



June 20... Alert on Immigration

WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Today, June 20, is World Refugee Day. Find out how you can get involved by visiting <http://www.refugeesarewelcome.org/> to find the Refugees Welcome Toolkit and other resources.

Other Resources:

Sign Petition to Urge Congress to make #RefugeesWelcome: <http://www.rescue.org/reform>

Delays in International Relief for Refugees Led to More Tragedy: <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2016/jun/08/my-job-is-to-ask-refugees-about-their-journey-its-so-awful-ive-run-out-of-words-to-describe-it>

Last week of May was One of Deadliest Periods Yet in Refugee Crisis: <https://sojo.net/articles/last-week-may-was-one-deadliest-periods-yet-refugee-crisis>

What's Happening?

Refugee Council USA created an online petition to engage folks in their advocacy work in Texas. The petition Pledge to Welcome Refugees in Texas ties into World Refugee Day and urges the Texas Governor and members of the Texas legislature to continue to welcome and support refugees. Please help distribute to your affiliates and any Texas partners and supporters. The goal is to use the petition as a way to gather the names of individuals and organizations that RCUSA can engage in local Texas advocacy efforts moving forward. The link can be distributed to service providers, faith communities, community volunteers, business partners, ethnic associations, immigrants' rights groups, and other refugee supporters through your listservs or social media.

Find out more information at: www.rcusa.org/texas

(Adapted from Interfaith Immigration Coalition)

Like many of you, we are eagerly awaiting the Supreme Court's decision in *U.S. v Texas*, which will determine whether the DAPA and *expanded* DACA programs may move forward. The remaining scheduled days in June on which the Supreme Court may issue its decision are **June 13, 20, & 27**. However, the Court may add additional "decision days." You can find the very latest news about the Court's decisions, including links to actual decisions, on SCOTUSblog.com. To find out how to prepare for the decision, visit <http://www.nilc.org/how-to-prepare-for-us-v-texas/>

(Adapted from National Immigration Law Center)

Action One: Prayer

Holy Spirit, we implore you to inspire and guide the minds and hearts of the United States Supreme Court Justices as they deliberate in the pending case about DAPA and extended DACA. Send forth Your Spirit of Wisdom that God will be at the center of their lives. Send forth Your Spirit of Understanding that their minds may be enlightened with Truth. Send forth Your Spirit of Counsel that they will do Your holy will. Send forth Your Spirit of Fortitude to give them the courage to do what is right and good. Send forth Your Spirit of Knowledge so they will know good from evil. Send forth Your Spirit of Piety that they will possess a true faith in You and holy love of You, our God. Send forth Your Spirit of Holy Fear to penetrate their inmost hearts to be ever mindful of Your presence and possess an intense reverence for God and our neighbor who is made in God's image and likeness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Adapted from: Nebraska Catholic Conference)

Action Two: Calls/Letters

Tell DHS NOT to Negotiate with Jim Wells County: <https://www.raicestexas.org/pages/stopserco>

Sign Letter to Pres. Obama to Grant Temporary Protective Status to Central American Refugees: <http://maryknollogc.org/article/faith-groups-ask-president-obama-grant-temporary-protected-status-central-american-refugees>

Get Local Police Out of the Business of Deportation: https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/help-us-get-local-police-out-of-the-business-of-deportation-end-287g-in-harris-county-2/?source=email&link_id=0&can_id=7ae87b1c230dd5d90a56ef6f9b72e945&email_referrer=back-up-1000-immigrant-youth-this-saturday&email_subject=back-up-1000-immigrant-youth-this-saturday

Tell Obama to STOP the Raids!

https://salsa4.salsalabs.com/o/50887//p/dia/action3/common/public/index.sjs?action_KEY=18802

Send your Members of Congress a Message to Support Peace & Human Rights in Colombia:

http://org.salsalabs.com/o/625/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=19745

Call the White House Comment Line at 202-456-1111 and tell Pres. Obama to STOP the Raids!

Sample Script: "Hello, I am [your name] from [city, state, community] calling to urge President Obama STOP plans to deport Central American children and families. These individuals are fleeing horrific violence and should have access to due process and legal counsel so that they can apply for asylum and protection in the United States. We should not be traumatizing communities and sending mothers and children back to the dangers they fled."

Action Three: Education

Coming out of the Shadows is Risky Business: <http://www.wired.com/2016/06/online-undocumented-immigrants-come-shadows/>

High School Students Miss Graduation Due to Immigration Raids: <http://www.citylab.com/crime/2016/06/the-highschoolers-trapped-in-americas-flawed-immigration-system-ice-free-wildin/484463/>

Senators Call for Immigration Raids to End: <http://augustafreepress.com/kaine-calls-halt-ice-raids-targeting-central-american-women-children/>

Action Four: Events/Resources

June 15, 2016 was the 4th anniversary of the day that President Obama announced DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). **DACA is a victory won and defended under the leadership of immigrants.** Over 728,200 people have received DACA since the program began in 2012. Although it's important to reflect on and celebrate this victory, we must also recognize the hardships DACA recipients continue to face. As we celebrate Father's Day, we want to **pay tribute to the resilience of those whose parents have been deported and those who are parents themselves** and live with the real fear that they could one day be deported and separated from their communities. In this video, Antonio Campos speaks with great pride about his DACA-recipient daughter Diana: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalImmigrationLawCenter/videos/115253881183804/>

Resources to End Mass Criminalization of Immigrants: <http://immigrantjusticenetwork.org/resources/fix96/>

Action Five: Social Media

Sample Facebook Post: Take the pledge this World Refugee Day to welcome and support refugees in Texas. Take action today and urge Governor Abbott and members of the Texas legislature to continue to welcome refugees in Texas. www.rcusa.org/texas #RefugeesWelcome #WRD2016

Sample Tweet: Take the pledge: Urge Governor Abbott & the Texas legislature to support refugees in Texas www.rcusa.org/texas #RefugeesWelcome #WRD2016

Thank you for your efforts!