



VICENTE SARMIENTO
ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION NORTH BUILDING
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March 24, 2026

Dear Honorable Mayor and Members of the Anaheim City Council,

I write to express my strong support for continued funding of the Anaheim Contigo Program and the establishment of an immigration legal defense component.

Anaheim Contigo has proven to be an essential lifeline for residents—helping families stay housed, keep the lights on, and meet basic needs during times of hardship. As your agenda report highlights, the program has already served hundreds of residents and continues to meet a growing demand in the community.

Expanding this effort through the “Stay Housed Anaheim Program” and additional utility assistance is a critical step forward. At the same time, establishing a legal defense component is both timely and necessary. Having legal representation or assistance to navigate the legal process involved in immigration law is one of the most difficult hurdles that our families face in trying to ensure their rights are respected.

Last year, in collaboration with philanthropic entities, we funded the creation of the OC Liberty Fund to support county non-profits in the community legal empowerment work they do every day. The need is so acute, and for many families, the additional assistance you can provide could make all the difference. These investments are essential to protecting vulnerable residents and strengthening the overall stability of the community.

Your action on this item will not only assist in ensuring we protect the rights of our immigrant neighbors, who continue to be targets, but also send an important message to our immigrant communities that they are part of the city and that you support them at those most difficult moments for so many families.

I strongly urge the City Council to move forward with both the continuation of Anaheim Contigo and the implementation of this legal defense component.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to Anaheim families.

Sincerely,

Vicente Sarmiento
Supervisor, Second District
Orange County Board of Supervisors