



**CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER
CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS**

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CARECEN SF Condemns Supreme Court Ruling on Trump Administration Public Charge Rule

San Francisco, California, January 28, 2020 – CARECEN SF condemns the Supreme Court ruling issued yesterday, giving the Trump Administration the right to implement the “Public Charge” rule spearheaded by the president’s immigration advisor, Stephen Miller, who has made no secret of his anti-immigrant agenda. This ruling enables the federal government to start enforcing new immigrant wealth test, designed to screen out certain green card applicants seen as being at risk of becoming dependent on government benefits, or “public charges.”

“Our concern is that this administration is clearly trying to discourage poor people from accessing public assistance programs while at the same time making the application process for legal status in this country tailored for the wealthy,” said Laura Sanchez, Director of Immigration Legal Services at CARECEN SF. “This country was not founded on the principles that only those financially well off can apply to live legally in this country,” stated Lariza Dugan-Cuadra, Executive Director for CARECEN SF.

CARECEN SF recommends that if anyone has a question about “Public Charge” and how this ruling may affect their application process for permanent residency, they should seek a legal consultation with a licensed immigration attorney or BIA-accredited representative. It is vital that the immigrant community be informed and not be discouraged from accessing the help they need. “The use of public assistance does not automatically make you a “public charge,”” said Ms. Sanchez.

CARECEN SF offers free legal consultations to the Bay Area’s immigrant community Monday–Friday, 9 am–noon. Our offices are located at 3101 Mission Street, Suite 101 in San Francisco.

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.

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