



## January 9 – 14...Alert on Immigration

### What's Happening?

The Inauguration is on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 8 a.m. Donald Trump has promised to start deporting 2 million undocumented immigrants as soon as he takes office and end DACA - a program that protects undocumented young people. Executive actions are protecting more than 740,000 dreamers who know this country as home. But Trump has threatened to take those protections away, divide up our families, and deport millions.

Many live in fear – but there are actions of resistance, prayer and actions to keep Donald Trump from carrying this through. This week is **National Migration Week** in which we get the information out, pray, use social media to make a difference for migrants and refugees.

### **Action One: Prayer**

For our neighbors, coworkers, friends, fellow Christians, and all people, that they may grow in their awareness of the issue of migration and become a voice in the public square calling for greater protections for these populations, we pray to the Lord.

For migrants, refugees, and all other strangers in our midst, that they may find strength in our concern for justice and feel the warmth of our love, we pray to the Lord.

For refugees in Africa, the Middle East, and elsewhere who are experiencing great suffering, that God might bring them to a place of peace and safety, we pray to the Lord. National Migration Week Toolkit, pg. 12

### **Action Two: Calls/Letters**

**Action for DACA: Urge Your Senators to Cosponsor the BRIDGE Act!** <http://p2a.co/gWEh2F2>

**Postcards from National Migration Week Toolkit, pg 11**

**Please call your Senators and urge them to ask the nominees questions about the importance of refugee resettlement.** You can say: "I'm your constituent from [STATE], and my community welcomes refugees. As you

prepare for the upcoming confirmation hearings, please ask the nominee to affirm the importance of the U.S. refugee resettlement program. Resettlement is a core American legacy that extends freedom and opportunity for refugees to rebuild their lives in safety and dignity."

**Judiciary Committee: Jeff Sessions, Nominee for Attorney General – hearing Jan 10 & 11**

**Homeland Security Committee: General Kelly, Nominee for Secretary of Defense – hearing Jan 11**

**Foreign Relations: Rex Tillerson, Nominee for Secretary of State – hearing Jan 11**

If asked for specific examples of questions that the committee members could ask:

- The U.S. refugee resettlement program has operated for more than 40 years, always with bipartisan support. Refugees are rigorously vetted by the Department of Defense, State Department, Department of Homeland Security, FBI, and National Counter Terrorism Center. Resettlement is critical to refugees, communities that welcome them, and U.S. diplomatic efforts on regional stability, international security and the war on global terror. Will you affirm the importance of the refugee resettlement program?
- Many U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents are waiting to be reunited with an immediate family member through the U.S. refugee resettlement program. Family reunification is a fundamental human need, helps refugees integrate in their communities, and is part of U.S. obligations under the Refugee Convention. Will you affirm the importance of the U.S. refugee resettlement program, especially in the case of family reunification?
- Do you believe that immigrants from certain nationalities or religious should be barred from the United States and/or tracked/i while in the United States? If so, how would you defend this position given our country's legacy and laws regarding religious freedom, civil liberties and equal protection?

**Send an Electronic Postcard in Support of Refugees:**

[http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/issues/alert/?alertid=73598626&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/issues/alert/?alertid=73598626&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id])

**Action Three: Education**

**National Migration Week Webinar** scheduled for **Wednesday January 11<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM Pacific/2 PM Eastern.**

**National Migration Week Toolkit:** [http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/documents/NMW-2017-Toolkit\\_000.pdf](http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/documents/NMW-2017-Toolkit_000.pdf)

National Migration Week 2017 will take place January 8-14. This year's theme is "Creating a Culture of Encounter." The celebration provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the contributions of migrants, including refugees, and victims of human trafficking in our communities.

**Refugee Council USA 2017 Post-Election Toolkit - Visits with Local, State, and National Leaders to Welcome Refugees** <http://www.rcusa.org/blog/2017-post-election-rcusa-toolkit-visits-with-local-state-and-national-leaders-to-welcome-refugees>

**Catholic organizations, faith groups glad to see end of Muslim registry** -- Good article on sanctuary restaurant in Chicago: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-sanctuary-restaurants-honey-butter-0105-biz-20170104-story.html>

**Action Four: Actions/Events**

**[Rally to Protect Immigrants and Refugees](#)** 14 January 2017 10:00 AM Chicago, IL Chicago, Illinois, United States

**Interfaith Prayer Service:** St. Viator on Jan. 15 at 4 p.m.

**Action Five: Social Media**

**Sample Tweet:** [@Pontifex](#) says to offer the warmth and love of Christ to Immigrants and you will unlock the mystery of their heart. #Refugeeswelcome #NMW

We cannot fully understand the plight of the refugee until we all embrace the power of encounter #encountro #refugeeswelcome

During XNMW @MRSserves recognizes the work of the Catholic Church in welcoming immigrants & refugees #refugeeswelcome

**Thank you for your efforts!**