KIND helped 40 of the first parents reunify with their children.

KIND is the leading organization working to reunite and heal families who were torn apart during the family separation crisis.

KIND is providing more than 400 children and parents with legal assistance in the United States.

We are working with 60 more parents still in their home countries.

KIND has supported the Task Force since its inception and is leading efforts to find parents. Together with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), supported by the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, we launched a Help Desk to find and serve families who have yet to be reunited. We answer separated parents’ questions regarding family reunification in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and several Central American Indigenous languages.

Between September 2021 - January 24, 2022, KIND has:

- 422 Families contacted about reunification
- 337 Registered on the Task Force’s website Together.gov

If we cannot reach a family, we work with our partner Justice in Motion, which searches village-by-village in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Mexico to find families.

Dennis was separated from his father at the U.S.-Mexico border in 2018 after fleeing Guatemala to escape death threats. Dennis, 16, was taken to a Customs and Border Protection hielera (ice box), and his father was deported. Dennis spent one-and-a-half months in Office of Refugee Resettlement custody, separated from his father and without knowing what would happen next. He was eventually released to his older brother. As Dennis still struggled with the aftermath of being separated from his father, his brother had to return to Guatemala just a year after they were reunited. Dennis had nowhere else to go, so he was forced to live on his own. KIND represented Dennis’ father in his successful application to return to the United States. He reunited with Dennis in December 2021. KIND took on Dennis’ immigration case. Now reunited, the two are getting to know each other again after three painful years of separation.
KIND stands firmly by the side of children whose parents were deported, helping them every step of the way.

KIND has helped more than 1,500 individuals affected by family separation since 2017. We have worked alongside families and fought for the rights of hundreds of children and families in immigration court.

What happens after families are reunited?

Reunification is not the end of the journey. Families face uncertain futures as they rebuild their lives after three or more years apart. While dealing with the trauma they have endured, many separated children are still in immigration proceedings and do not know if they will be allowed to stay in the United States.

KIND cannot undo the wrongs of family separation, but we can provide services to help separated families, including legal representation, mental health services, stability – and justice.

KIND fights for permanent solutions for families that will allow them to live free from the fear of ever being separated again. We advocate for the rights of families to obtain permanent relief and redress, and we work to hold the government accountable. We advocate to strengthen protections for children at the U.S.-Mexico border and throughout the U.S. immigration system to stop family separation and promote the best interests of the child.

What’s Next?

End Family Separation

To ensure children are not taken from their parents now and in the future, the Biden Administration should enact a policy that makes clear that parents and children should not be separated unless it is an exceptional case where separation may be warranted for the child’s well-being, such as in cases of human trafficking. In these rare situations, a child welfare professional should conduct an assessment before the separation occurs and recommend separation only when warranted by specific criteria and approved by supervisory review.

KIND urges the Biden Administration to:

1. Create clear and rigorous guidelines that prioritize keeping families together, except in specific cases where a child welfare expert determines a child may be in danger.

2. Ensure that qualified child welfare professionals are present at the border and are involved in all processing of children and families.

3. Establish accessible and transparent procedures for challenging family separation decisions that allow for rapid resolution of contested cases.

4. Carefully document any instances of family separation and enhance record keeping to ensure that children and their families can be quickly reunified and that separated children are not lost in the system.
We will not rest until all separated families are reunited and safe.

If you were separated from a child at the border between January 2017 and January 2021, or know someone who was, and the separated parent or child is outside the United States please contact the Help Desk at:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KIND Help Desk</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interpreters are available.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Brazil, call: +55-21-3500-8817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In El Salvador, call: +503-2136-1163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Guatemala, call: +502-2302-5773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Honduras, call: +504-2217-0379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Mexico, call: +52-55-8897-5395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Nicaragua, call: +505-7517-8143</td>
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<tr>
<td>In the United States, call: +1-213-454-0527</td>
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To learn more about the Family Reunification Task Force, and to register to start the reunification process, go to the family reunification website at: https://www.together.gov

KIND can help you register your case.

**Additional Resources**

- Timeline: Family Separation and Reunification Efforts
- KIND Family Separation Resources
- KIND’s analysis of the Biden Administration's unaccompanied child policies in its first year
- KIND comments on identifying recommendations for the Family Reunification Task Force

For information about whether and how KIND can help in other family separation cases, please email info@supportkind.org