



June 13... Alert on Immigration

What's Happening?

As faith leaders and faith-based organizations from many different traditions, we write out of grave concern for the dramatically escalating violence that has precipitated a humanitarian crisis of refugees fleeing El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Together, we call on the U.S. government to grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to those in the U.S. who have fled El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras and immediately cease detaining and deporting children, families, and individuals from these families seeking protection here. TPS affords the Administration an important tool to extend temporary protections, and a shield from deportations, to extremely vulnerable populations. We cannot sit idly by while our Central American brothers and sisters are returned to the very violence that has forced them from their homes. Instead of continuing unnecessary detention and dangerous deportation policies, we must carry on our nation's proud history of hospitality and moral leadership. The US has a legal and moral responsibility to not return children, families, and individuals that have been subject to persecution to extremely violent territories. Now is the time to respond to this humanitarian crisis with fair and humane solutions.

(Adapted from Interfaith Immigration Coalition)

Novena for the Supreme Court and Comprehensive Immigration Reform June 13-21, 2016

Action One: Prayer

Lord, help those in conflict with one another to come to a peaceful solution, so that civilians resume their daily lives. Lord, we trust in You.

Lord, come to the aid of families who have fled safety. Guide them to places where they can find help and rest. Provide host communities with the resources to assist families arriving on their doorstep. Lord, we trust in You. Gracious Lord, we are helpless in the face of such desperation and tragedy. Let government leaders come to compassionate solutions for refugees in these dire circumstances. Open our ears to what Your Spirit is saying about our personal involvement in helping meet the overwhelming needs of refugee children and families. Lord, we trust in You.

(Adapted from: Prayer for People Affected by Conflict in Syria by Denise Koenig; Source: World Vision)

Action Two: Calls/Letters

Call on DHS to Renew DACA for Ileri: www.notonemoredeportation.com/daca-youth-punished-for-protesting/

Tell Obama to STOP the Raids!

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

Sign on to Stop Voter Suppression:

<http://www.signforgood.com/preservevotingrights/?code=Courage&redirect=https%3A%2F%2Fsecure.actblue.com%2Fcontribute%2Fpage%2Fvotersuppress%3Frecurring%3D15>

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."

Sign Petition to IL Senate – Pass HB 5736 to Keep our Kids Insured! <http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/illinois-senate-keep>

Sign Petition – Mr. President, Halt the Raids! <http://cqrcengage.com/jesuit/app/onestep-write-a-letter?0&engagementId=207633>

Tell Obama Don't Deport Immigrants to their Death! Stop the Raids! <https://actionnetwork.org/forms/tell-obama-dont-deport-immigrants-to-their-death-stop-the-raids/>

Action Three: Education

Risk Increases as SCOTUS Decision on Immigration Remains Delayed:

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/05/immigration-trump-deportations-dreamers-223658?>

Celebrities Collaborate for "I Am An Immigrant" Campaign: <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/i-am-immigrant-video-campaign-brings-faces-voices-immigrant-heritage-n581661>

US-Mexico Border Sees Resurgence of Central Americans Seeking Asylum:

<http://www.npr.org/2016/05/31/480073262/u-s-mexico-border-sees-resurgence-of-central-americans-seeking-asylum>

Action Four: Events/Resources

Join 8th Day Center for Justice in their **Lunch & Learn Series on June 17** to see **Sr. Norma Pimentel** discuss her work and **the Humanitarian Response along the Texas/Mexico Border**. Sr. Norma is the Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley where she works with those crossing the border. **Please RSVP** to Mary Ellen Madden at maryellen@8thdaycenter.org or **312-641-5151 X112**

ICIRR's next 6-day immigration training will take place August 10-17. This training will prepare staff members of authorized nonprofits and law offices to provide immigration assistance. The application deadline is Friday, July 15. For more info, please contact Fred Tsao at ftsao@icirr.org, or visit <http://icirr.org/content/6-day-immigration-training>.

Resources from National Immigration Law Center: What's Next in the DAPA/DACA+ Case?

<http://us11.campaign-archive1.com/?u=f6c2f9aea8a6a89b0e6dc23e0&id=2fce5c1e7>

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

Thank you for your efforts!

WORLD REFUGEE DAY RESOURCES

The Refugees Welcome Website contains resources for communities to organize and promote Refugee Welcome events (<http://www.refugeesarewelcome.org/>). It also has the **Refugees Welcome Toolkit** with prayers, actions, social media, and other resources to prepare for World Refugee Day on June 20 (<http://www.refugeesarewelcome.org/welcoming-resources/>).