**“Glen’s Parallax Perspectives”** is a series of TV programs offering fresh ways for people to see issues such as foreign policy, social and economic justice, governmental functioning, the environment, and so forth. We provide voices and viewpoints that are rarely heard in mainstream media.

**Mainstream media, politicians, and culture see the world in conventional ways. Therefore, in order to solve problems, we need to see things in fresh ways.** Glen Anderson created this TV series to help people see things differently so we can solve problems at all levels from the local to the global.

This series title refers to “***parallax***“ – the view you get by looking from a different perspective. For example, put one finger in front of your nose and another finger farther away. Close one eye. Then open that eye and close the other. Your fingers will seem to move. This is called a “parallax” view. **This TV series invites you to look at issues from fresh perspectives.**

Each program airs three times a week (currently every Monday at 1:30 pm, every Wednesday at 5:00 pm, and every Thursday at 9:00 pm) for the entire month on Thurston Community Television (TCTV), channel 22 for cable TV subscribers in Thurston County, Washington. TCTV is part of Thurston County Media. You can see their schedule at [**www.tcmedia.org**](http://www.tcmedia.org)

**You can also watch the program described below through your computer** at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org). All episodes of “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” are posted on this blog’s “TV Programs” part and also in one or more of the categories listed in the right side of the computer screen. Also, see much information at the issue category headings at [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

🡪 Please invite other people to watch this video and/or read this thorough summary at the
“TV Programs” part of [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org).

State and Local Efforts to Protect Immigrants’ Rights

by Glen Anderson, the TV series’ producer and host
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**Glen introduced the viewers to this interview topic:**

He said this month’s interview on “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” brings us up to date on what has been happening to immigrants – and what people at the state and local levels are doing to solve the problems. If you are a little fuzzy on understanding the newest realities, this program is for you!

Most of the people watching this interview know some of what our guests will say here – both about the problems and about the solutions – but **even well informed people will learn a lot more**. Also, everyone will be inspired and encouraged by the positive work that’s being done statewide and here in our local community.

Glen said that over the years he has produced several TV interviews about immigration – and he has always noted that all four of his four grandparents arrived between 1900 and 1910. They had no money. They did not speak any English.

But his grandparents worked hard, invested their lives in the American Dream, and produced his parents and himself. His brothers, sister, and cousins all did well after our poor immigrant grandparents. He wants people coming from other countries to have that opportunity too.

But he said recently things have changed. Immigrants coming from places other than Europe are often denied the opportunities that allowed his family to succeed. He wants every person to succeed.

Glen introduced two guests who provided information and encouragement during this interview:

* **Alejandra Hunt** works for an immigration attorney in Olympia. She volunteers with two local grassroots groups that serve immigrants in a number of ways. Later in this interview we’ discussed them: Olympia’s Strengthening Sanctuary movement and another non-profit organization called CIELO, which serves local Latinos. Alejandra also is a trained mediator through the Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County.
* **The Rev. Paul Benz** is an ordained Lutheran pastor who is Co-Director of the statewide Faith Action Network, an interfaith, multi-issue non-profit organization that works for social justice in many ways, including through the Washington State Legislature. Before the Faith Action Network was created, he was the director of the Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington. For many years Paul has worked hard to help religious people throughout the state work together for social justice.

Glen said the issues we are discussing during this interview affect a great many people. He shared these facts, which Alejandra had provided:

* Washington State includes nearly one million immigrants – approximately 1/7 of our state’s population.
* More than 45 percent of immigrants in Washington are already naturalized U. S. citizens.
* More than 170,000 U.S. citizens in Washington live with at least one family member who is undocumented.

**The problems actually started long before Trump, who made the problems worse:**

Glen said that since Trump took power in January 2017 people have paid attention to his deliberate cruelties to immigrants – both documented and undocumented. But immigrants had been abused long before Trump came along. Presidents and Congresses of both political parties have been making things worse – even before Trump. For example, Obama deported more people than any previous president.

Alejandra summarized some of the problems that existed before Trump. She said President Obama had deported a great many people. He targeted for deportation people who had committed crimes or were on a list of “high risk” immigrants.

But now Trump – in contrast to Obama – is targeting for deportation people who have been here a long time, people with family here, and people who have not committed any crimes. So if a police officer stopped a driver for a traffic problem, the police had discretionary power before and could resolve the matter easily, but now the person is in much more danger. Under Trump every immigrant without documentation has become a priority for deportation. They would be detained and likely deported.

**What else has Trump changed? DACA, “Dreamers,” etc.:**

Glen said people have heard news about the D.A.C.A. program – the program for “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.” The news also have referred to some young immigrants as “Dreamers,” because “DREAM” is the acronym for some federal legislation that Congress failed to pass: the “Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act.” Those initials spell “DREAM,” so the young people who would have benefited are called “Dreamers.”

Alejandra explained the Obama administration’s program for providing “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals” – the D.A.C.A. program. She said we have about 700,000 DACA recipients in the U.S. now. She said Obama created the DACA program as a way to protect young people who were brought to the U.S. as children, until Congress passes legislation to provide decent remedies for immigrants without documentation. DACA has been protecting them from deportation and has allowed them to get permits so they could get jobs. She said DACA provided protection but was not intended to be permanent because people did expect Congress to pass legislation providing real solutions. However, Congress has not passed legislation to solve the problem. DACA folks need to reapply every two years and continue meeting DACA’s requirements, but the Trump administration prohibits any new people from applying. The Trump administration is fighting DACA and U.S. Supreme Court will decide its future.

