

PRESS STATEMENT

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DREAMERS ARE AMERICANS! CONGRESS NEEDS TO ACT NOW TO PROTECT THEM PERMANENTLY

San Francisco, CA – October 5, 2022, in the case, *Texas v. the United States*, challenging the legality of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the case should return to a federal district judge in Texas for further consideration. The ruling continues the uncertain future of DACA beneficiaries. CARECEN SF calls on all members of Congress to take action to permanently protect these Americans, who are an integral part of our community and country.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals sent the case back to Texas-based Judge Hanen, who has ruled against DACA in the past. Judge Hanen will determine if the new DACA regulations that were recently issued by the Biden administration are lawful or not. DACA will temporarily continue while Judge Hanen considers the new regulations.

It is imperative that Congress act before the end of this year. If they do not, DACA recipients will remain vulnerable and may see the end to the only program that has protected them. They may lose the right to work lawfully and may become vulnerable to deportation. With the 610,000 young people DACA protects facing this catastrophic future, Congress must do everything in its power to provide permanent protection to all Dreamers. The time for action is now!

Laura Sanchez, CARECEN SF's Director of the Immigration Legal Program states the following: *"This is a frustrating and unjust blow to the hundreds of thousands of young people the DACA program protects. We knew this court was not friendly towards Dreamers but*

now that the ruling is out, it is clear that this is a call to action for all of us to push hard and force Congress to act now to provide protection to these young people who are as American as anyone who was born here. It is admirable how the Dreamers have fought for their right to be here. We cannot let all that effort go to waste. The leadership in Congress needs to show up for these young people.”

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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.