



What is the center of advocacy?

- In consideration of the new immigration measures announced by the government of the United States, the President of Mexico gave instructions to all the consulates of Mexico in this country to become "authentic defender of the rights of Mexican migrants".
- On the basis of that statement, March 3rd, 2017, the Consulate General of Mexico in Chicago launched the "Advocacy Center", a new program specifically designed to provide protection and consular assistance.
- The main objective of the "Advocacy Center" is to serve the needs of information and legal representation of the Mexicans living in the United States, with the support of a strengthened network of local partners, including lawyers, law schools, immigration law clinics and organizations of litigation, pro migrants and advocates for the rights of minorities.
- The "Advocacy Center" offers an exclusive space so that Mexicans nationals who needs direct legal guidance and advice. This service will not only be offered in the consular office, they will extend to mobile consulates and on wheels.
- In this sense, among other activities, the "Advocacy" will carried out:
 - a. Informative Workshops "Know Your Rights", which the purpose is for our community to know how to act and how to protect their constitutional rights in case of an immigration detention.
 - b. Workshops of diagnosis immigration (immigration screening) so that, in an individualized manner, Mexicans know their options in immigration matters, possible migration remedies available, or the risk of deportation and can make decisions based on reliable information.
 - c. Workshops to promote the dual nationality. In the "Advocacy" will reinforce the campaign of the Consulate in this matter, not only providing information, but partially supporting those permanent residents

Mexicans in the United States who, for economic reasons, has not been able to request their naturalization.

- d. Campaign for the prevention of an eventual return.
- e. The "center" also report on the support that people who are repatriated may receive in Mexico through the program "We are Mexicans".
 - In addition to these campaigns, through the "Advocacy Center" the Consulate has form a "rapid response mechanisms" with the community, migrant organizations and litigation before operating migrant workers. Also, they will reinforce the program of visits to prisons, county, state and federal agencies, as well as immigration detention centers.
 - In both cases, the Consulate will verify the conditions of detention of Mexican nationals and, above all, which is complies with due process.
 - In this regard, our consular officers will put particular attention to the identification of irregularities and abuses during the apprehension and detention of the persons. Also, they will conduct an interview with the person detain so they could offer the correct legal services. Additionally, Paying attention to cases in which there are recurring patterns of acts in violation of constitutional requirements by any specific authority to seek a collective legal solution. In both cases we will work hand in hand with organizations of litigation, both local and national.
 - In the area of family law, Linked consular attention will be promoted with state and local authorities to preserve the family unit in cases of custody of children and adolescents.
 - Finally, the "Center of advocacy" will assist in the spread between our community and local partners of our main tools of preventive protection and assistance, such as the application MiConsulmex and particularly the CIAM (1-855-4636-395), which constitute the main point of contact between the Government of Mexico and our compatriots in this country by providing a timely response and integral to their specific needs of consular assistance and protection.