

Preparing for ICE in Healthcare Settings

Healthcare staff are not law enforcement—their role is to provide care for patients. Healthcare facilities can promote safe healthcare settings by following these steps:

1 Designate Liaisons

- Assign specific health center staff as liaisons for responding to ICE presence.
- Ensure staff liaisons are trained in appropriate protocols.
- Make sure all staff know *who* the liaisons are and *how* to contact them.

2 Follow Protocols

- If ICE arrives, train all staff to immediately contact designated liaisons.
- If you use code announcements, consider creating an ICE-specific code.

3 Protect Patients

- Close doors, secure patient records, and keep ICE agents out of patient areas while the designated staff liaison reviews ICE documentation.

4 Understand Warrants

- Judicial Warrants (signed by a judge) may grant ICE access but must be reviewed to understand their scope.
- Administrative Warrants (issued by ICE) do not require compliance—health center staff may deny entry and state, “We do not consent to a search.”

5 Practice and Document

- Train staff with realistic drills, simulating ICE encounters.
- Track and report any ICE interactions to help inform advocacy efforts.

For support or training on these topics, contact info@terrafirma.nyc

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