



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Aggie Alvez  
[chaffee.ipt@gmail.com](mailto:chaffee.ipt@gmail.com)  
301.642.8497

### **Local Leaders to Participate in Town Hall on Immigration Enforcement in Chaffee County**

The Chaffee Immigrant Partnership Team and Ark Valley Indivisible will host a public town hall bringing together local law enforcement, school district leadership, and elected officials to discuss how Chaffee County responds to immigration enforcement.

The event will feature Chaffee County Sheriff Andy Rohrich, Salida Police Chief Russ Johnson, Salida School Superintendent David Blackburn, Salida Mayor Justin Critelli, and Chaffee County Commissioner P.T. Wood.

As immigration enforcement activity continues across Colorado, including in rural areas, many residents have questions about how local agencies interact with ICE, how decisions are made, and what protocols are in place. This town hall is designed to provide factual information directly from local leaders and to offer an opportunity for community members to ask questions.

Panelists will address topics including:

- Current policies and procedures
- How local law enforcement interacts and coordinates with ICE
- School district policies and how schools respond if ICE is present
- How local agencies coordinate and communicate with one another
- What residents should expect and how information will be shared

“Residents are seeing what is happening in other communities and want to understand what it would mean here at home,” said Stefanie Underwood of the Chaffee Immigrant Partnership Team. “This town hall is about providing clear, accurate information so people know how our institutions respond and what to expect.”

The town hall will take place at the Salida High School gym on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, 6:00 – 7:30 PM. Doors will open at 5:30 PM. Due to space limitations, advance registration is strongly encouraged at: <https://www.mobilize.us/arkvalleyindivisible/event/918613/> Attendees are advised not to bring large backpacks or bags so that personal items can be scanned quickly. Weapons and drugs of any kind are not permitted.

The event will include a moderated question-and-answer session. Community members may also submit questions in advance through the registration link.

### **About the Organizers**

The Chaffee Immigrant Partnership Team is part of a statewide network working to support the rights and dignity of immigrants through education, advocacy, and access to resources. Ark Valley Indivisible is part of the national Indivisible network and is focused on promoting democracy through civic engagement and community action.

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