

Recommendations of Presidential Task Force

13 December 2016

As a Task Force, we were charged by President Harris to examine what USD is currently doing to support and protect our immigrant and international student and employee population and to make recommendations for what additional steps and actions should be taken to support those who may be affected by possible changes in immigration policy and enforcement.

In line with Catholic Social Teaching and its emphasis on the dignity of the individual, as well as USD's strategic plan for the future, which calls on our community to "confront humanity's urgent challenges," we agree that it is vital for President Harris to lead the entire USD community in protecting and supporting DACA, undocumented, immigrant and refugee students, employees and family members, as well as others experiencing marginalization, including international students. As Bishop McElroy stated at the Catholic Immigration Integration Initiative Conference held on our campus on November 28, though these may be days of uncertainty and waiting, "in that waiting, we stand with the undocumented and the refugee communities in this moment of suffering in a bond of accompaniment and protection which will only grow stronger as the threats grow more profound." We believe that these recommended actions are important in demonstrating to the most vulnerable members of our community that the University of San Diego stands by them, with renewed solidarity and as a revitalized and united community, and reaffirms its "bond of accompaniment and protection" to them.

Consistent with the actions urged by the community petition submitted to President Harris and Provost Allen on November 22, as well as the resolutions adopted by the Academic Assembly of the College of Arts and Sciences and University Senate, we are recommending that USD take specific and concrete actions to enhance the welcoming and inclusive environment that we already seek to provide to all members of our community, to reaffirm that USD does not and will not voluntarily undertake actions to enforce U.S. immigration laws beyond what we are legally required to do, and to enhance the services and support USD provides to members of our community who are feeling vulnerable or marginalized.

These are our recommendations:

First, we recommend that President Harris take the following actions to reaffirm USD's commitment to USD's core principles:

1. Endorse the statements made by Bishop McElroy on November 28, 2016 at the Catholic Immigrant Integration Initiative Conference held in the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. <http://cmsny.org/publications/bishop-robert-mcelroy/>, as well as the United States

Conference of Catholic Bishops Social Teaching on Immigration <<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/immigration/catholic-teaching-on-immigration-and-the-movement-of-peoples.cfm>>.

2. Reaffirm USD's rejection of all forms of racial, ethnic, and national origin discrimination whether or not done under the guise of immigration enforcement.
3. Pledge renewed university efforts and resources to support DACA, undocumented, immigrant and refugee students, employees and family members, as well as others experiencing marginalization, including international students, through increased campus outreach, through counseling and pastoral care, through legal advice and support, using our legal clinics and marshalling other legal resources from our law school and community, as needed, and through all other services available at USD.
4. Reaffirm USD's commitment to diversity and inclusion and access to higher education by creating an atmosphere of trust, safety and respect in a community characterized by a rich diversity of people and ideas by urging all members of our campus community to exemplify respectful behavior and to speak out against any acts of discrimination directed at members of our community because of their immigration status, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion or identity.
5. Reaffirm the importance of a vital and productive bi-national relationship with Mexico and a thriving cross-border region to the strength of USD's research and teaching mission and our role as an anchor institution in the broader community.

Consistent with the principles of sanctuary, we also recommend that President Harris reaffirm the following:

1. USD will not share information about a student's or employee's immigration status with ICE or other law enforcement agencies except in response to a subpoena, warrant, or other legal mandate, where exigent circumstances exist, or where the student or employee voluntarily consents to the disclosure.
2. USD will not verify the immigration status of applicants for undergraduate or graduate programs who are residents in the United States.
3. USD will not assist ICE or other law enforcement agencies in immigration enforcement activities on the USD campus except where we are required to do so in response to a subpoena, warrant, or other legal mandate, or where exigent circumstances exist.
4. The Department of Public Safety, a non-sworn department, will not engage in immigration enforcement activities, will not ask for or otherwise collect immigration status information about our students or employees, and will adhere to the same principles as those described above.

