# PROPOSED DETENTION CENTER IN UINTA COUNTY



## **OVERVIEW**

The Department of Homeland Security issued a Request for Information (RFI) on October 12, 2017 regarding four potential locations for new immigration detention centers. The four locations specified include Detroit, St. Paul, Chicago, and Salt Lake City. The RFI stated the facilities could be within a 180-mile 'ground commute' of the named city; for Salt Lake City, that radius Uinta County and the City of Evanston.

The facility, if approved, would host 200-600 people detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Private, for-profit entities are a key part of ICE immigrant detention, and the RFI was open to participation by private entities. Earlier, in June 2017, the Uinta County Commission and Evanston City Council both unanimously passed resolutions supporting a proposal by Management and Training Corporation to build a private immigration detention center in the county.

#### WHAT IS MTC?

Management & Training Corp., (MTC) is the third-largest private prison company in America. Although the company started off as a Job Corps contractor providing opportunities to disadvantaged youth, it diversified into the private prison industry in the 1980s and quickly became a hive for abuse and neglect. MTC currently operates immigration detention contracts at the Imperial Regional Detention Facility in California, Otero County in New Mexico, and Livingston in Texas.

# BACKGROUND: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITIES & PRIVATE PRISONS<sup>1</sup>

In recent years, the Department of Homeland Security – the federal agency with the principal role of enforcing federal immigration law – has increasingly relied upon the private prison industry to detain immigrants and immigrant families. This is part of a larger scheme in which these companies make billions of dollars through contracts with governments at all levels, contributing to both mass incarceration and mass deportations. The result has often been disastrous for the people detained inside of these prisons, as well as the communities where the prisons are built. The for-profit prison system has been marked by substandard and inhumane conditions, broken financial promises to local communities, and lack of transparency or accountability when problems have arisen.



## **#WYOSAYNO CAMPAIGN**

In response to the proposed detention center in Uinta County, a grassroots coalition of individuals and organizations formed, dedicated to stopping the proposed Uinta County Immigration Prison. This coalition believes in keeping families together, protecting rural communities, and that Wyoming won't detain for private gain!

You can learn more about the campaign at wyosayno.com, or find us on Facebook. Questions can be directed at contact@wyosayno.com

People Power, The Case Against Building a Private Prison for Immigrants in Your Community