

# Peace & Justice Report

For the week of September 8, 2017

## D

Deferred

## A

Action

## C

for Childhood

## A

Arrivals

## **ACTION**

### **What can we do?**

1. **Know** your facts.
2. **Call** your members of Congress and urge them to support the Dream Act.
3. **Pray**.

Information taken from:

<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2016/10/18/146290/new-study-of-daca-beneficiaries-shows-positive-economic-and-educational-outcomes/>

Rewire News: <https://rewire.news/article/2017/08/15/daca-anniversary-bittersweet-immigrant-women/>

### Talking Points

(TheLoyalOpposition.net)

- This is (NAME) and I am a constituent in (zip code).
- I urge (Sen/Rep \_\_\_\_\_) to support the (S.1615/H.R.3440), the Dream Act, without conditions or tradeoffs.
- The Dreamers arrived in the US through no fault of their own and have been raised as Americans.
- The Dreamers contribute to American society in jobs, the military and education.
- Studies show deportation of the Dreamers would have devastating economic impacts on the US.
- Breaking faith with the Dreamers or holding them hostage to funding for a useless border wall would be cruel and un-American.

*DACA or the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals marked its 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary in June 2017, and on September 5, 2017, President Trump rescinded the executive order which provided protection for the Dreamers.*

*It is estimated that 800,000 young people will be affected when the decision takes effect.*

*According to a recent survey by the [National Immigration Law Center](#) and Tom K. Wong, **women make up 73 percent of Dreamers.***

*The survey shows a positive economic and educational benefit for Dreamers and for the United States since their participation in the DACA program.*

## **DACA Women Speak Out:**

**Yacqueline Lopez**, a member of the National Domestic Workers Alliance and a mother of a DACA recipient, called on President Trump to keep DACA in place.

*“It would be a tragedy if nearly 1 million youth in this country were to lose DACA and the protections they have and become subject to immigration enforcement.”*

DACA has enabled her daughter to go to college, where she is finishing a degree in anthropology and preparing for law school. Removing DACA would be akin to subjecting kids like hers to a “nightmare.”

**Giselle Gasca**, Coordinator for Mi Familia Vota, said that, before DACA, college felt like a near impossibility. As an undocumented youth, she couldn’t legally work in the United States. She cleaned houses with her mother, getting paid only about \$15 per job. DACA enabled her to work her way through college, pay for her tuition and books, and to obtain her license...

*“But the anniversary is bittersweet, because people in my community know it could all get taken from us now. For the last five years, DACA helped people in my community feel more free, and I’m fortunate to be a recipient. But now that it’s being threatened, I can see how my whole life revolves around DACA.”*

### **FACTS ON DACA**

- Average recipient came to the U.S. at age 6
- 91% are employed
- 100% have no criminal record
- Each recipient pays \$500 to renew every 2 years (\$800M)
- Loss of DACA workers would reduce U.S. gross domestic product by \$433 billion over the next 10 years