

OC Opportunity Initiative DACA Statement

In response to the President's call to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the OC Opportunity Initiative urges Congress to pass bipartisan legislation that would provide a permanent solution for these young people – one that allows Dreamers to continue to live, work and serve the only country most of them know as home.

As DACA recipients, nearly 800,000 undocumented young people nationwide have received work authorization and protection from deportation. California is home to over 216,000 DACAmented youth, with [37,000](#) Orange County residents who were immediately eligible to apply for DACA.

In a recent survey of DACA recipients, [97 percent](#) of respondents are currently employed or enrolled in school. Ending DACA could result in a loss of [\\$460.3 billion](#) from the national GDP, remove 685,000 workers from the nation's economy, and result in a loss of [\\$24.6 billion](#) in Medicare and Social Security contributions over the next decade. With one-fifth of DACA recipients working in education or health care, ending DACA could also mean a loss of essential positions such as [teachers and nursing assistants](#).

DACA recipients and their families are part of our vibrant community of immigrants and refugees and are vital to the growth, stability, and quality of life of our region and economy. The OC Opportunity Initiative members believe that philanthropy can and should play a defining role in shaping a successful immigrant integration strategy in Orange County.

The Orange County Opportunity Initiative calls on Congress to act expeditiously on comprehensive reform to U.S. immigration policies that provide for a reasonable path to citizenship for new and undocumented immigrants who are members of the community and bolster the economy.

The OC Opportunity Initiative believes that together we thrive. That includes supporting DACA recipients, their families, and our community.

Join the OC Opportunity Initiative

Learn: The OC Opportunity Initiative is a collaborative of regional grantmakers dedicated to improving the lives of immigrants in Orange County. We are committed to helping foster an even bolder, more cohesive and stronger future for our community. Learn more [here](#)
View our Shared Values Statement [here](#)

Give: By joining the OC Opportunity Initiative as a funding partner you can leverage your funds for greater impact, engage with a community of grant-makers invested in the same goals, hear directly from the nonprofits that are working on the ground, and influence the outcomes for our entire community.

Advocate: Contact your member of Congress and urge them to support DACA. Find your U.S. Representative at <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>.