Third, we recommend that, consistent with the USD vision of “setting the standard for an engaged, contemporary Catholic university,” President Harris commit USD to taking a leadership role in integrating regional efforts to assist immigrants and others experienced marginalization and in fostering education and a community dialog on issues of immigration, discrimination and intolerance, including in the following ways:

1. By integrating USD’s efforts with those of the Diocese of San Diego and other Catholic groups to coordinate their support of immigrants and refugees throughout the region.
2. By coordinating with local university officials at nearby institutions, including SDSU, UCSD, SD City College, and the San Diego County Community College District, to integrate their support of DACA, undocumented, immigrant, refugee and international students and to encourage local and state authorities to take additional measures to protect our immigrant population.
3. Convene campus leaders to plan a series of forums and public lectures, beginning early in the Spring Semester, to foster a better understanding of the issues that divide our country, especially immigration, and a respectful and constructive dialogue to address the issues of injustice, intolerance and discrimination and to seek agreement on common principles for all of us to better serve immigrants and others who are experiencing marginalization in our communities.
4. Support cross campus collaboration and interdisciplinary teaching and scholarship on immigration and refugee issues; race, ethnicity, and civil rights; cross-border ties; and community engagement, for the purpose of increasing the visibility and impact of the innovative work on these issues already underway at USD.

Finally, the Task Force encourages the allocation of financial and other resources required to support and sustain these commitments and initiatives. We recommend that President Harris commit his support to establishing each of the following, which we believe are essential to enabling USD to meet its commitments:

1. Publish a website with all documents, resources, and activities related to the inclusion and protection of non-U.S. citizens in our community and our outreach efforts to the broader community. This comprehensive website should include information about all the counseling, pastoral care, and legal services available on and off campus. Examples are attached of information developed by the Task Force on USD’s Commitment to Provide Legal Services, Immigration Law Resources and USD’s Integration Efforts with other Catholic, Educational and Social Service Organizations.
2. Identify the Center for Inclusion and Diversity as the “one-stop” and focal point for information and referrals regarding support services offered to DACA, undocumented, immigrant and refugee students, employees and family members, as well as others experiencing

marginalization, in partnership with the International Center, which will remain the focal point in support of international students.

3. Designate a group of community members to monitor the recommended actions, to ensure that USD's commitments are being fulfilled, and to report to the President at the conclusion of the Spring Semester. If President Harris desires, the members of the Task Force would be willing to continue to assist in this process.

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Attachment: USD's Commitment to Provide Legal Services

Our DACA students and other students and staff with immigration concerns are understandably distressed about the prospect of actions against immigrants under the new federal administration. It is incumbent upon us to address these fears by, among other things, being proactive and supportive in concrete ways.

First, we commit to providing legal counseling for our students and staff with immigration concerns. San Diego enjoys many local resources in that regard. First and foremost is the School of Law's immigration clinic, which provides legal services to low income individuals. In addition, there are several local organizations providing pro bono or low fee immigration legal services. These include: Casa Cornelia Law Center, Legal Aid Society, ABA's Immigration Justice Project, Catholic Charities, and Jewish Family Service. Some of the local organizations also offer informational presentations on topics like knowing your rights and staying safe. A list of the organizations providing services is attached and will be included on the website immigration dialogue website at <http://www.sandiego.edu/immigration-dialogue>.

Second, we commit to being prepared to mobilize in the event that any of the more extreme actions some fear become a more serious threat. Such mobilization will require collaboration, and USD will be able to draw upon many legal resources beyond those of the law school and the organizations listed above. Numerous law school alumni practice immigration law locally and throughout the State. In addition, the San Diego County Bar Association has an immigration practice section, and the American Immigration Lawyers Association has a local chapter with more than 200 members. In January, we will begin conversations with them about the logistics of joint mobilization efforts.

Attachment: San Diego Immigration Law Resources

1. University of San Diego (USD) School of Law, Immigration Clinic
Location: Barcelona Hall, Room 305, USD
ADrive/Walk: Barcelona Hall is located in USD's Alcalá West Complex off Linda Vista Road
AUSD Tram: Take the Barcelona Express.
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Call for an appointment.
Telephone: (619) 260-7470
Fax: (619) 260-7425
Services: The Clinic primarily does affirmative application work. Law students under the direct supervision of a licensed immigration attorney, assist clients with a range of immigration issues, such as naturalization, lawful permanent residency, derivative citizenship, deferred action, U-visas, and VAWA for domestic violence, trafficking, and other abuse victims. Law students may attend U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services interviews related to their clients' applications. Law students may also attend and participate in community immigration outreach.
Client eligibility: USD students, and otherwise based on financial need.

