



MEDIA ALERT

September 11, 2017

Thousands of Dreamers at Risk for Missing October 5 Deadline September 16, 2017 Workshop to Help Qualified DACA Recipients Apply for Renewal

What: Workshop will be offered September 16 to help current DACA recipients with *work permits that expire between September 5, 2017 and/or before March 5, 2018* obtain a new two-year work permit. They must **renew their DACA application before the October 5 deadline** or they will miss out.

Who:

- Gregory R. Kepferle, CEO, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
- Robert Yabes, Program Director, Immigration Legal Services, Catholic Charities
- Mina Ciurea, Immigration Attorney, Immigration Legal Services, Catholic Charities
- Father Jon Pedigo, Director of Advocacy & Community Engagement, Catholic Charities
- Dreamer clients of Catholic Charities
(Mina Ciurea, Father Jon, and Dreamers speak fluent Spanish. Robert Yabes speaks fluent Tagalog.)

Why: With only three weeks until the October 5 deadline for DACA who qualify to renew their applications, we are afraid that the first set of Dreamers approved under DACA do not know that they have until October 5 to renew. At the September 16 DACA Renewal and Know Your Rights Workshop, Dreamers will either be able to renew their DACA applications or speak to Catholic Charities immigration attorneys to explore other paths to citizenship. Dreamers and supporters will also learn what their rights are as immigrants and how to act, what to say, and where to go for help if they are confronted by ICE agents.

When: Wednesday, September 13, 10:00 am to 10:30 am

Where: 2625 Zanker Road, San Jose, CA, 95134. *Media to gather in foyer at main entrance facing Zanker road.*

Background:

There are about 800,000 DACA applicants in the U.S. and 154,000 DACAs (based on U.S. immigration trends) who qualify for renewal during the limited time frame. In California, there are about 38,500 DACA applicants, while in Santa Clara County, there are about 4,620 *eligible* DACA applicants.

Catholic Charities' Immigration Legal Services has served 1,500 DACA clients since 2012. An estimated 290 clients qualify for renewal. The Legal Services team urgently ask these DACA clients, and other Dreamers who we have not been served by Catholic Charities, to attend the workshop on September 16, 2017.

One of the largest service providers for the immigration community in Santa Clara County, Immigration Legal Services wants Dreamers with work permits that expire between September 5, 2017 and/or before March 5, 2018 to know that it is important that they obtain a new two-year work permit. The September 16 workshop will help them renew with their application process.

For those who cannot attend on September 16, the Immigration Legal Service team is offering workshops at their headquarters at Zanker Road in San Jose and also at their Gilroy location.

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About Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County stands with immigrants and their families. Our faith tradition leads us to support and serve the most vulnerable.

Our experience working with immigrants and especially youth and young adults who have been recipients of DACA has shown us how great a contribution socially and economically these young people offer our country and communities.

Catholic Charities will continue to support immigrants by providing the most up-to-date and accurate information available regarding the White House administration's decision to rescind DACA and to inform about other potential legal remedies.

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has worked to strengthen families and build economic self-reliance for the poor and vulnerable in the county for 62 years. Each year, more than 500 employees and 1,000 volunteers serve more than 38,000 individuals of all cultures and beliefs through 40 programs in more than 100 sites. Program areas include behavioral health, youth and family services, economic development, employment, financial education, housing, immigration legal services, in-home and long-term care, older adult services, refugee resettlement, refugee foster care, and more. Catholic Charities is working to reduce poverty with social change goals that target the alleviation, prevention, and reduction of poverty in our communities.

Learn more at <http://catholiccharitiesscc.org>.

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