Glen said that when had had conducted previous TV programs about immigration in recent years, the guests were expecting Congress to pass decent legislation such as the DREAM Act. Unfortunately, that has not happened.

We did not have time to make these additional points:

Because DACA folks and some other immigrants have provided their contact information to the federal government, the government knows how to find them if it chooses to deport them. Many of the young people have been in the U.S. since they were little kids, so they have no first-and knowledge of the countries where they were born – and to which they might be deported.

The Trump administration’s constant attacks on immigration (both legal and undocumented) have been relentless. They have been tearing apart families with mixed status (some family members here legally but others without documentation). This adds constant fear and stress that the government might tear those families apart.

**What else has Trump changed? New arrivals, refugees, asylum seekers, etc.:**

Glen said that federal law and international law protect people’s legal right to seek asylum if they are in serious danger from their home countries, but Trump has been violating that right. He asked Alejandra what changes have occurred under Trump for new arrivals, for refugees, for people who left serious dangers and are claiming their legal right to seek asylum here.

She said Trump’s policies have been devastating for people already suffering and fleeing from war or other danger or brutal poverty. She said Trump stopped the normal process for seeking asylum, which was that a person could go to the border and speak to a U.S. official there and explain why they are seeking asylum. The process includes an interview that determines whether the person has a credible fear. They can enter the U.S., go through a process involving a court, and get help from family members or others in the U.S. to help them settle while their case is pending. But Trump has stopped that process and stops people while they are still in Mexico so they cannot enter the U.S. and enjoy any rights here. Trump prevents them from seeking asylum.

Glen said decent people are outraged by this, but fortunately more than a dozen states – including Washington State – have sued Trump for stopping the DACA program. WA State Attorney General Bob Ferguson called Trump’s decision “cruel and unlawful,” and he added, “It’s outrageous and I’m not going to put up with it.”

Paul added that Attorney General Ferguson has sued Trump about 25 times and has won every lawsuit, while Trump has won zero.

We did not have time to make these additional points:

Trump’s years of relentless, non-stop attacks have been against legal immigrants besides the ones without documentation. Many people are horribly delayed in getting settled here. Things that used to occur in just a few months now are backlogged and take a year and a half. Trump has also endangered immigrants who had Temporary Protected Status (TPS).

**Problems in the U.S. include federal agencies, local police, courts, schools, social services, etc.:**

Alejandra provided more information about the additional problems Trump has caused even for immigrants who have good documentation and are living here legally. For example, she explained Trump’s new “public charge” rule, which prevents many immigrants from applying for many government programs that can help meet their basic needs (Medicaid, etc.). As of the date we taped this interview (December 12, 2019), an injunction has temporarily prevented that rule from taking effect. Glen said Trump’s rule would trap immigrants in poverty and trap them in “outsider status,” even though they are here legally.

She also said many immigrant kids suffer from our society’s demonization and bullying of immigrants. Also, some immigrant kids in school are living in constant fear that they or a parent might be deported. Perhaps when they get home from school their parents will be gone – or their fathers might go to work and never be allowed to come home again. These constant fears cause emotional problems and interfere with academic success. She said schools are becoming more aware of this crisis and are starting to take useful actions.

Glen clarified for the viewers the reality that kids who are born here are automatically U.S. citizens, but they might have one or two parents or siblings who are not citizens, so if a parent is at risk the entire family is at risk of being broken up by the deportation of one or more family members.

**Some local and state and governments – and some religious congregations – and some other non-profit organizations and colleges and universities have
responded to promote fairness and provide sanctuary for immigrants in danger:**

Glen said he is glad that so many people around our nation have been protesting against Trump’s cruelty – and are practicing solidarity with immigrants – and have convinced many religious bodies, colleges, universities, local governments and state governments to practice understanding and compassion.

People have accomplished some makeshift solutions, and many more solutions still need to be worked on. This will require more volunteer efforts – more people-power – to meet the serious needs.

For thousands of years, religious congregations – in Jewish, Christian and other faiths – have recognized a religious obligation to provide safety – “sanctuary” – for people who are in danger from persecution, or danger from police or governments. Congregations have let people stay in their buildings safely in order to protect them from legal dangers.

Paul shared some religious and biblical insights as context for understanding the motivation for religious bodies providing “sanctuary.” He said the concept of sanctuary is thousands of years old. He said all religions worldwide support providing sanctuary for people who are in danger.

The Bible – all the way back to the book of Leviticus and other books of Moses – supports this. Leviticus commands us to treat the stranger among us as if the stranger were actually one of us. Likewise, the concept that we must “love your neighbor as yourself” is similar and pertains to outsiders too. Jesus repeats this commandment.

Paul also noted that when Jesus was a baby he and his parents had to flee their home land and seek safety as refugees in Egypt because Herod, the emperor over his home land, was trying to kill all the baby boys. He said religions and entire nations can provide sanctuary, but the U.S. “has turned far from that.” He said that the current U.S. president “is very good at creating fear amongst the most vulnerable.”

Glen agreed and said Trump “is a bully who actually enjoys being cruel to people who are vulnerable. It makes him feel like a big shot if he can trample on somebody less powerful.”

