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PRESS RELEASE

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TPS, DACA, DED BENEFICIARIES AND LEADING ADVOCATES HOLD BRIEFING FOR LAWMAKERS ON COUNTRY CONDITIONS, MIGRANT CORRIDOR AND CALL ON CONGRESS TO TAKE URGENT ACTION AND LEGISLATE ON A PATH TO PERMANENT STATUS

Washington, DC – September 9, 2019 - Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders, their families, along with Deferred Enforcement Departure (DED) and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) holders will be joined by CARECEN San Francisco, CARECEN DC, Alianza Americas, the Bay Area TPS Committee, CASA, 32BJ, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, African Advocacy Network, the Black Alliance for Just Immigration, OXFAM, Latin America Working Group, FANM and other allies call on Congress to act now to create a path to permanent residency for all 13 countries beneficiaries of TPS, DACA and DED.

September 9th, is the day when more than 190 thousand TPS beneficiaries from El Salvador would have lost protection against deportation, forced to face family separation and forcefully be uprooted from communities in which they have deep ties. They would have seen the cancellation of their Employment Authorization Documents (EAD) if not for the [Ramos vs Nielsen lawsuit](#). To place an urgent call to action to Congress, several families, TPS, DED and DACA beneficiaries along with community based organizations, planned two days of action to tell Congress that time is running out! TPS, DACA and DED beneficiaries are facing daily challenges related to being in legal limbo due to the cancellation of the programs and the inconsistencies of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issuing the Federal Register Notices. These highly vetted individuals with U.S. born children, deserve immediate protection from deportation and an opportunity to apply for permanent residency now!

September 9th activities - the first event will be a **Congressional Briefing**, 10am-11am in Washington, DC. The Briefing will include expert panelists on the topics of 1) Current state of Central America and Migration Corridor, 2) In-country conditions of all 13 countries with TPS status, 3) What issues are TPS, DACA and DED beneficiaries facing because of cancellation and legal status limbo? 4) What are some concrete policy recommendations to advance a legislative solution for TPS, DACA and DED beneficiaries?

“Combined, cancelation of DACA and TPS will directly impact more than 1 million individuals who actively contribute to the social, economic, civic and cultural fabric of this nation,” states Lariza Dugan-Cuadra, Executive Director of CARECEN San Francisco. “Allowing these programs to end without a legislative solution is not an option. We have been urging Congress to take action and stop the harm and suffering this administration is causing families, employers and communities across the U.S. ”

“Congress must act now!” said Abel Nuñez, Executive Director of CARECEN DC. “Uprooting these hardworking, well-integrated members of our society from their families, work and communities is cruel and harmful.”

The Senatorial Briefing will be followed by a **Press Conference at 11:30am at Zone 10, East side of U.S. Capitol building, across from the Library of Congress on First Street SE** where key members of Congress, leading immigration advocates, TPS, DACA, DED beneficiaries and migration corridor experts will speak to the press. They will provide testimony and call for legislative action NOW and underlining the importance of keeping families together, who fear separation due to potential deadline on January 2, 2020.

“Ending TPS for Haiti, El Salvador, & Honduras is a highly cruel and unfair decision. TPS and DED recipients and their families have become a permanent part of our economic and social fabric. If fairness and common sense were prioritized over racist considerations, the White House should be working with the US Congress to allow TPS and DED recipients to apply for immigrant visas. These are populations highly beneficial to the US, as well as their countries of origin,” said Oscar Chacón, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Alianza Americas.

“Tens of thousands of immigrants in our region hold Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and its cancellation would have grave consequences for our members and for our regional economy,” said Gustavo Torres, CASA Executive Director. “U.S. foreign policy has contributed to many of the destabilizing conditions forcing TPS holders to flee their countries and we owe it to TPSianos, who have built lives in and contributed to the success of our communities, to remove the threat of deportation.”

After the Press Conference, TPS, DED and DACA beneficiaries and advocates will embark on two days of **Congressional Visits, Sept. 9th and 10th**, with the goal of speaking with lawmakers in person to convey their experience of living with the threat of deportation, family separation and the legal limbo they find themselves in. The time has come, Congress must act now!

“The economic and humanitarian crisis would be felt acutely in the D.C. area, where nearly 40,000 TPS have lived and worked legally for decades, raising families and contributing greatly to our economy,” said Jaime Contreras, a naturalized U.S. citizen, Veteran and Vice President of 32BJ SEIU, the largest union representing immigrant workers in the country, including thousands of TPS holders in the D.C. area.

For a full list of events and speaker bios, visit www.carecensf.org.

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CARECEN SF empowers and responds to the needs, rights and aspirations of Latino, immigrant, and under-resourced families in the San Francisco Bay Area — building leadership to pursue self-determination and justice. Rooted in its cultural strengths and inspired by the Central American justice struggles, CARECEN SF envisions our diverse immigrant community as thriving; where families prosper, build effective community institutions, and participate confidently in civic life.

Learn more about our history and work at www.carecensf.org.