2. Legal Aid Society of San Diego
Website: www.lasds.org.
(Click on What We Do. Click on Safety and Stability. Click on Immigration.)
Locations:
 - a. Southeast San Diego Office, 110 S. Euclid Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114
 - b. Midtown Office, 1764 San Diego Avenue, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92110
 - c. North County Office, 216 S. Tremont Street, Oceanside, CA 92054Telephone: 1-877-534-2524
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Walk-ins welcome.
Services: Family-based immigration issues, including naturalization and citizenship, Removal defense (Immigration Court), AVAWA, AU and T Visas, Green Card Renewal, Waivers, No affirmative asylum claims. No DACA, DAPA, or employment-based issues. Safety-planning presentations to groups, such as university organizations. (Contact Senior Attorney, Miko Tokuhama-Olsen)

Client eligibility: Based on financial need and residency in San Diego County.

3. Casa Cornelia Law Center

Website: www.casacornelia.org.

Location: 2760 Fifth Avenue, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92103-6325

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Telephone: (619) 231-7788

Email: LawCenter@CasaCornelia.org

Fax: (619) 231-7784

Services:

Representation of unaccompanied minors, asylum seekers, and victims of crime.

Information sessions on discrete topics, like DACA.

Client eligibility: Application process based on financial need.

4. Immigration Justice Project (IJP) of San Diego

Telephone: (619) 255-8810, for Greta Moreira, Administrative Assistant

(619) 255-8817, for Karla Rodriguez, Paralegal

Email: contact@abajip.org

Fax: (619) 568-3674

Services:

Legal orientation program for individuals receiving a notice to appear for proceedings at the San Diego Immigration Court.

Counseling services for individuals detained at the San Diego Immigration Detention Center in Otay Mesa.

Referrals to pro bono immigration law attorneys.

Know Your Rights presentations. To schedule a presentation call Staff Attorney Edith Polanco at 255-8823.

Client eligibility: Based on financial need.

5. Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego

Website: www.ccdsd.org. Click on Programs. Click on Immigrant Services

Locations/Telephone Nos.

San Diego

4575 B Mission Gorge Place San Diego, CA 92120

(619) 287-1270

South Bay

293 H Street

Chula Vista, CA 91910

(619) 498-0722

North County

5 Parish Locations

Carlsbad, Escondido, Oceanside, San Marcos & Vista

(760) 631-5890

Services:

Assistance with the following immigration applications: adjustment of status, family visa petitions, DACA, citizenship and naturalization, employment authorization, travel documents, T and U visas, affidavits of support, legal permanent resident card renewal, fee waivers, domestic violence cases, family unity, and consular processing.

Presentations on immigration law topics. To schedule a presentation or a group information session, call (619) 287-1270.

6. Jewish Family Service

Website: www.jfssd.org. Click on Programs by Name. Click on Immigration Program.

Location: 8788 Balboa Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Telephone: (858) 637-3245

Email: jfsonline@jfssd.org.

Services: adjustment of status—green cards (family-based, refugees, asylees, replacement green cards), and family reunification (petitioning for a relative to come to the U.S. or to stay in the U.S.) administrative relief—DACA, DAPA assistance with applications for citizenship and naturalization; travel documents, work authorization, and fee waivers.

7. International Rescue Committee (San Diego Office)

Website: www.Rescue.org/sandiego.

Location: 5348 University Ave. Suite 205A, San Diego, CA 92105

Telephone: 619-641-7510, ext. 250

Email: SanDiego@rescue.org

Fax: 619-641-7520

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Drop in or call for appointment)

Services: Assistance completing and submitting the following forms: adjustment of status, consular processing, DACA, unlawful presence waivers, employment authorization, travel documents, document replacement, family-based petitions, naturalization/citizenship, VAWA petitions, and fee waivers.

8. San Diego Immigrant Rights Consortium

<http://immigrantsandiego.org/2013/07/16/legal-assistance/>

9. Clearing house web sites, providing information about San Diego attorneys and law firms specializing in immigration law:

Avvo: www.avvo.com Enter San Diego, CA immigration attorneys.

FindLaw: www.lawyers.findlaw.com Enter immigration and naturalization law, San Diego, CA.

Justia: www.justia.com Under Legal Practice Areas, click on Immigration. Under Immigration Resources, click on Lawyers & Attorneys. Click on California. Click on San Diego.