Paul said the U.S. president has the power to set the number of refugees admitted into our country each year. Now the U.S. is admitting refugees at the lowest number ever in U.S. history.

**Sanctuary cities – sanctuary congregations:**

Glen said a good number of cities – including Olympia, Washington – have declared themselves to be “sanctuary cities.” Olympia’s City Council unanimously proclaimed Olympia to be a “sanctuary city” on December 13, 2016, just five weeks after Trump’s election.

He said that throughout our nation immigrants, volunteers who support human rights, local religious congregations, and the general public have convinced a number of local governments to take positive humane actions to protect immigrants’ rights and safety. Also, some colleges and universities – and some local religious congregations – have declared themselves to be sanctuaries to protect their physical safety.

Alejandra told us more about Olympia as a “sanctuary city” and about the growing sanctuary movement. She expressed appreciation that Olympia’s elected officials immediately saw the need to take this action. She said she is part of a local grassroots group – Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance – which was formed immediately after that in order to take a number of actions to implement sanctuary and protect immigrants’ rights in our local community. Glen thanked the local group for taking practical steps to implement the City of Olympia’s good intentions. People can e-mail the group at **olympia.sanctuary@gmail.com**

Glen mentioned two local success stories:

#1. Local people helped arrange for an immigrant woman to be released from federal detention by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) so she could be reunited with her son in Texas. A huge amount of volunteers’ efforts achieved this by mobilizing enough people-power to force the government to relent and free her. Now they are together and her son is attending school.

#2. Olympia’s largest Jewish congregation, Temple Beth Hatfiloh is providing sanctuary services for a Guatemalan mother and her son. Volunteers from a wide variety of local faith communities are working together to help provide safety for this family.

**Washington state legislation: Keep Washington Working was enacted in 2019:**

Both of our guests – and a great diversity of other people – succeeded in convincing Washington State’s Legislature to pass a good law and convincing Governor Jay Inslee to sign it into law in 2019. Paul explained what the Keep Washington Working legislation is accomplishing now.

He said he had worked very hard for several legislative sessions to pass this bill. Besides his organization – Faith Action Network ([**www.fanwa.net**](http://www.fanwa.net)) – many other organizations (ACLU of Washington, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, and many others) also have been working hard for this. He said initially the bill was called the “Trust Act” because the intention was to create better trust between the immigrant community (especially undocumented immigrants) and law enforcement agencies. For civil cases (not necessarily criminal cases) the new law separates communication between the relevant federal agencies (ICE, CBP) and local law enforcement agencies at the level of local jails.

Glen clarified that this new law was needed because information had been flowing between those entities that endangered immigrants when they were interacting with local law enforcement agencies. Merely dealing with a local matter put the immigrants in serious danger from federal immigration authorities. Paul said this is one of the reason why the Northwest Detention Center (a privately owned for-profit prison for federal immigrants) “is overflowing with people in it who really should not be.”

Now the new “Keep Washington Working” law protects our immigrants from that risk if they are involved with law enforcement or the courts regarding civil cases. But it does not go far enough to deal with court houses, so a new bill introduced for the 2020 state legislative session would provide further protections. We discussed that next.

**Goals for Washington’s 2020 state legislative session:**

The new Keep Washington Working law accomplished some good things, but more needs to be done.

For example, we need to protect undocumented immigrants when they visit court houses for **any** reason. Paul said a new bill for Washington State’s 2020 legislative session – called “Court Houses Open to All” – would provide safety for immigrants while visiting a court house for any reason, just like anyone else does. Glen provided examples such as applying for a marriage license or transferring a car title or paying taxes.

Paul said the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency knows that at-risk immigrants visit court houses for the kinds of reasons that anyone else visits them, so those immigrants are at risk. The new legislation (“Court Houses Open to All”) would protect their privacy from ICE. The new bill’s advocates refer to it as the 2.0 version of 2019’s Keep Washington Working law.

Glen said that based on what he read, he understands that the “Courts Open to All” bill would restrict ICE activity at courthouses in three very practical ways:

* Prohibit prosecutors, judges and court staff from sharing information with ICE or with CBP (Customs and Border Protection);
* Require courts to collect data about when and why ICE or CBP agents will be at the courthouse;
* Requires judicial warrants for civil ICE or CBP arrests in courthouse grounds.

Paul added that one of the prime sponsors of this bill is the first Washington State legislator who is a refugee to the U.S. While our nation is a nation of immigrants, it’s good to have a refugee in the Legislature.

Paul urged people to urge their state legislators to support the “Courts Open to All” bill. They can contact state legislators through the Legislature’s amazingly informative and user-friendly website, [**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov) or by phoning 1-800-562-6000 during the legislative session, which will begin on Monday January 13, 2020.

He said they are also working to expand Washington State’s Apple Health program to include undocumented immigrants along with other people until they reach age 26. Glen verified that the bills introduced in 2019 are HB 1697 and SB 5814. Those bills are still alive for the 2020 legislative session. He verified these through –[**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov). He urged people to visit the site and search for bills by number or by topic – and to use this website to find out how to contact our legislators – and much more.

Paul added that the Legislature’s website is “democracy at work” – it is “our tax dollars being well spent.” Glen said this website is the best source of information, along with non-profit organizations working on specific issues.

