

MEDIA ALERT

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County

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Lofgren and Gutiérrez to Host Event Helping Immigrant Families in the Community Prepare for President Obama's Executive Actions on Immigration

WHAT: Press Conference

Immigration: Now and Next Steps

An update on Immigration Executive Action (DACA/DAPA)

Eligibility workshops with trained leaders and advice on how to prepare for the application period.

WHO: Rep. Zoe Lofgren

Rep. Luis V. Gutiérrez

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo

California Assemblymember Nora Campos

Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese

Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez

District Attorney Jeff Rosen

Local officials in support of immigration action

WHEN: 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 20th 2015

WHERE: School of Arts and Culture

Mexican Heritage Plaza

1700 Alum Rock Ave

San Jose, CA

MEMBERS OF THE NEWS MEDIA: RSVP with Peter Whippy (Rep. Lofgren) at 202-225-3072 or

peter.whippy@mail.house.gov

SAN JOSE, CA, March 18, 2015 – **U.S. Rep. Zoe Lofgren (D-San Jose)** will host a community forum and press conference on March 20th to provide an update for the immigrant and South Bay Area community about President Obama's executive actions on immigration.

Lofgren, the top Democrat on the House Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee, will be joined by outspoken immigrant advocate **Rep. Luiz V. Gutiérrez (D-Chicago)** and Santa Clara County leaders, including San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, California Assemblymember Nora Campos, Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese, Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez, District Attorney Jeff Rosen, and others.

This event is intended to counter confusion with reliable information for immigrant communities and South Bay Area residents. Lofgren and Gutiérrez also hope to prepare families to apply for relief from deportation pending the availability of applications this year. They are confident that the President's actions are within well-established existing constitutional and statutory authority.

Background:

In November last year, President Obama announced a series of executive actions on immigration to help secure the border, prioritize deporting felons instead of families, and bring our broken immigration system into alignment with our national interests and values.

A component of these actions are the Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) program, which provides temporary deportation relief for certain parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, and expansions to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which provides similar relief for DREAMers.

Advisors will work with potential applicants to determine eligibility and help prepare necessary documentation to apply for relief from deportation.

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County has been helping the immigrant community for 60 years. They recently held a series of community information sessions at Parishes throughout the county, in partnership with the Diocese of San Jose and People Acting in Community Together (PACT).

After President Obama announced his executive actions in November 2014, we started conducting these presentations to inform and educate the immigrant community to start collecting their documents, save money, and get as much information as they can get to protect themselves from notario fraud and abuse.

Catholic Charities is working with other organizations under the Santa Clara County South Bay Legal Immigration Services Network (SBLISN) and the San Mateo County Community Response of Immigration Legal Service Providers (CRISP) to reach out to the community in both Counties to provide accurate information and quality immigration legal assistance to immigrants. Please check this link for information about other events happening in the community: <http://immigrantinfo.org/events/index.html>.

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About Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren:

Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren is serving her eleventh term in Congress representing most of the City of San Jose and Santa Clara County. Congresswoman Lofgren is Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation consisting of 39 Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives from California and serves as the top Democrat on the Judiciary Committee Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee.

About Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County:

Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County changes lives for good. We help people of all cultures and beliefs rise up out of poverty and overcome the barriers to self-sufficiency. Because most lives are a complex pattern of choices and circumstances, we take a holistic approach to helping people change their lives, taking into account the whole person as well as their family and life situations. We do this through a broad range of services, including job skills training and placement, older adult services, mental health and substance abuse counseling, housing assistance, financial education, immigration support, and refugee resettlement. We also provide educational programs that help young people develop into self-sufficient adults. Each year, we serve more than 41,000 people in need.