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PRESS STATEMENT

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Media Contact: Juan Rivera Director of Marketing & Communications CARECEN SF

THE BROKEN PROMISES OF THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION ON THEIR ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

San Francisco, January 20, 2022 – CARECEN SF calls out the broken promises to all migrants made by President Biden while he was running for election. Mr. Biden stated that he would make our immigration system more humane and welcoming for those seeking refuge in our country. Yet on the one year anniversary of his presidency, his words have turned out to be empty promises.

Regarding **MPP** (Migrant Protection Protocol), put into place by the Trump administration; the Biden administration has not only failed to discontinue this racist immigration practice, they have actually expanded it to include new migrant groups, placing even more migrants in unimaginable danger and denying them of their internationally recognized right to seek asylum. Over 60,000 migrants have been forced to wait in dangerous border towns where almost 8,000 have been victims of rape, kidnappings, torture and murder.

Regarding **Family Separation**, one of the most sinister and shameful atrocities put into place by the Trump administration; Biden called it cruel and promised to reunify all families. A special task force was put into place to find the parents of the separated children. From the over 5,400 separated children, the task force identified 1,703 children that have not yet been reunited with their parents. As of November 2021, the task force has only reunited 61 children with their parents. These children and their parents deserve to be Uncaged, Reunified and Healed, which includes reparations that include full U.S. Citizenship, counseling and monetary compensation. And in recent news, the Department of Justice chose to walk away from settlement negotiations with separated families.

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Regarding **Title 42**, an obscure order also put into place by the Trump administration. The Biden administration continues to use this "<u>illegal and inhumane</u>" law to expel thousands of migrants who are seeking asylum under the guise that they pose a health risk to the country because of posible COVID-19 infection. Yet many of the country's top health experts have stated repeatedly that migrants do not pose a health risk and can be allowed to enter the country by taking minor precautions.

Regarding **Immigration Courts Backlogs**, migrants continue to wait years to have their cases heard in our overburdened <u>immigation courts</u> that lacks the necessary number of judges and proper equipment to hear cases remotely.

Regarding **Unaccompanied Children**, <u>unaccompanied children</u> continue to be mistreated by being placed in inadequate and crowded facilities as well as not being provided representation, and therefore a fair court hearing in our nation's immigration courts.

Regarding **DACA** (**Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals**), Trump attempted to end this program while he was in office. No permanent solution has been provided by the Biden administration. Dreamers continue to live in uncertainty in spite of their contributions to our society.

Regarding **TPS (Temporary Protection Status)** - the Biden administration still has not provided any permanent solution for the people in this program, who continue to live their lives in uncertainty without permanency and peace of mind in this country. This in spite of all their positive contributions to the economy and cultural fabric of this nation.

And finally regarding **Immigration Reform**, which was included in the Build Back Better plan, to the detriment of millions of hard working migrants living in the U.S., it appears that the Biden administration may fail on this effort as the plan is stalled in Congress. Adding more dissolution to the 11 million migrants who continue to work hard and make positive contributions to this nation they call home.

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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 <u>www.carecensf.org</u>.