**Wednesday February 5, 2020: Legislative Advocacy Day at the State Capitol:**

Glen said that a number of organizations that work for immigrant rights have planned a Legislative Advocacy Day at the State Capitol for Wednesday February 5, 2020. The organizers hope people will **attend the noon-hour rally on the State Capitol steps** and **visit legislators’ offices** to urge passing the good legislation. He said a friend also suggested that people could stand out next to Capitol Way, a few blocks east of the State Capitol, and hold signs supporting immigrant rights, so the many drivers and passengers moving through traffic will also get the message.

Paul discussed this great opportunity on Wednesday February 5. He said this is very important. During the legislative session a great many lobbyists are there for other purposes (Glen said typically for corporate interests that do not have our interests at heart), so this is **our** opportunity to voice our support for human rights and justice. He said immigrants – including those without documentation – are a very important part of our population.

Alejandra agreed that it is important for many people to attend the noon-hour rally on Wednesday February 5, 2020, to support immigrants’ rights.

Glen said Washington State’s Legislature is very accessible – especially compared to some other states where the legislators act like big shots that try to keep the public at a distance. He said Washington’s state legislators are very accessible, and people plan a great many rallies for many good issues on the State Capitol steps.

Paul added that it’s important not only to generate a huge turnout on that day, so the legislators and the public will see that Washingtonians support immigrant rights – and ALSO to visit legislators before and after that date. He said groups come and go on various days, so our persistence makes a difference in getting our legislation passed.

Glen said the Legislature’s website – [**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov) – announces when the bills are having committee hearings and what progress they are making through the legislative process. It also offers a way to sign up to be notified when a bill you’re interested in will have a committee hearing. The public is welcome to attend and watch the hearings – and also to testify briefly about any bill on that day’s agenda. Glen said that over the decades he has testified to many state legislative committees about many different bills.

Glen said he also remembers – from the 1970s – the toll-free Legislative Hotline phone number (800-562-6000) that people can call to leave messages urging their legislators to support or oppose specific bills. Somebody will answer that phone and take a message at any time between 8 am and 8 pm during the legislative sessions.

Paul added that even if you do now know your legislators’ names, you can leave your address and the staff person will send your message to the right legislators. He said you can have your one phone call produce four messages (one state senator, two state representatives, and the governor).

**Olympia’s Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance:**

Alejandra and some other savvy, hard-working local people in the greater Olympia area have been making good progress for three years now through a local grassroots organization – the Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance – which formed soon after the 2016 election and the Olympia City Council’s resolution declaring Olympia a Sanctuary City. Strengthening Sanctuary was formed in order to organize meaningful implementation of that city resolution, and now the Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance has several committees working on different aspects of the work.

She said people who care about immigrants’ rights came together and created this grassroots organization, which has accomplished a lot in just three years. She said many of the volunteers are retired and are using their significant knowledge and skills for this organizing effort. Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance’s committees include these:

* The law enforcement group protects immigrants’ rights by reaching out to local police departments in our area, including Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater, Yelm, and some other jurisdictions soon. Volunteers explain to these law enforcement agencies the ways in which ICE has been acquiring information about immigrants and using it against immigrants. The federal government has been digging into local records, so volunteers have been arranging for local law enforcement agencies to significantly limit ICE’s access and protect people from those federal abuses.
* The education group works to provide information for school employees so they will understand relevant information. They educate teachers, superintendents, school secretaries, and other people about the harsh realities and stresses that immigrant students experience, and they also help immigrant families learn how to interact productively with school systems. Some kids bring suitcases to school so they’ll have some personal belongings in case their parents are deported while the kids are in school.
* The “Know Your Rights” training group has been presenting crucial information and training. People’s first line of defense is to know their rights. The Constitution protects every person regardless of immigration status. Volunteers go to schools, churches, community groups, and other places to present this training so people will understand and protect their rights.
* The legislative working group supported the Keep Washington Working legislation. Local police no longer do things that expose immigrants to risks by federal government and have stopped serving ICE.
* They also accompany immigrants who must go to court in order to provide some support and safety.
* Also, the Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance has been helping DACA folks pay their filing fees to renew their DACA protection, and they have created an emergency fund so they can financially help some persons who are in special need, such as imminent eviction to prevent an immigrant from becoming homeless, and they are helping the Guatemalan woman they freed from federal detention and who now lives in Texas.

Glen said he is very much impressed with the vigorous and multi-dimensional work that a modest number of volunteers are accomplishing through the Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance. They figure out what the needs are, and then they work together to figure out how to meet those needs. He said he is very much impressed with how much these volunteers are accomplishing. They could do even more if more people – and people with a wider age range – were to volunteer. He said people can contact the group by e-mailing **olympia.sanctuary@gmail.com**

Glen said that even an all-volunteer organization does have some expenses, so he asked Alejandra how they pay for the work they do. She said people can donate by writing checks payable to “Strengthening Sanctuary” and mailing them to Strengthening Sanctuary, P.O. Box1684, Olympia WA 98507.

**CIELO:**

Glen said that for more than two decades – since 1996 – another very active and effective local grassroots organization has been serving the greater Olympia area – and now the Shelton area too. CIELO ([**www.cieloprograms.org**](http://www.cieloprograms.org)) provides a huge variety of necessary services. In our local area, CIELO is unique in how it focuses on meeting many different kinds of needs of immigrants.

