

SOTOMAYOR
PRODUCTIONS

EXPANDING SANCTUARY

Discussion Guide

EXPANDING SANCTUARY

A FILM BY KRISTAL SOTOMAYOR



SOTOMAYOR PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS A FILM BY KRISTAL SOTOMAYOR
"EXPANDING SANCTUARY" STARRING LINDA HERNANDEZ

ORIGINAL SCORE BY JORGE CORANTE MUSIC BY LAS CAFETERAS EDITED BY MARÍA LUISA SANTOS
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY KRISTAL SOTOMAYOR SOUND DESIGNER NAYURIBE MONTERO JIMÉNEZ
SOUND MIX AND FOLEYS BY A TROPICS COMPANY PRODUCED BY KRISTAL SOTOMAYOR
Co-PRODUCER MARÁNGELI MEJÍA RABELL ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS MARÍA LUISA SANTOS AND SELENA YIP

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ABOUT THE FILM

Expanding Sanctuary is a 21-minute short documentary that follows South Philadelphia’s Latinx immigrant community as they organize to end a dangerous police-ICE data-sharing agreement. A moving portrait of grassroots resistance, the film highlights the strength and solidarity of families fighting for their right to live without fear. [WATCH THE TRAILER.](#)

Now streaming on [Kanopy](#) and distributed by [New Day Films](#), *Expanding Sanctuary* is available for community screenings, panels, and fundraising events—both virtual and in person.

“This is a powerful and moving documentary that highlights grassroots efforts to resist unjust policies and protect vulnerable communities.”

— J. Zimmerman, [Video Librarian](#)

ABOUT SOTOMAYOR PRODUCTIONS

[Sotomayor Productions](#) is a queer, Latinx-led production company dedicated to creating justice-driven films and impact campaigns that amplify immigrant, queer, and underrepresented communities. We are fiscally sponsored by the 501 C3 nonprofit CultureTrust Greater Philadelphia.

POST-SCREENING DISCUSSION GUIDE

Facilitated conversations can deepen understanding and inspire action. Below is a structure and sample questions focused on immigrant rights, policy education, and community care.

FACILITATION FORMAT

1. **Opening & Grounding**
 - Land acknowledgment
 - Acknowledge the emotional impact of the films
 - i. Somatic grounding exercise (find links/examples)
2. **Panel or Moderated Dialogue**
 - Invite local organizers or immigrant leaders
 - Include film team if available
3. **Audience Engagement**
 - Allow audience Q&A or chat reflections
 - Share a poll or reflection question ("What actions can you take this month to support immigrants?")
 - Collective art project: Paper Mosaic
4. **Calls to Action**
 - Promote local campaigns, legal defense funds, or volunteer needs
 - Share Know Your Rights resources

RESOURCES ON FACILITATING DISCUSSION

Resources on Facilitating Discussion

- [TIFF Film Talk Facilitator Guide](#)
- [Journeys in Film: Facilitator Guidelines](#)
- [University of Michigan: Guidelines for Discussing Difficult or High-Stake Topics](#)

KEY DISCUSSION TOPICS & SAMPLE QUESTIONS

- **This film and your community**
 - How does the film resonate with our community's immigrant experience?
 - When was a time that you witnessed the power of your community in the face of state-sanctioned oppression?
 - What existing practices, spaces or resources keep your immigrant community members connected and safe?
 - What practices, spaces or resources would you like to see in your community that could make immigrant community members feel more connected and safe?
- **Information about Sanctuary City status and ICE**
 - What is a Sanctuary City?
 - Is your city a Sanctuary City? If so, what protections does your city have in place?
 - What are ICE-police collaboration programs and how do they operate?

- How can your community stay informed about data-sharing practices with ICE?
- **Imagining a world without ICE and policing**
 - What might community safety look like without policing?
 - Our schools? Our streets? Our workplaces? Our parks?
 - Why do we have police? How did current policing practices in the US come to be?
 - What are alternatives to our current criminal justice system?
 - How can we strengthen our communities and respond to crises or conflict without cops?
- **The power of local organizing and policy change**
 - How can we resist surveillance and criminalization in our city?
 - What local organizations do you know that are advocating for immigrant rights and policy change?
 - What policies do you see in your city/state/country related to immigration that you want to see changed or removed?
 - What policies do you want to see implemented?
 - How might you work towards affecting policy change or creation? Are there any strategies you saw in this film that could be applied to your community?

RESOURCES TO SHARE

Know Your Rights

- [ACLU Immigrant KYR](#)
- [ACLU Protest KYR](#)
- United We Dream – [Immigrant KYR Toolkit](#)
- National Immigration Law Center – [Resource Library](#)

Action Ideas:

- Host a legal clinic or KYR workshop
- Support local bail/bond funds
- Endorse local sanctuary campaigns
- Partner with mutual aid networks