



January 25... Alert on Immigration

What's Happening?

Last Tuesday, Jan. 19th, the Supreme Court decided to grant certiorari to United States v. Texas, a recent decision from 5th Circuit Court of Appeals that has halted the implementation of President Obama's November 2014 executive actions on immigration. These executive actions would direct officials to exercise discretion, and on a case-by-case basis provide deportation relief for approximately 5 million undocumented immigrants currently living, and working across the U.S. (Adapted from FWD.us)

What can we expect next on DAPA and DACA?

1. Briefs of legal arguments will be submitted from both sides, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Attorney General of Texas representing the 26 GOP Governors and Attorneys General who filed against the Administration. These briefs are expected in February.
 2. In March, groups who support the DACA & DAPA executive actions will submit Amicus (Friend of the Court) briefs.
 3. In April, the Court will hold oral arguments. Lawyers for the DOJ and State of Texas will each present their case before the Supreme Court.
 4. In June, it is expected that the Court will issue a decision. For immigrant rights groups to win, the Court must say that Texas and the other states cannot block DAPA and extended DACA.
- We must work together to ensure that justice prevails for over 4 million potential beneficiaries of the executive actions. (Adapted from FAN, Franciscan Action Network)

Last November, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4038, The American Security against Foreign Enemies (SAFE) Act, which would effectively halt all resettlement of Syrian and Iraqi refugees in the U.S. for a protracted time. On Wednesday, January 20, 2016 the legislation was voted on in the U.S. Senate and it was not accepted. (Adapted from USCCB)

Action One: Prayer

God, make our hearts like yours. In this way, we will receive a heart which is firm and merciful, attentive and generous, a heart which is not closed, or indifferent or prey to the globalization of indifference. Amen. (Adapted from Pope Francis via Education for Justice)

Action Two: Calls/Letters

President Obama: Stop the Raids! http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/president-obama-stop-59?source=s.fb&r_by=326945

Call the White House at 1-866-961-4293 or the White House Comment Line directly at 1-888-907-2053:
Sample Script: *"I am from City, State, and as a Catholic/person of faith, I urge President Obama to immediately STOP plans to deport Central American children and families. These individuals are refugees fleeing violence and should have access to legal counsel so that they can apply for asylum and protection in the United States."*

Stop the Deportation Raids against Central American Refugees:

http://act.presente.org/sign/stopraids/?referring_akid=a4843200.106609.eryTc6&source=copy_thanks_email

Tell the Administration to Stop the Raids: <http://action.groundswell-mvmt.org/petitions/tell-the-obama-administration-stop-the-raids-on-central-american-refugees>

Tell Obama to Call off the Raids against Immigrant Families: https://www.credomobilize.com/petitions/tell-president-obama-to-call-off-raids-against-immigrant-families?sp_ref=167551883.4.136309.o.1.2&source=clickcopy_sp

Action Three: Education

Learn what your organization can do to respond to the humanitarian crisis of asylum-seeking women and children from El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. Webinar by CLINIC on February 25 at 1:00-2:00 p.m. EST https://cliniclegal.org/calendar/how-help-central-american-women-and-children?utm_source=CLINIC+Mail&utm_campaign=8de24a33fd-Help_Central_American_Women_Children_webinar2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a33179621a-8de24a33fd-279173657

Supreme Court to Hear Challenge to Obama Immigration Actions: http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/20/us/politics/supreme-court-to-hear-challenge-to-obama-immigration-actions.html?_r=0

US Undocumented Population Drops Below 11 Million: <http://jmhs.cmsny.org/index.php/jmhs/article/view/58>

ICE Raid Shatters Salvadoran Family's Reunion and Hopes: <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/community-news/northwest-dallas-county/headlines/20160116-ice-raid-in-irving-shatters-salvadoran-familys-reunion-and-hopes.ece>

CARA Project: 33 Mothers & Children Protected: <http://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/newsroom/release/cara-33-mothers-and-children-protected-immediate-deportation>

Action Four: Events/Resources

ICIRR Hotline – Call if you need information on your case or are facing deportation [1-855-435-7693]

Find free or low cost immigration legal services/providers near you: <http://www.adminrelief.org/legalhelp/>

Add your Congregation to the Sanctuary Declaration here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1UGcEGiyVrGOM3unpYRJJNeravT_cfd4hVmN10eSvMk/viewform

Immigration Raids Alert: <http://www.nilc.org/raidsalert2016.html>

Know Your Rights Resources: <https://afsc.org/category/topic/know-your-rights> and <http://immigrantdefenseproject.org/community-trainings#homerails>

National Migration Month Resources: OIA: <http://www.catholicsandimmigrants.org/resources/migrationweek2016/>
USCCB: <http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/>

Please consider a gift to help the ongoing needs of the CARA Project – you can access the Amazon Wish List here: http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/2NM5FBYOV8T4X/ref=cm_wl_huc_view

USCCB/MRS Response Toolkit on Syrian Refugee Crisis: <http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=1e4b787c-d419-47aa-922a-b60cc6084781&c=e318aa20-7917-11e3-9195-d4ae52754950&ch=e4621a10-7917-11e3-91b7-d4ae52754950>

Action Five: Social Media

Twitter: Access your member of Congress' twitter handle at <http://stuffthought.com/blog/113th-congress-twitter-handles/>

Sample Tweet: .@WhiteHouse As a person of faith I am OPPOSED to your plans to deport Central American kids and families who need PROTECTION. #Not1More

@DHSgov @POTUS Children are fleeing violence, we must protect them not deport them
#ProtectionNotDeportation @NALACC_ORG

Thank you for your efforts!