Alejandra is an active member of CIELO’s board. She told us about CIELO and its activities, including its three main programs: an education program, a mental health services program, and a program of advocacy for victims of violence.

They provide literacy and English language courses. They provide adult basic education, one-to-one tutoring for kids that focuses on what each student needs. They also collaborate with teachers to focus on what individual students need. They help parents interact with schools. Sometimes schools think parents don’t care, but actually the parents need to know how to navigate the schools’ systems – especially if English is not their first language. They conduct financial literacy classes, computer classes, sewing classes, and more.

They help with health, including the mental health problems that the Trump administration is making worse. CIELO helps victims of violence and violent crime. Their services include helping people navigate the court system, referring them to good attorneys and other relevant services.

Overall, CIELO provides a safe space where Latinos can connect in a setting that understands and respects their culture. CIELO pays attention to the needs that exist and then devises ways to meet those needs.

CIELO has 150 volunteers, including many volunteer tutors. They have about 13 staff members. CIELO’s board is a “working board.” It is a 501(c)3 organization that relies on voluntary financial support. People can donate through their new website ([**www.cieloprograms.org**](http://www.cieloprograms.org)). It looks good and explains their services. It also includes useful “Know Your Rights” videos in English and Spanish at[**www.cieloprograms.org/immigration**](http://www.cieloprograms.org/immigration)

**Faith Action Network:**

Glen expressed appreciation for Paul’s long personal history of working with faith communities – and interfaith activities – for social justice and good legislation for many issues. Now he is Co-Director of a statewide interfaith non-profit 501(c)3 organization, the Faith Action Network (FAN, [**www.fanwa.org**](http://www.fanwa.org)), which works on advocacy for immigrants’ rights and other social and economic justice issues, including making our state’s criminal justice system and tax system more fair. Glen said he has been donating to FAN and the organizations that preceded it (Lutheran Public Policy Office and Washington Association of Churches). Eight years ago these organizations merged to create FAN.

FAN is interfaith and statewide. Its work incudes advocacy, including working through the State Legislature and Congress. FAN has two networks.

One network is 153 faith communities around the state that have become members of FAN and help FAN’s advocacy efforts.

The other network is more than 7,000 individuals who support FAN and help as advocates in urging governments to do what’s right. These people are grouped into Washington State’s 49 state legislative districts and 10 congressional districts.

Paul said FAN is truly interfaith far beyond the various denominations within Christianity. He refers to FAN’s scope as “the entire family of God.” He said they have great relationships with the Jewish community, the Muslim community, the Sikh community, the Buddhist community, and more.

He described FAN’s advocacy work as pushing for justice in various settings. He said traditionally faith communities have provided food for the hungry, housing for the homeless, and other services. FAN’s role is to advocate for justice “in the halls of power” at local, state and federal levels, so we can push governments to design and fund programs that will be sufficient to meet the needs of vulnerable people. Too often funding for these programs gets cut, but we want to expand these programs and fund them better.

Glen expressed appreciation for FAN’s smart – and effective – work, and he said he is happy to donate financial support every year. He said that many people donate food to the hungry but fail to take additional actions that would really change the systems that keep people poor and hungry. He thanked FAN for “working at the system level to change the laws … so we can make justice and fairness built into the systems.” He said this systemic approach is crucial.

Paul said FAN does the modest amount of lobbying that a 501(c)3 organization can do, and the law allows them to take positions on bills and initiatives. FAN strongly supported the recent state initiative that would have allowed more affirmative action, and initiatives to reduce gun violence and increase the minimum wage, and so forth.

Paul said FAN does not endorse candidates, which a 501(c)4 organization can do.

FAN’s website, [**www.fanwa.org**](http://www.fanwa.org), includes a way for people to donate.

Glen mentioned that FAN works well with many other organizations, including the Church Council of Greater Seattle, the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, the ACLU of Washington, Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network, and many others.

**Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma:**

Paul added that another strong partner is La Resistencia ([**www.laresistencianw.org**](http://www.laresistencianw.org)), which works to shut down the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma. Paul added that FAN is working to make positive changes there.

Glen added that the Northwest Detention Center was built on top of a toxic waste dump in Tacoma. It is a privately owned, profit-making prison that makes a huge amount of money – ripping off a horrendous amount of our tax dollars – by imprisoning immigrants whom the federal government is mistreating in several ways.

For at least five years people have been volunteering to protest against it, serve as allies and supporters for family members, and take political actions to close down that cruel prison.

Paul added that Washington State’s Attorney General Bob Ferguson has sued the private corporation for paying illegally low sub-minimum wages to the inmates who work there. Alejandra said it’s almost like forced labor.

**Many other good organizations are listed at the end of this document:**

The document you are reading now is a thorough summary of what we said during the one-hour TV interview.

Glen said he will post on his blog the names and websites of the non-profit organizations we mentioned a moment ago – and a great many additional non-profit organizations working on these issues. **See the end of this thorough summary that you are reading now.**

It’s on the “TV Programs” part and the “Immigrants” part of Glen’s blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org). The blog link also includes **a link for watching the interview**.

Please share this blog link with other people. It will remain posted there for many years into the future, even though the TV program on which this is based will air only during January 2020 on Thurston County’s cable TV three times a week (Mondays 1:30 pm, Wednesdays 5:00 pm, and Thursdays 9:00 pm).

