

Immigration Positions

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

La Casa de Esperanza, Inc. supports a comprehensive approach to reforming our country's immigration system. The current immigration system is broken making it very difficult for workers and families to legally immigrate to the United States. Increased border security by itself is not an immigration policy and should not be used as a stand alone approach to fixing the immigration system. La Casa supports immigration reforms that promote legal immigration and include the following principles: 1) a path to citizenship for the current undocumented population; 2) the creation of new legal channels for future immigrant workers; 3) a reduction of family immigration backlogs; and 4) the protection of civil rights and civil liberties.

DREAM (The Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act

La Casa de Esperanza strongly supports passage of the DREAM Act. This federal legislation would allow undocumented students who graduate from U.S. high schools to attend public institutions of higher education at in-state tuition rates or serve in the U.S. military, and would eventually create a path to citizenship. The DREAM Act is critical in ensuring that talented and hardworking students are able to afford higher education opportunities and receive permanent legal residency status needed to pursue a career and contribute to society.

State and local police in the enforcement of federal civil immigration laws

La Casa de Esperanza opposes efforts to allow local and state law enforcement agencies to perform federal immigration duties. Such efforts would severely diminish trust in local law enforcement particularly among new immigrant communities resulting in fewer crimes being reported and a decrease in public safety. Further, La Casa believes that the escalation of local government involvement in immigration law enforcement creates unnecessary division in communities, and consideration of such legislation detracts from local financial resources and action on other local issues.