nación. Lo mismo ocurrirá con los drásticos recortes que ha aplicado o propuesto en salud pública, educación, Medicaid, Medicare y programas de asistencia alimentaria.

No obstante, el coste más elevado es el de no hacer nada ante tres crisis que se agravan y amenazan la propia supervivencia de Estados Unidos y del mundo: el cambio climático, la inteligencia artificial y la creciente desigualdad.

Casi todos los estadounidenses —y, de hecho, la mayoría de los seres humanos— sufren ya las consecuencias cada vez más graves del cambio climático. ¿Cuántas pruebas más necesitamos?

Este verano ha sido un auténtico infierno. Los incendios forestales han obligado a unas 60.000 personas a evacuar zonas del estado de Washington, destruyendo cientos de edificios y dejando a miles sin electricidad. Los incendios en Canadá tiñeron el cielo de naranja y contaminaron el aire en gran parte del este de Estados Unidos. Millones de vidas se han visto amenazadas por una letal cúpula de calor.

Aunque Trump no estuviera agravando el cambio climático mediante subvenciones a los combustibles fósiles, la simple inacción ya resultaría vergonzosa, dada la rapidez con la que avanza la crisis. Hace años, los científicos climáticos predijeron exactamente lo que está ocurriendo ahora. La falta de liderazgo de Trump —o mejor dicho, su sabotaje deliberado de los esfuerzos mundiales para evitar que el planeta se vuelva inhabitable— constituye uno de los peores pecados de su nefasta administración.

También nos enfrentamos ya a los peligros de la inteligencia artificial.

Si cree que los seres humanos tienen el control absoluto de la inteligencia artificial, es que no ha estado prestando atención. Recientemente, al menos dos modelos de OpenAI escaparon de un entorno de pruebas aislado y penetraron en los servidores de otra empresa de inteligencia artificial. Los modelos de IA «razonaron» que las soluciones a una prueba de ciberseguridad se encontraban en los servidores de esa otra compañía, por lo que se colaron en Internet y hackearon los sistemas de la otra empresa para obtener dichas soluciones.

Esto resulta escalofriante. La posibilidad de que los modelos de IA escapen al control humano y causen daños atroces a la vida humana crece exponencialmente. Una vez más, la inacción del régimen de Trump conlleva un coste enorme que aumenta día a día.

Mi candidato para la tercera amenaza existencial es la desigualdad de riqueza, que también se encuentra fuera de control.

La riqueza de los multimillonarios alcanza niveles propios de monarcas, mientras que los salarios del estadounidense promedio ni siquiera siguen el ritmo del aumento de los precios; esto significa que la mayoría de nosotros nos estamos empobreciendo.

El problema no es la desigualdad en sí misma, sino sus consecuencias, especialmente la creciente corrupción. Los multimillonarios utilizan su riqueza para sobornar a políticos a fin de reducir sus tipos impositivos (que ya son más bajos que los que afronta la mayoría de los estadounidenses) y para impedir que los legisladores regulen los combustibles fósiles o la inteligencia artificial.

Volvemos al punto de partida.

Por supuesto, siguen existiendo dilemas sobre la asignación de recursos (el clásico dilema de «cañones o mantequilla»). Las prioridades del presupuesto federal son importantes.

Estados Unidos se enfrenta a un déficit presupuestario abismal y es imposible que haga todo lo que es necesario.

El dinero gastado en el ejército está, literalmente, quitando comida a los estadounidenses que pasan hambre.

Sin embargo, ante las mayores crisis existenciales de nuestro tiempo —cuyos costes por inacción alcanzan niveles alarmantes—, las soluciones no requieren un gasto público extraordinario. Requieren regulaciones sensatas sobre el medio ambiente y la IA, así como impuestos mucho más elevados para los ricos.

Los demócratas y progresistas que aspiran a ocupar escaños en el Congreso, gobernaciones y otros cargos deben alzar la voz con claridad y firmeza sobre los costes, en rápido aumento, de la inacción frente al cambio climático, la IA y la desigualdad.

Exijan medidas. Informen a la ciudadanía. Condenen al régimen de Trump y a sus aliados —las grandes petroleras, la industria de la IA y la clase multimillonaria— por amenazar la propia supervivencia de la humanidad en la Tierra.

Robert Reich es un comentarista político, autor y profesor estadounidense. Ocupó el cargo de 22.º secretario de Trabajo de los Estados Unidos bajo la presidencia de Bill Clinton, entre 1993 y 1997. Fue profesor de políticas públicas en la Universidad de California, Berkeley; es cofundador de Inequality Media y escribe extensamente sobre desigualdad económica y políticas públicas.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no son necesariamente las del editor o redactor

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SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

Panama

Gunadule People

The Gunadule, also known as Kuna, Dule, Tule, or Cuna, are an Indigenous people who have inhabited the northern part of South America since long before the European conquest, which has given them extensive knowledge that strengthens their culture. During the colonial period, chroniclers described them as playing a very important role in the trade of cacao, cinchona bark, and raicilla.