**More information: Immigrants are good neighbors – good for our communities – good for our economy, etc.:**

Glen said that ever since Trump started running for president in June 2015, he has been slandering immigrants – lying about them – by claiming they are criminals. Actually, immigrants produce far fewer crimes per capita than do people who were born in the U.S. Trump wants us to be afraid of immigrants, but actually they are good neighbors – safe to live around – and competent co-workers – and enjoyable as friends.

Alejandra said Trump attacks people who he thinks “have no voice.” But she said immigrants and their allies do stand up and speak up against Trump’s terrible “propaganda machine.” We are calling out Trump’s lies and bullying. We refuse to let him provoke fear.

Glen said the TV interview we are conducting now is one way to fight back, and the organizations we work with also are parts of the solution to the problems Trump is causing. Our organizing and speaking out affirm the human rights and human dignity of people whom Trump is trying to elbow out of the way.

Paul added that – in addition to non-profit organizations that are doing good things – we are seeing more and more businesses step up in defense of the undocumented community. These businesses understand the value of the workforce. He said one of the elements of the new Keep Washington Working law is that the Washington State Department of Commerce is setting up a working group that will include businesses, non-profit organizations, and other folks working together to create policies that will be more inclusive and will support workers, including those without documentation.

Glen said that either on the day we are taping this interview (December 12, 2019) or the day before, Congress took a positive action toward better safety for farm workers who are undocumented. He said the e-mail news came from the United Farm Workers union, and they named some of the people on the congressional conference committee that had finalized the good legislation. One of the names is Representative Newhouse, a conservative Republican member of Congress from Eastern Washington, who represents the owners of farms and – therefore – recognized the need to treat undocumented farm workers fairly because their labor is needed for a reliable workforce. Without protections, farm owners are suffering from a lack of workers. Glen said, “They finally figured this out after how many years!”

Alejandra said the hypocrisy has been long-standing because the truth is that immigrants do contribute significantly to the economy. Immigrants – including those without documentation – do pay taxes. She said Congress recognized that the economy would be in danger if repression of immigrants continues.

Glen said Trump and other racists are lying to us when they say immigrants are a drain on the economy. Actually, immigrants are very good for the economy – both nationwide and at the state level. He shared some information that Alejandra had provided proving that immigrants really do help our economy:

* One-sixth of the workers in Washington are immigrants. They work in a very wide range of occupations – including many highly skilled professions. Immigrants in Washington have contributed billions of dollars in taxes:
	+ In 2014 immigrant-led households in the state paid $5.7 billion in federal taxes and $2.4 billion in state and local taxes.
	+ In 2014 undocumented immigrants in Washington paid an estimated $316.6 million in state and local taxes. Employers often underpay undocumented immigrants, so if they could receive legal status, they would earn even more – and therefore pay even more in taxes.

Alejandra said the Social Security Administration can give an undocumented person an I.T. Number that tracks the Social Security taxes they are paying so that sometime in the future those can be linked to their Social Security account and they can receive the benefits into which they have been paying.

Paul added that FAN and others are promoting a bill in the 2020 Legislature to strengthen the Working Families Tax Credit program in a similar way.

Glen said if you’re undocumented and go to a store and buy a pair of shoes, you pay sales tax just like anyone else.

* Immigrants are consumers who spend many billions of dollars in Washington State’s economy.
* Immigrant entrepreneurs in Washington State generate billions of dollars in business revenue.
	+ In 2015 more than 65,000 immigrant business owners generated $1.6 billion in business income.
	+ In 2015, more than ¼ of business owners in the Seattle/Tacoma/Bellevue metro area were immigrants.

Glen said a good source of information about how immigrants help our nation’s economy is the American Immigration Council, [**www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org**](http://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org)

**Many sources of information:**

Glen said he appreciates the number, variety, and quality of sources of information about immigrants’ rights. We mentioned just a few during this interview.

**The next few pages list dozens of additional non-profit organizations – and a few articles and videos – as sources of more information.**

The document you are reading now is posted to his blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org). Please urge other people to visit the blog and click either the “TV Programs” category or the “Immigrants” category. Look for this TV Program, which is titled, **“State and Local Efforts to Protect Immigrants’ Rights.”** Click the link to watch this interview’s video AND/OR read the document you are reading now, which thoroughly summarizes what we said during this interview.

Also on Glen’s blog you can watch his May 2017 TV interview with three different guests discussing immigrant rights and/or read the thorough summary of what we said during that interview. You can watch that video AND/OR read a very thorough summary of what we said (and see links to much more information) through a different link on the “Immigrants” part of his blog. It is at this link: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/protect-immigrant-rights-video-interview-and-summary-of-what-we-said**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/protect-immigrant-rights-video-interview-and-summary-of-what-we-said)

**Non-profit organizations, websites, articles and videos for information, training and advocacy:**

**ACLU of Washington State (ACLU-W):** ([**www.aclu-wa.org**](http://www.aclu-wa.org))

**American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)**, a Quaker-based peace and justice organization, provides information about sanctuary at this link: [**www.afsc.org/story/what-sanctuary-everywhere**](https://www.afsc.org/story/what-sanctuary-everywhere)

**American Immigration Council** provides information and conducts advocacy to honor our immigrant past and provide a better future for immigrants here. Their website also includes information about how immigrants are good for the economy. See their website: [**www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org**](http://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org)

