FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts:

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CARECEN SF Condemns Trump Administration's Targeting of TPS Holders

San Francisco November 7, 2017 – The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) announcement that it will cancel Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for 2,500 Nicaraguans who have legally lived and worked in the United States for decades is a shameful decision that ignores their many long-term contributions to this country. The ambivalence on the fate of Honduran TPS holders unnecessarily continues to place 57,000 people and their families in a cruel limbo – one that could end in family separation, and their forced return to countries in a region profoundly impacted by violence and poverty.

The Trump Administration's targeting of TPS holders – some 320,000+ individuals from a variety of countries who have been granted permission to live and work in this country for decades – is the latest bombshell in its insidious long-term attack not only on immigrant communities but also on our country's shared values of family, hard work, and the rights of people to live without fear for their safety and the security of their families.

Since 1999 TPS holders from Honduras and Nicaragua have been enrolled in the program. They have submitted to background checks, paid several thousands of dollars, and re-registered so that they are able to remain living in this country. They are our neighbors, family, caretakers, and co-workers. It is inhumane to the end program without giving them a pathway to lawful status.

CARECEN SF, local and national allies urge DHS Secretary to further extend the TPS program for Hondurans, and other nations currently in the program. We want DHS to change its decision on the Nicaraguan program, and to deliver extensions on forthcoming deadlines for TPS holders from Haiti and El Salvador as well.

While we demand an 18-month extension for all 13 nations currently in TPS, we know that simply extending the program is not the ultimate solution for its beneficiaries and their families. Beyond the extension, we demand that congress legislate a "clean" pathway to permanent residence for all TPS beneficiaries.

It is critical that TPS beneficiaries seek immigration legal counsel from accredited community based immigration legal programs, such as CARECEN SF and others in the Bay Area, in order to avoid fraud, or false promises from unqualified advisors/"Notarios".

Our community has rights, and TPS holders may qualify for existing immigration programs that allow for adjustment of migratory status. A recent Ninth Circuit ruling has created yet another avenue for TPS holders to adjust status in the states of California, Nevada, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Arizona and Washington, and for this reason it is imperative they seek immigration legal counsel.

Finally, we call on our community to come together, get informed, and continue to organize to demand that which is not only just, but long overdue.

For more information on this announcement visit our webpage www.carecensf.org or call us at 415-642-4400.

CARECEN SF offers drop-in legal consultations Monday-Friday from 9am-noon. We see people in order of arrival.

Related Events:

Rally to #SaveTPS at SF City Hall steps, 12:00 (Noon) today, November 7, 2017.

CARECEN SF is a member of Alianza Americas, who will host an informational webinar **today** Tuesday, November 7. Register for 2pm EST (http://ow.ly/5VqZ30gqc6Q - English) or 6pm EST (http://ow.ly/r0kE30gqcaj - Spanish).

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