



Building Healthy Communities: Long Beach
920 Atlantic Ave., Suite 102 Long Beach CA 90813

June 15, 2015

Lena Gonzalez
Civic Center Plaza
333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Honorable Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez:

This letter is in support of a resolution by the Long Beach City Council for Comprehensive Immigration Reform and in support of United States President Obama's Executive Action, known as the expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA). Also, this letter is to express our support of the amendment of the language used to define Comprehensive Immigration Reform in the City of Long Beach's Federal Legislative Agenda, which both will soon be on the council agenda.

Long Beach congregations, community groups, and individuals stand in solidarity with undocumented workers and families, and we support any action that could have an impact on the DAPA and DACA programs moving forward. Our congregations and organizations remain energized by the promise of these deferred action programs that will help 5 million undocumented people living in the United States of America. This action will provide people the opportunity to participate in the communities they call home—without fear. The City of Long Beach taking a stance on this issue both supports undocumented and mixed-status families in knowing their city stands behind them, and sends a strong message from our city to the courts currently debating this issue and our nation as a whole.

As we appreciate the efforts of President Obama, we acknowledge that a Comprehensive Immigration Reform that includes all immigrants is an urgent matter. The resolution, together with the amendment of the Federal Legislative Agenda, will mark an increase in the level of advocacy our city has been doing in terms of immigration, and it will send a strong message to the United States Congress to work for a Comprehensive Immigration Reform which will keep millions of families united and build more trust in our communities.

We urge your support for the immigrant families living in Long Beach by voting in favor of the resolution and by voting in support of the amendment in the Federal Legislative Agenda.

Sincerely,

Christine Petit, Ph.D.
Hub Manager, Building Healthy Communities: Long Beach