



August 1... Alert on Immigration

What's Happening?

During the opening of the Democratic National Convention on Monday, Karla cast her fears to the side and addressed a primetime audience on what it's like to be one of the estimated 5 million US citizen kids with at least one undocumented parent. "I'm scared that at any moment my mom and my dad will be forced to leave," Karla said during her speech. "And I wonder, 'What if I come home and find it empty? I want my parents to see me do science experiments and find my rare rocks in the desert. I want to grow up to be a lawyer so I can help other families.'" Karla's mom, Francisca, beaming at her side, also made some remarks in Spanish. "The immigration system must be improved so that all families can stay together and be able to reach the American Dream." Immediately following Karla and Francisca was Astrid Silva, a Nevada DREAMer and leader. As Astrid spoke, the giant monitors behind her displayed a simple but powerful message: "No human is illegal."

(Adapted from America's Voice by Gabe Ortiz)

Action One: Prayer

Creator God, open our eyes so we can see you in the eyes of our immigrant brothers and sisters, eyes downcast for having lived so long in the shadows, eyes challenging us to join them in the streets or picket lines, eyes lifted looking for the Christ light in us. Compassionate God, who has come to dwell among us, open our ears to hear the cries of your children, children being separated from their parents, rounded up in raids, led to detention centers, silently giving up dreams. God of Justice, who crosses all boundaries, give us courage to resist, to say NO to unjust laws. Give us the strength to stand with and for your inclusive love, faith to believe, another world is necessary and possible. Let it begin with us.

(Adapted from United Church of Christ)

Action Two: Calls/Letters

Tell DHS & ICE to Halt Deadly Deportations of Dozens of South Asians: <https://act.mpowerchange.org/sign/dhs-ice-halt-deadly-deportations/?t=1&akid=59.47858.3yRVAX>

Ask Hilary Clinton to Take Executive Action on Immigration in the 1st 100 Days of Office:
<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/hillary-take-executive-action-in-the-first-100-days/>

Support the Refugee Protection Act of 2016: <http://cqcengage.com/jesuit/app/write-a-letter?5&engagementId=231633#.V4-PpWRTcGw.facebook>

Sign Petition to Support Civilian Protection in Burundi:
https://secure.avaaz.org/en/petition/African_Union_Peace_and_Security_Council_Save_Lives_in_Burundi/

If you're a religious leader from Chicago please consider signing on to an interfaith religious leader letter to increase protections for Chicago immigrant residents:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1rLCexccC3PLLnU7kdpVxkzXCXPwGxmRG7Oh5le1NXgw/viewform?edit_requested=true

President Obama: It's Time for Emergency Moral Action for Immigrant Families: <https://action.groundswell-mvmt.org/petitions/president-obama-it-s-time-for-emergency-moral-action-for-immigrant-families?source=gse1>

URGENT ACTION NEEDED: Stop Congress from Cutting Refugee Resettlement Funds:
<http://www.interfaithimmigration.org/fy17funding/>

Petition to Pardon Undocumented Immigrants: <https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/petition-pardon-undocumented-immigrants>

Action Three: Education

More US Schools Accused of Denying Education to Immigrants: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/aclu-suit-seeks-school-access-older-immigrant-students-40705843>

Residents on Both Sides of Border Oppose Wall being Built: https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/large-majorities-on-both-sides-of-southwestern-border-oppose-a-wall-poll-finds/2016/07/17/e0c0d270-4ac5-11e6-bdb9-701687974517_story.html?tid=sm_tw

More than 500,000 Cases Pending in Immigration Court: <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2016/07/20/federal-immigration-court-backlog-tops-500000-pending-cases.html>

Action Four: Events/Resources

Meet the 11-Year-Old Girl who Championed Immigrants at the DNC (video):
<http://americasvoice.org/blog/meet-10-year-old-girl-championed-immigrants-democratic-national-convention-last-night/>

Free Training Sessions for Immigrants Rights Organizations:
<http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/tacticaltechnology/>

Report: DACA After US v. Texas – Recommendations for the President:
http://www.adminrelief.org/resources/item.608862-DACA_After_United_States_v_Texas_Recommendations_for_the_President

“Families Seeking Freedom” Faith Reflection and Action Resource contains personal stories of immigrant families as well as some reflections from our faith teachings:
http://cqcengage.com/franciscanaction/app/thru?ep=AAAAC2Flc0NpcGhlcjAxijMKnaZzscYeLntzghRbqmII12VAhfaOFPbjGsjVS7U0nofWMKMjx1oTRbzcaOEXFiVQjG_bF_TpV3hFHlpJbuw-JR5aUHZtOER9vvyWft2a0HMI39_JX_Ikk5kJQdjklmW4yixU4I2QFihhmdm3rV34do0FwyDjkbVRqitCZ9Y75SkmqIIyB4JGpBoepoo_dnUipw-KGJ9dZPNcHevRibR8sZD0-j2urBLaRnSgoQ14AmgNgXLX5mx-bQBehJpJu&lp=0

Action Five: Social Media

Sample Tweet: .@SENATOR, Our community welcomes #immigrants. OPPOSE S.3100, the so-called “Stop Dangerous Sanctuary Cities Act”

Thank you for your efforts!