**American Immigration Lawyers Association**: [**www.aila.org**](http://www.aila.org)

**Center for Constitutional Rights:** [**www.ccrjustice.org**](http://www.ccrjustice.org)

**Church Council of Greater Seattle** works across denominations for mutual understanding and to promote peace and social justice. See the CCGS website: [**www.thechurchcouncil.org**](http://www.thechurchcouncil.org)

**CIELO Projec**t in the greater Olympia WA and Shelton WA area provides many important and useful services for Latinos: [**www.cieloproject.org**](http://www.cieloproject.org)

**City of Olympia’s Resolution M-1857 declared the City of Olympia a sanctuary city.** The City Council passed it on December 13, 2016, just five weeks after Trump’s election. See [**http://olympiawa.gov/city-government/city-council-and-mayor/resolutions.aspx**](http://olympiawa.gov/city-government/city-council-and-mayor/resolutions.aspx)

**Define American:** This interesting and savvy organization works for immigrant rights through advocacy, Know Your Rights training, and in other ways. [**www.defineamerican.com**](http://www.defineamerican.com)

**Faith Action Network (FAN)** links people of many faiths throughout the state of Washington, especially to work on social and economic justice, including state legislative issues. FAN has two networks. One is faith communities that conduct advocacy efforts. The other is individual advocates who are grouped into Washington State’s 49 state legislative districts and 10 congressional districts. See [**www.fanwa.org**](http://www.fanwa.org)

**Faithful America** respects religious people’s support for human rights and respects religious congregations’ right to be sanctuaries: [**www.faithfulamerica.org**](http://www.faithfulamerica.org) and this link you can sign to tell ICE to leave sanctuary congregations alone: [**http://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/ice\_alexandria/?t=1&akid=994.432684.1y4KKe**](http://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/ice_alexandria/?t=1&akid=994.432684.1y4KKe)

**National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON):** [**www.ndlon.org**](http://www.ndlon.org)offers a collection of 7 “Know Your Rights” pamphlets.

**National Immigration Law Center:** [**www.nilc.org**](http://www.nilc.org)

**Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP)** provides a variety of highly practical services, including legal advocacy and grassroots organizing: [**www.nwirp.or**g](http://www.nwirp.org)

**Olympia’s Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance:** E-MAIL **olympia.sanctuary@gmail.com**. To donate, make checks payable to “Strengthening Sanctuary,” and mail them to Strengthening Sanctuary, P.O. Box1684, Olympia, WA 98507.

**Sanctuary Not Deportation** provides emergency response information and other kinds of help: [**www.sanctuarynotdeportation.org**](http://www.sanctuarynotdeportation.org)

**TV interview program video, a thorough summary of what we said, and links to much more information:** Over a good number of years I have produced several TV programs informing the public about immigration issues and urging support for immigrants’ rights. Before this January 2020 TV program, my most recent program on that topic was in May 2017 TV, when I interviewed three local persons who are volunteering with local efforts. You can watch that video and/or read a very thorough summary of what we said (and see links to much more information) through this link: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/protect-immigrant-rights-video-interview-and-summary-of-what-we-said**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/protect-immigrant-rights-video-interview-and-summary-of-what-we-said)

**United We Dream** is nationwide led by immigrant youth: [**www.unitedwedream.org**](http://www.unitedwedream.org)

**Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN)** is a very active and useful group: [**www.waisn.org**](http://www.waisn.org)

**Washington State Governor Jay Inslee issued Executive Order 17-01** on February 23, 2017. It affirmed the benefits that immigrants provide for our state’s economy. He said that in 2014 immigrants “contributed over $2.4 billion in state and local taxes,” and in 2012 “undocumented immigrants paid $301.9 million in state and local taxes. If all undocumented immigrants were removed from the state, the state would lose $14.5 billion in economic activity, $6.4 billion in gross revenue, and approximately 71,197 jobs.” You can watch his 30-minute press conference at [**http://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2017021189**](http://www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2017021189)

**Washington State Legislature** has an excellent user-friendly website so you can track legislation, interact with legislators, and much more: [**www.leg.wa.gov**](http://www.leg.wa.gov)

**Sanctuary congregations:**

**Article on church sanctuary:** [**http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-sanctuary-churches-20170301-story.html**](http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-sanctuary-churches-20170301-story.html)

**Four ways your congregation can prepare to become a sanctuary congregation:** [**https://auburnseminary.org/4-ways-your-faith-community-can-prepare-for-sanctuary/**](https://auburnseminary.org/4-ways-your-faith-community-can-prepare-for-sanctuary/)

**Some former ICE employees have had changes of heart.** See these two items:

* [**https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/she-helped-deport-hundreds-of-undocumented-immigrants-now-shes-fighting-for-them/2017/03/27/9dc59cc6-04e7-11e7-b9fa-ed727b644a0b\_story.html?utm\_term=.1e6336afaeac**](https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/she-helped-deport-hundreds-of-undocumented-immigrants-now-shes-fighting-for-them/2017/03/27/9dc59cc6-04e7-11e7-b9fa-ed727b644a0b_story.html?utm_term=.1e6336afaeac)
* [**http://kuow.org/post/he-helped-deport-thousands-now-he-shelters-immigrants-his-church**](http://kuow.org/post/he-helped-deport-thousands-now-he-shelters-immigrants-his-church)

**“Know Your Rights” training resources and videos:**

**Basic concepts:** (1) You have a right to remain silent, so do not say anything without an attorney to represent you. (2) Do not even open the door unless there is an official warrant signed by a judge. An ICE “warrant” is not enough. (3) Do not sign anything.

