## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Justice in Motion denounces Biden administration's consideration of policy to detain migrant families

NEW YORK — Yesterday, <u>reports</u> began to surface that the Biden administration is considering reinstating the practice of detaining migrant families seeking safety in the U.S. Justice in Motion Founder and Executive Director Cathleen Caron issued the following statement in response:

"For five years, Justice in Motion and our partners have been on the frontlines to find and help reunite families separated under former President Trump's zero-tolerance policy and precursor pilot programs. Through intensive unprecedented cross-border search efforts, we have located hundreds of deported parents. We know the devastating mental and physical consequences this separation has had on these children and parents. Members of the Justice in Motion Defender Network have witnessed first-hand the desperate and dangerous conditions migrant families flee and the extraordinary journeys they make to reach the border and pursue their lawful right to seek asylum. Family detention also deeply traumatizes children, inflicting unnecessary harm and scars they will carry for a lifetime.

"The administration's consideration of a return to family detention is aberrant and an affront to the dignity of migrants who come to the U.S. seeking refuge. President Biden should protect migrant children and their families, not detain them. We urge the president and Congress to take immediate action to reform U.S. immigration law and policies to ensure that the U.S. protects migrant families seeking asylum."

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Justice in Motion protects migrant rights by ensuring justice across borders. Our unique network of on-the-ground human rights defenders in Mexico and Central America partner with U.S. advocates to make sure that wherever migrants go, their rights will follow.