*#SingDownTheWalls* *#Free Families* *#WeSingFreedom*

# Sing Down The Walls

## Song Challenge Toolkit

*"We have to be strong like the waves of the sea."*

- 13 yr old detained at Dilley Detention Center

### An invitation from Ms. Rachel, Free Families, The Peace Poets, and Songs in the Key of Resistance

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*"Sing Down The Walls"* is a new protest song that's breaking out across the country that was co-written with children currently locked up in immigrant detention. Now we need your help uplifting their call to sing down the walls- So here's the vision: We the people make a choice to change history. By singing. We will initiate a massive popular wave of freedom music in the form of a nightly ritual at 7pm from wherever we are, joining those singing it inside . Together we create a cultural phenomenon that has the power to impact the politics of this time so much that we ensure no child is detained and no family is separated. Here's how:

## How to participate

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### First Step

Gather yourself, your family, and your community to share the words of detained children in a new nightly song challenge. We have sat inside detention centers with children and parents, held their hands and said we won't stop singing with you until you are free- We told them every single night at 7pm, we'll pause to "Sing Down the Walls". They said, "we'll sing it here and you sing it there..." will you sing with them?

- **If you are a parent**, sing down the walls between children and parents by singing this with your kids before bedtime,
- **If you're a teacher**, sing down the walls between classmates this with your class,
- **If you're a preacher** sing down the walls dividing members of faith communities by singing this with your community,
- **Everyone,** whoever you are and wherever you are, the children need you to sing for freedom.

### Second Step

**Record & share a video of you, your children, or your family singing to "*Sing Down The Walls!*"**

- It could be around the dinner table, at the beach, a neighborhood gathering, a team meeting, etc.
- Share your video on social media. Collaborate and/or Tag @freefamiliesforever, @msrachelforlittles @KairosCenterNYC and @ThePeacePoets
- Use #FreeFamilies, #SingDownTheWalls, #WeSingFreedom

**Suggested copy**
Together we can sing down the walls that separate families, separate neighbors, and separate our communities. I invite you to join us in singing this song every day at 7pm. To learn the song visit: **bit.ly/SingDownTheWalls**

### Third Step

**Nominate/tag someone who you want to Sing Down The Walls!** Let's get this whole country to sing our way to ending the detention of children and separation of families forever!

## Resources

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### Lyrics & Video Samples

**Learn the song:** *Sing Down The Walls—* (English, Spanish & Creole)

*I sing from here, you sing from there*
*Together We'll sing down the walls everywhere!*
*The love in our hearts like the waves of the sea*
*Together we'll sing until everyone's free*

*Yo canto acá, tu cantas allá*
*Y todos los muros vamos a tumbar!*
*Nuestro amor como olas del mar*
*Cantando llegamos a la libertad*

*Mwen ap chante la, ou chante lòtbò*
*Nao chante ansanm pou nou kraze miray*
*Nou genyen lajwa tankou vag lanmè yo*
*Nou pral chante ansanm jouk jout tout moun libète*

## Video Samples

**Video with the Peace Poets**

## More about the *Kairos Center for Religions, Rights and Social Justice* and *Songs in the Key Of Resistance*

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**Get The New Songs In The Key Of Resistance Album! www.songsinthekeyofresistance.org**

**Songs in the Key of Resistance (SKOR) is a cross-movement project, hosted by the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights, and Social Justice, for artists, organizers, faith leaders, and community members to come together in song.** We gather to learn and share music for demonstrations, direct actions, and community rituals; to tell stories of hope and resistance; and to create the world we know is possible.

We lift up the practice of organizing through song—recognizing that music, when used intentionally and strategically, grounds our communities, energizes our spirits, sets tone and intention, and helps us grieve, celebrate, and connect our struggles. Music is not a decoration—it is foundational to how we express our deepest values and collective dreams. Through SKOR, we are working to reclaim and reimagine the role of music in building powerful movements for justice and liberation.

Visit for more info: **kairoscenter.org/projects/songs-in-the-key-of-resistance/**

## Update:

Our children in detention need us right now!! They are under increased repression because they bravely choose to speak out against their detention. Since sharing the song written with our children inside detention all over the country, Core Civic, the private corporation making money off jailing families, has taken away video visits and now further escalated the alienation of our children by stopping in person visits of those supporting them. Yesterday, June 25th, we went back to Dilley to see our kids. We were refused entry to the facility. We also learned that they are no longer permitting children inside ! Our kids are being hidden from us! We know they continue to suffer and languish in this place with moldy food, 24 fluorescent lights and lack of any real medical care. This is an urgent crisis inside that requires a massive escalation in resistance on the outside! So we need you and anyone and everyone you know to 1. Record and share yourself Singing Down the Walls 2. Nominate who you want to hear sing this song into a wave across the country that build the political will to end child detention and family separation now! This is possible. We can do this. We need you and your people. Thanks for considering show up in all your rage, power and love for the families inside! Estamos Juntos. We are together.