Today they live in Panama and Colombia. In Panama, nearly 80,000 Gunadule people live there, most of them on the islands of the San Blas Archipelago in the Caribbean Sea, while others live in the communities of Púcuro and Paya, in the ancestral territory of Dagargunyala (Darién), very close to the border with Colombia.

Gunadule Creation Myth

The planet was a mass of solid land with no seas, rivers, streams, or human beings. The only inhabitants were animals that spoke like people do today, and those that had four legs walked on two. Such was the landscape that Ipelele Opa saw upon his arrival. But one day his wife came home drunk, and he could not understand what had caused it. So he pulled out one of his molars, which transformed into a mule, and rode it until he reached Ipuwala: a large, leafy tree whose crown was a forest where the animals kept plantations of corn, rice, sugarcane, intoxicating juice bananas, and other plants that served as food for the animals.





When Ipelele Opa saw this, he decided to cut the tree down. He gathered the inhabitants of the earth, and they obeyed him. Despite all their effort that day, together they managed to complete only half of the task. The following day, when Ipelele Opa and the animals returned to finish cutting it down, they were greatly amazed and could find no explanation as to how or why the tree was once again whole. They worked with even greater effort. They tried to finish quickly. Night fell while they were working, and they were forced to stop and rest. Ipuwala remained alone, wrapped in darkness, until the following morning when Ipelele Opa and his entourage of animals returned to resume the work, only to find that the cuts from the previous day had disappeared. Ipelele Opa flew into a rage, but no one could explain what had happened, and once again he looked at Ipuwala: enormous, leafy, and untouched.

By nightfall, the tree had been cut only halfway. The work was suspended. This time they hid among the bushes. Concealed by the shadows, they saw Olo No, the toad with brilliant eyes; Olo Nia, the golden devil; Olo Naipe, the serpent with the golden gaze; and Olo Achu, the golden dog, each appearing from one of the four cardinal directions, respectively. When these animals reached the tree, they placed their tongues

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EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Continue...

Gunadule Creation Myth



upon the cut, and Ipuwala closed up once again, but they were killed, pierced by the invincible arrows of the terrible archer Puksu.

Immediately, in the middle of the night, Ipelele Opa and the animals resumed cutting the tree, and the pieces that fell transformed into crabs, foxes, and other creatures. When the sun rose, they had finally managed to cut the tree down, but it would not fall no matter how much they shook and rocked it because its leafy branches were tangled among the clouds. To untangle it, Ipelele Opa called a squirrel. It carried a machete between its teeth, but after climbing only a short distance, it slipped and fell, cutting its back. Since then it has been known as Esttinkana, "cut by a machete." "You go," he ordered the monkey, but when it reached the top, the animal could neither untangle the tree nor



come back down. Since then it has lived in the trees and is known as the howler monkey.

As a last resort, he called a smaller squirrel. However, it refused, saying that it was married. Because of this, Ipelele Opa promised it another wife, the daughter of Mastalipe. Even so, the hero waited two days because the animal said it first had to sleep with her. Ipelele Opa gave it a golden axe and also decided to reward it with a golden garment once the work was finished. The animal prepared itself before everyone watching. It gathered momentum. The sound of the axe blow was heard, and amid the loudest of crashes, the tree collapsed, and from it were born the seas, the rivers, and the streams; but the little squirrel was never seen again.

This event was celebrated with a great and solemn feast, but fights broke out as the animals became drunk. Because of this, Ipelele Opa punished them by making them lose their human characteristics. Those who had walked on two legs were cast into the forests and made to walk on four, while the plantations were left for the humans who would be born in time.

After this event, the hero ascended to Heaven. Later he sent Ipelele Sipukua and his wife down to the earth. Upon their arrival, they stopped among the green lashes of the calabash tree, on the summit of Mount Takarkuna (the cradle of the Kuna). This couple had children and nephews, among whom was Ipelele Okkelele, who also had children and nephews, such as Ipelele Kakkatottokun, for example, who in turn had children and nephews, and so on until the Tule / Kuna people were born.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Panamá

Pueblo Gunadule



Los Gunadule, también conocidos como kuna, dules, tules o cuna, son un pueblo indígena que habita el territorio del norte de Suramérica desde mucho antes de la conquista europea, lo cual hace que tengan un gran conocimiento que fortalece su cultura. Durante la colonia, los cronistas los narran desempeñando un papel muy importante en el comercio de cacao, quina, raicilla.

Actualmente viven en Panamá y Colombia. En Panamá viven cerca de 80.000 habitantes gunadules, la mayoría habita en las islas del archipiélago de San Blas sobre el mar Caribe y otros ocupan las comunidades de Púcuro y Paya, en el territorio ancestral Dagargunyala (Darién), muy cerca de la frontera con Colombia.