Yellow Pages: www.yellowpages.com/san-diego-ca/immigration-lawyers Enter immigration lawyers near San Diego, CA.

Yelp: www.yelp.com Under Find, enter immigration law. Under Near, enter San Diego, CA.

Attachment: USD's Integration Efforts with Other Catholic, Educational and Social Service Organizations

The University of San Diego as a Roman Catholic institution is working in collaboration with other Catholic and faith based organizations, as well as with other universities and social service agencies in efforts to support DACA and undocumented students, immigrants and refugees in the community at large. As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church states "Participation is a duty to be fulfilled consciously by all, with responsibility and with a view to the common good." Therefore, in collaboration with the Diocese of San Diego as well as with national, state and local San Diego Catholic Charities USD will provide referral services through its CID office, the USD Law Clinic, as well as with other colleges and universities. These free of charge services are to better protect and connect our Catholic and non-Catholic community experiencing a need of services due to federal legislation affecting their immigration status. Even though these is not an exhaustive list, there are many agencies (at USD and in the San Diego Community) that can support immigrant students, employees, and their families.

We encourage our immigrant students, employees and their families to contact the Center for Inclusion and Diversity Office (CID) as the first point of contact where information and referrals will be made to support anyone needing assistance. Based on one's comfort level or because an individual might have already built a relationship with a USD faculty, staff, or a particular center that individual or center can also be a start to the conversation to then guide you to the correct service that is based at the CID. The centers and services available at USD and in the San Diego community include the following:

USD Student Services and Centers

University of San Diego Counseling Center: Serra Hall Room 300-Phone: [619-260-4655](tel:619-260-4655)

<http://www.sandiego.edu/counseling-center/>

The easiest way to secure services is by visiting the online USD MyWellness Portal at <https://mywellness.sandiego.edu>. Also, you can call [619.260.4655](tel:619.260.4655) to make an appointment.

Counseling Center Emergency Services

The counselor-on call is available to consult about after-hours psychological emergencies at all times. The counselor-on call can be reached by calling Public Safety (x2222 on any campus telephone, otherwise call [619-260-2222](tel:619-260-2222)).

Online Wellness Resource-USD is a caring and inclusive space for our community to find information and resources about life skills, mental health and suicide prevention.

<http://sites.sandiego.edu/youareusd/>

Trans-Border Institute

<http://www.sandiego.edu/peace/institutes/tbi/>

Justice in Mexico Center

<https://justiceinmexico.org/>

The Karen and Tom Mulvaney Center for Community, Awareness and Social Action

<http://www.sandiego.edu/mccasa/>

International Center

<https://www.sandiego.edu/international/>

Changemaker Hub

<https://www.sandiego.edu/changemaker/>

United Front Multicultural Center

<http://www.sandiego.edu/united-front/>

Residential life

<https://www.sandiego.edu/residentiallife/>

USD Catholic Services and Centers

Francis G Harpst Center for Catholic Thought and Culture

<https://www.sandiego.edu/cctc/>

University Ministry

<https://www.sandiego.edu/ministry/>

USD Pastoral Care and Counseling

<http://www.sandiego.edu/ministry/faith-formation/graduate-law-student-ministry/pastoral-care.php>

The Immaculata

<https://www.sandiego.edu/immaculata/>

Non-profit Community Service Agencies Services

California Catholic Charities

<http://catholiccharitiesca.org/>

California Catholic Charities-Immigration Services & Undocumented Minors

<http://catholiccharitiesca.org/statewide-programs/immigration-undocumented-minors/>

Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego

<https://www.ccdsd.org/>

Catholic Charities Diocese of San Diego Immigrant Program Services

<https://www.ccdsd.org/programs/immigrant-services/>

Chaldean-Middle Eastern Social Services

<http://www.c-mss.org/>

Somali Social Service Agencies

<http://www.somalifamilyservice.org/>

International Rescue Committee

<https://www.rescue.org/united-states/san-diego-ca>

Jewish Family Services

http://www.jfssd.org/site/PageServer?pagename=programs_refugee_placement&gclid=CKeJ7JzI5tACFQ6bfgodilsANw

California Rural Legal Assistance

<http://www.crla.org/>

Council of Philippine American Organizations of San Diego County

<https://www.facebook.com/copao.sandiego/>

Asian Organizations and Resources

<https://www.abasd.org/asian-organizations-resources>