

## **YWCA SENATE RECESS PLAN OCTOBER 6-15, 2017**

The Senate recessed today, and will return on Monday, October 16. We encourage YWCAs to engage your senators on the Dream Act, the End Racial and Religious Profiling Act, and the upcoming Week Without Violence (October 16-20) while they are in their home states. Suggested activities are included in this recess plan!

### **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**

#### **Background and Timeline**

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The Trump Administration has announced the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. DACA program created through executive order by President Obama in 2012 to allow young undocumented immigrants who were brought to this country as children, commonly known as DREAMers, to live in the country for a renewable two-year period. During this period, DREAMers are protected from deportation, and eligible for a work permit. To date, over 800,000 individuals have been protected by the program.

As the DACA program begins to roll down, the Department of Homeland Security will no longer accept any new DACA applications submitted after Tuesday, September 5 and immigrants currently enrolled in the program will be permitted to remain in the United States to continue with deferred action until their two-year work permits expire. Immigrants with permits expiring between September 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018 can seek a final two-year renewal if the application is submitted by October 5, 2017. Any DREAMer whose work permit expires after March 5 will be ineligible for further extensions and subject to deportation.

The immigrant youth and pro-DACA community is urging Congress to pass a clean, bipartisan, bicameral version of the [DREAM Act](#) immediately, which would give DREAMers the chance to become full, legal U.S. citizens. While other bills have been floated around as options for protecting DREAMers, the community feels that the DREAM Act is the only legislation that guarantees DREAMers the ability to stay permanently in the United States.

#### **YWCA Position**

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YWCA USA supports efforts to protect DREAMers from deportation, and views the ending of DACA as racial profiling, xenophobia, and bad policy that disproportionately harms communities of color. Following the announcement, YWCA USA issued a [statement](#) in support of DREAMers and DACA recipients. We continue to advocate for a policy solution for DREAMers to immediately alleviate the fear and trauma they are currently being put through.

#### **ACT NOW**

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Now is the time to raise our voices in opposition to the ending of the DACA program and to urge Congress to take immediate action by passing the bipartisan Dream Act of 2017 to protect immigrant youth.

1. [Write Your Member of Congress](#) and urge them to support immediate passage of the DREAM Act
2. Engage your Network! Share our Dream Act Action Alert with your clients, constituents, staff and friends using this link:  
<https://www.votervoice.net/YWCA/campaigns/54359/respond>
3. Check out YWCA USA's New "[Protecting Immigrant Communities](#)" Intranet Page
4. Issue press statements, op-eds, tweets, and other social media reactions
  - a. The administration's ending of DACA puts immigrant youth, especially young women of color, at risk. It's racial profiling, xenophobia and bad public policy
  - b. Call on Congress to take immediate action to pass the bipartisan Dream Act of 2017, which would protect immigrant youth from deportation

**Hashtags:**

#DefendDREAMers  
#ProtectDREAMers

#DreamAct  
#HereToStay

5. [Attend an Event Near You](#)

## Resources and Statistics

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Please see below for additional resources on DACA, as well as actions your organization can take as we continue to fight to protect immigrant youth.

- [Center for American Progress \(CAP\) state-by-state fact sheets on DACA](#)
- Migration Policy Institute (MPI) [DACA recipients by county](#)
- [National Immigration Law Center's \(NILC's\) Side by Side](#): DACA and related 2017 Legislation including DACA, the Dream Act, BRIDGE Act, and RAC Act
- [Here to Stay/United We Dream website](#): For advocates, resources such as important information about this announcement, FAQs, links to mental health resource for DREAMers, and ways to take action
- [Immigrant Legal Resource Center Community Advisory for DACA Recipients](#) provides details for DACA recipients, those with pending applications, those who need to renew their DACA, and more
- [Informed Immigrant FAQs](#): Updated Guidance for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Recipients
- American Immigration Council [Practice Advisory](#) for attorneys without significant training on immigration law on screening for immigration relief beyond DACA
- Know Your Rights [materials](#) to protect and prepare individuals against immigration raids
- For educators, [a guide](#) on legal obligations to provide education to undocumented students and actions schools can take to protect the educational rights of undocumented children.

### End Racial (and Religious) Profiling Act

Last week, YWCA USA was pleased to share that we released "[We Deserve Safety: Ending the Criminalization of Women & Girls of Color](#)"—a new policy brief that describes unique ways in which girls and women of color experience racial profiling and criminalization.

Studies, reports, and media accounts paint a disturbing picture at the intersection of race, gender, and violence that is often unexplored in mainstream discussions of criminalization

and racial profiling. The current public narrative's focus on the experiences of Black men and boys overlooks girls and women of color, leaving them at risk of continued violence and targeting.

The policy brief lays out a number of pieces of legislation for Congress to support to help address the issues laid out. As part of this recess, [urge your members of Congress](#) to support the End Racial (and Religious) Profiling Act!

Want to share more about our priority to end racial profiling and the criminalization of people of color on social media? Review YWCA USA's [Sample Social Media guide](#) for tips!

### **Week Without Violence Advocacy Toolkit**

Don't forget, Week Without Violence runs from October 16-20 and your House legislators will be home in your districts!

[Login](#) to your digital toolkit to access the newly added advocacy tools. Take action, make a difference, and create change this Week Without Violence!