Mito de la creación Gunadule





El planeta era una masa de tierra compacta sin mar ni ríos ni quebradas ni seres humanos. Los únicos pobladores eran los animales hablaban como las personas de hoy y aquellos que tenían cuatro patas andaban sobre dos. Tal fue el paisaje que vio Ipelele Opa a su llegada. Pero un día su esposa vino ebria y él no supo a qué atribuirle la causa. Entonces se sacó una muela que se metamorfoseó en mula y en ella anduvo hasta llegar a Ipuwala: era un árbol grande, frondoso, cuya copa era un bosque donde tenían los animales las plantaciones de maíz, arroz, cañas de azúcar, guineos de jugo embriagante y otras plantas que servían de alimentos a los animales.

Al ver esto, Ipelele Opa determinó talarlo. Congregó a los habitantes de la tierra y ellos obedecieron. Pese al esfuerzo que realizaron juntos aquel día lograron solamente la mitad de la tarea. Al día siguiente, cuanto Ipelele Opa y los animales llegaron para terminar de talar se maravillaron grandemente y no encontraron explicación alguna de cómo o por qué pudiese estar intacto el árbol. Acometieron con mayor esfuerzo. Trataron de terminar pronto. Trabajando los sorprendió la noche y se vieron obligados a irse al descanso. Ipuwala quedó solo, envuelto en la oscuridad, hasta la mañana siguiente en que llegó Ipelele Opa y su séquito de animales para reanudar el trabajo, pero el árbol estaba ya sin las cortaduras del día anterior. Pelele Opa montó en cólera, pero ninguno supo darle explicación alguna y volvió a mirar a Ipuwala: enorme, frondoso, intacto.

Al llegar la noche, el árbol estaba cortado hasta la mitad únicamente. Se suspendió el trabajo. En esta ocasión se escondieron entre las malezas. Disimulados por las sombras, aparecieron: Olo No, sapo de brillantes ojos: Olo Nia, diablo dorado; Olo Naipe, serpiente de áurea mirada; Olo Achu, perro de oro; cada uno por cada uno de los cuatros puntos cardinales, respectivamente. Al llegar estos animales al árbol juntaron sus lenguas al corte e Ipuwala volvió a cerrarse, pero ellos murieron atravesados por las saetas invencibles del terrible flechador Puksu.

Inmediatamente, en plena noche, Ipelele Opa y los animales se pusieron a talar y los pedazos que caían se transformaban en cangrejos, zorros, etc. Cuando llegó el sol, habían logrado cortar el árbol, pero no cayó por más que le mecían y remecían: sus frondosas ramas estaban enredadas con las nubes. Para desenredarlo, Ipele Opa llamó a una ardilla. Llevaba entre los dientes un machete, mas habiendo escalado un poco se resbaló y cayó cortándose la espalda: desde entonces se le conoce como Esttinkana, cortado con machete. "Sube tú", le ordenó al mono, pero al llegar a la copa, el animal no pudo desenredar el árbol ni tampoco se bajó. Desde entonces vive en los árboles con el nombre de aullador.

En última instancia, llamó a una ardilla más pequeña, sin embargo, ésta se negó aduciendo estar casado y en vista de ello Ipelele Opa le prometió otra mujer; la hija de Mastalipe. A pesar de todo, el héroe esperó dos días porque el animal le dijo que antes era preciso acostarse con ella. Ipele Opa le entregó un hacha de oro y además determinó regalarle un vestido dorado al finalizar el trabajo. El animal se preparó a la vista del público. Tomó impulso. Se oyó el hachazo y en medio del más ruidoso de los estruendos se desplomó el árbol y de él nacieron los mares, los ríos y las quebradas; pero nunca más se supo de la pequeña ardilla.

Con una fiesta de gran solemnidad se celebró este hecho, pero hubo peleas al embriagarse los animales y por ello Ipelele Opa los castigó haciéndoles perder los caracteres humanos y así fueron arrojados hacia las selvas aquellos que andaban sobre dos patas anduvieron sobre cuatro y las plantaciones quedaron para los humanos que nacerían con el tiempo.

Después de este acontecimiento el héroe subió al Cielo. Luego envió a Ipelele Sipukua y a su esposa a la tierra. A su arribo se detuvieron en las verdes pestañas del árbol del calabazo, en la cima de la montaña Takarkuna (la cuna de los kunas). Esta pareja tuvo hijos y sobrinos entre los cuales se puede contar a Ipelele Okkelele, que también tuvo hijos y sobrinos, como Ipelele Kakkatottokun, por ejemplo, quien a su vez tuvo hijos y sobrinos y así sucesivamente hasta que nacieron los Tule / Kuna.

Continuación...

Mito de la creación Gunadule



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Organizado por los estudiantes de NHS de Aztec Eagle High School

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