**CIELO’s website** includes a section about immigration. It includes excellent “Know Your Rights” videos in English and Spanish: [**https://cieloprograms.org/immigration**](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcieloprograms.org%2Fimmigration%2F&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cb9f068a621664986553208d76fe4ce3d%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637100900807505528&sdata=Ns5OwSnOV45B2oYWTg1MdjXIruNpqtZuv86P0YEaAlo%3D&reserved=0)

**“Know Your Rights” PowerPoint Slide Shows in English and Spanish:**  See the special links in my May 2017 TV program, “Protect Immigrant Rights.” You can watch that video and/or read a very thorough summary of what we said (and see links to much more information) at this link: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/protect-immigrant-rights-video-interview-and-summary-of-what-we-said**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/protect-immigrant-rights-video-interview-and-summary-of-what-we-said)

**National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON):** [**www.ndlon.org**](http://www.ndlon.org)offers a collection of 7 “Know Your Rights” pamphlets.

**Spanish “Know Your Rights” Resources** (with warrant examples pages 4-5): [**http://wearecasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Final-KYR-Immigration-ESPANOL2-2.10.217.pdf**](http://wearecasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Final-KYR-Immigration-ESPANOL2-2.10.217.pdf)

**What if ICE comes?** [**www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5**](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5) provides a series of “Know Your Rights” videos in Spanish and English, including what to do if ICE comes to an agency, workplace, house, etc.

**Video:** This video from California [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5\_Z\_Z5tSsUs**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_Z_Z5tSsUs)is good. Also, most attorneys in Washington state say do not even give your name.

**8 Videos (2 minutes each) from Catholic Charities:**

* **AGENCY PROTOCOL:**  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9N\_8SHqWadc&index=7&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xT**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9N_8SHqWadc&index=7&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xT)
* **AGENCY PROTOCOL:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8iCAlYXvDc&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=1**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8iCAlYXvDc&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=1)
* **AT HOME, FRONT DOOR:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Us2RrCBjM9Q&index=8&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Us2RrCBjM9Q&index=8&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5)
* **AT HOME:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqXh6CB6r8g&index=6&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqXh6CB6r8g&index=6&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5)
* **POLICE STOP:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NDZH9JmjsE&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=3**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6NDZH9JmjsE&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=3)
* **POLICE STOP:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVTLT5aOOL4&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=5**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVTLT5aOOL4&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=5)
* **WORKPLACE:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTUDOLSzh1o&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=2**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTUDOLSzh1o&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5&index=2)
* **WORKPLACE:** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SsJ4SUDKNfU&index=4&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SsJ4SUDKNfU&index=4&list=PLlOioaWjC0YhpikWuQAywI8Ju7R91xTd5)

Protect Muslims from special injustices:

**AFSC’s 4 helpful ways to talk about the Muslim ban:** [**https://www.afsc.org/blogs/media-uncovered/four-tips-talking-about-trumps-muslim-ban?utm\_source=Mar2017AFSCNow&utm\_medium=email**](https://www.afsc.org/blogs/media-uncovered/four-tips-talking-about-trumps-muslim-ban?utm_source=Mar2017AFSCNow&utm_medium=email)

**Center for Constitutional Rights:** [**www.ccrjustice.org**](http://www.ccrjustice.org)

**Council on American-Islamic Relations:** [**www.CAIR.com**](http://www.CAIR.com)

**Understand Islam as a legitimate faith.** Glen Anderson’s October 2018 TV interview is titled, “Let’s Understand the Islamic Faith.” He interviewed three knowledgeable Muslims in order to help the general public understand what the faith actually believes. You can watch the interview video – and/or read a thorough summary of what we said – through this post on Glen’s blog: [**http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-lets-understand-the-islamic-faith**](http://parallaxperspectives.org/tv-lets-understand-the-islamic-faith)

**Glen’s closing encouragement:**

Glen thanked our guests – **Alejandra Hunt** and **Paul Benz** – and he thanked all of the people who have been watching.

He said all four of his grandparents arrived after 1900 as immigrants with no money and unable to speak English.

But at that time the American Dream still existed, and immigrants were welcome – especially if they came from Europe. The U.S. has a long history – back into the 1800s – of discriminating against immigrants from some parts of the world. That racism now dominates the U.S. government and drives many horrible policies.

Decent people have better values. We recognize the inherent oneness of the entire human family, no matter where you came from. We know that immigrants “make America great.” Not racism! Immigrants!

Ordinary people who are NOT at risk need to stand up for the rights of people who ARE at risk because of their immigrant status.

Glen invited people to get information about immigration in the “Immigrants” category of his blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)– and information about a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence through other parts of his blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)or by phoning him at (360) 491-9093.

You can get information about a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence through my blog, [**www.parallaxperspectives.org**](http://www.parallaxperspectives.org)or by phoning me at
(360) 491-9093 or e-mailing me at **glenanderson@integra.net**

I end each TV program with this encouragement:

**We're all one human family, and we all share one planet.**

**We can create a better world, but we all have to work at it.**

**The world needs whatever you can do to help!**