The Cancellation of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

On September 5, 2017, the Department of Justice announced the decision to revoke the program known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”). Here is a summary of the DHS memorandum on the rescission of DACA:

1. **Initial DACA Applications:** The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) will adjudicate pending initial requests that were accepted as of September 5, 2017. USCIS will reject initial requests filed after September 5, 2017.

2. **Renewal DACA Applications:** USCIS will adjudicate pending renewal requests. USCIS will accept renewal requests for DACA recipients whose benefits expire on or before March 5, 2018, provided that such requests are filed with USCIS by October 5, 2017. All other renewal requests submitted after October 5, 2017, will be rejected.

3. **Expiration:** Current DACA recipients will be permitted to retain the period of deferred action and their Employment Authorization Documents (EADs) until they expire.

4. **EADs that are Lost, Stolen, or Destroyed:** If a DACA recipient’s still-valid EAD is lost, stolen, or destroyed during the phase-out, he or she may request a replacement EAD.

5. **Advance Parole:** Previously approved applications for Advance Parole will be honored, but U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) retains the authority to deny entry. USCIS retains the authority to revoke or terminate Advance Parole at any time. Pending applications for Advance Parole will be administratively closed and filing fees will be refunded. New applications for Advance Parole will be rejected.

6. **Enforcement:** When a DACA recipient’s status expires, he or she is no longer considered to be in a deferred category for removal and will not be authorized to work. USCIS stated that information provided in DACA requests will not be proactively sent to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and CBP for the purpose of immigration enforcement, unless an individual poses a national security or public safety risk.

Catholic Charities is hosting a **Free DACA Renewal Workshop on September 20, 2017 at 6:00 PM** at 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN 46202. If your DACA status expires on or before March 5, 2018, please attend this workshop to obtain free legal assistance in submitting your renewal request. Please bring the following:

- 2 passport-style photographs
- Money order for $495.00 payable to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- Your current Employment Authorization Document
- Your State I.D./Driver’s License
- A copy of your previous DACA application, if available

The Immigrants’ and Language Rights Center (ILRC) is a state-wide program of Indiana Legal Services, Inc. that provides legal representation on qualifying immigration matters and language access cases to residents of Indiana. If you need help with an immigration matter, or with another civil legal issue and English is not your first language, please contact the ILRC at 1-866-964-2138 or visit indianalegalservices.org to complete an intake.

The information provided above does not constitute legal advice. If you have a specific question about your situation, contact an immigration attorney, as each case is different. ILRC Updated 9/7/17.