

Health Center Partners of Southern California Applauds Supreme Court Decision Supporting Dreamers Renews Call for Congressional Action

June 23, 2020

Health Center Partners applauds the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision permitting Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients to continue living and working in the United States.

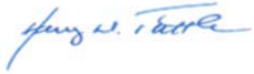
For years, DACA has given thousands of young people — many of whom have never known a home other than the United States — the chance to achieve the American Dream by pursuing an education and a career without fear of deportation. Dreamers have worked hard and have overcome many obstacles to pursue their education and become talented professionals valued by the health care industry, our members, our clients and our communities. Dreamers reflect the vital role that immigrants have always played in this country. Never has this been more evident than during this pandemic, with nearly **29,000 Dreamers nationwide serving as health care workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis response**. I'm sure affected patients, their families, and loved ones are grateful for that care.

This important ruling from the Supreme Court, while not the final word on the future of DACA, is at least a reprieve for those who have been living in fear during the current administration. Now that the Supreme Court has made this determination, it is up to Congress to pass a bipartisan legislative solution that will provide the permanent sense of security Dreamers deserve. I urge the president to leave the DACA program and associated work authorizations in place and to work with Congress to enact a path to citizenship for Dreamers. Our country needs to support these individuals who have given so much to contribute to its health, welfare and vitality.

I strongly believe that it's the best and brightest from around the world who make our country what it is, and that starts with young people who are raised to believe they can change the world, if they work hard. The health care industry depends on a diverse workforce to tackle today's toughest unmet medical needs, and now more than ever we must be cultivating, attracting, and retaining talent to our country and industry.

It's time to find a permanent bipartisan solution for Dreamers and other undocumented immigrants who are adding value to our communities and our economy. DACA's repeal will have a reverberating impact on all facets of life in communities across California. Ending DACA threatens the physical health and mental well-being of our neighbors, our families, our friends — our very humanity. Stand with me and our immigrant communities and reaffirm your beliefs in fairness, justice, and the American Dream.

There is much work to be done...

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Henry N. Tuttle".

Henry N. Tuttle
President and Chief Executive Officer

[Health Center Partners of Southern California](#), a family of companies, includes a [16-membership organization](#) of federally qualified health centers, Indian Health Services Organizations, both urban and sovereign, and Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, collectively serving 850,000+ patients each year, for 3.6 million patient visits each year, at 160 practice sites across San Diego, Riverside, Imperial counties, with the seventh largest provider group in the region. [2018/2019 Impact Report](#).