

Preserving Rights of DACA Recipients and Other Immigrants

On September 6th, in response to President Trump's decision to end DACA, Ohio Governor Kasich stated, **"If the Dreamers want to go somewhere and live, come to Ohio, we want all the immigrants to come to Ohio, we know how much immigrants contribute."**

Position: *We ask legislators to follow the Governor Kasich's comments that Ohio is a welcoming state, and extend protections to DACA (Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals) recipients in the state of Ohio.*

DACA Recipients in Ohio:

- Over 10,000 immigrants in Ohio are eligible for DACA.
- As of March 2016, 4,668 immigrants in Ohio filed for and received DACA status.
- Approximately 500 DACA recipients are studying at Ohio colleges and universities. (MPI)

Undocumented Immigrants in the AAPI Community:

- In Ohio, 25% of all undocumented immigrants were born in an Asian country. 6% (5,000) and 4% (3,000) of all undocumented immigrants were born in China and India, respectively.
- Korea and the Philippines rank in the top 5 countries of origin for DACA eligible immigrants in the US. (MPI)

Undocumented Immigrants to Ohio

- 65,000 of these undocumented immigrants are part of the Ohio workforce. If all of the unauthorized immigrants were deported from Ohio, 25,019 jobs would be lost, \$4 billion would be lost in economic activity. (AIC)
- Ohio received the worst rating in the U.S. for policies and laws that support the well-being of undocumented immigrants, tied with Alabama, Arizona, Indiana, Mississippi, and West Virginia. (UCLA CHPR, 2015)

DACA Recipients must have:

- Arrived in the U.S. before 16th birthday;
- Lived continuously in the U.S. since June 15, 2007;
- Been born after June 15, 1981 (i.e., were under age 31 on June 15, 2012);
- Have completed HS. or a GED, have served in the armed forces, or are enrolled in school;
- Have not been convicted of a felony, serious misdemeanors, or more than 2 misdemeanors, Must submit a formal application and \$465 fee, every two years.

DACA recipients are working and paying taxes, or attending school to contribute to the communities that they grew up in and consider home, and do not pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Challenges that Undocumented Immigrants Face:

- School bullying and workplace discrimination and exploitation go unreported due fear of deportation
- Avoidance of health or legal services due to fear of deportation.
- Lack of availability of financial aid, making college and university expenses unaffordable.

Our Asks:

- Offer driver's licenses or government identification to all Ohio residents, regardless of immigration status;
- Ensure that Ohio government agencies and businesses keep information regarding immigration status confidential and separate from Federal agencies, unless required to submit this information by court order, subpoena, warrant, or other lawfully authorized directive;
- Expand eligibility for in-state tuition, scholarships, and financial aid at public colleges to all Ohio residents, regardless of immigration status (Ohio is one of 31 states that doesn't provide scholarships or financial aid to undocumented students at public colleges);
- Expand healthcare coverage and Medicaid to include all children and pregnant women, regardless of immigration status; and
- Ensure all Ohio workers can participate in, and recover, from the Ohio Workers' Compensation Fund, regardless of immigration status.