Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange Call for Protection of DACA Recipients, Urge Action for Asylum Seekers

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange call for the protection of DACA Recipients and urge action for asylum seekers. We do this in response to actions this week by the Trump Administration which are intended to reject asylum seekers and “Dreamers” and which are at odds with a recent ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court. We do this in solidarity with thousands of Sisters of St. Joseph across the United States, who have made a statement through the U.S. Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph as follows:

We, the Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph, compelled by the Gospel and by our heritage to be responsive to the “dear neighbor” without distinction, are disheartened to learn of these sweeping changes to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program which the Department of Homeland Security recently announced. We call upon the current Administration to ensure the protection and care of DACA Recipients who, through no fault of their own, find themselves in indeterminate state of anguish and uncertainty. These actions by the current Administration

- to significantly limit the DACA program,
- to categorically reject all initial requests for DACA, and
- to limit the period of renewed deferred action granted pursuant to the DACA policy after the issuance of this memorandum to one year with increased fees

is in flagrant opposition to the July 17th U.S. Supreme Court ruling’s directives to restore the DACA program to its pre-rescission status including the resumption of accepting new applications.

We cannot remain silent. We stand with DACA Recipients. We will continue to use our collective voices to advocate with our U.S. Senators asking them to protect and provide a roadmap to citizenship for DACA Recipients and for comprehensive immigration reform now.

We join with others in calling our representatives in Congress, both in the House and the Senate, to work in a bipartisan manner to towards a legislative solution to protect all Dreamers. We know our voices and votes count now more than ever.

Asylum & Refugee Protection Action

Raise voices now to advocate with our U.S. Senators, asking them to protect people seeking asylum protection (and to protect the U.S. Asylum Process)! With the recent Executive Actions proposing a federal rule change(s) to the Asylum Process, these proposed changes would effectively end asylum once and for all in the United States.
Please take the following action(s):

1. Please call and/or email each of your U.S. Senators. Click on this link to find your Senators and ask them to:
   - Protect the world’s most vulnerable individuals, asylees and refugees, fleeing for safety
   - Protect the U.S. Asylum Process and Refugee Resettlement Program
   - Support, co-sponsor and pass pro-asylum legislation, including the Refugee Protection Act (RPA) (S.2936/H.R.5210) and the Asylum Seeker Protection Act (H.R. 2662)

Sample Script:

“I’m your constituent from [CITY], and as a person of faith from [for example, the Sisters of St. Joseph], I urge you to protect the world’s most vulnerable individuals by restoring asylum protections and uphold the U.S. asylum system. I urge you, Senator, to champion pro-asylum legislation, including the Refugee Protection Act (RPA) (S.2936)

2. Call or email Senator Mitch McConnell ask him to allow a vote on the Senate floor on the Refugee Protection Act (RPA) (S.2936)
   Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell
   Phone: (202) 224-2541
   Submit email here

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The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange were founded in 1912, and share a common mission with Sisters of St. Joseph around the world who trace their heritage back to the founding of the order in 1650, in LePuy, France. Sisters of St. Joseph unite people with God and with each other. To bring about this unity, sisters go into neighborhoods, identify needs and work with others to meet those needs. Undertaking spiritual and corporal works of mercy, the religious order encourages and assists those who wish to follow Christ more closely, and works to alleviate conditions which cause ignorance, poverty, suffering and oppression. To learn more, visit http://csjorange.org/.

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