

August 14, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Cecilia Muñoz
Assistant to the President and Director of the Domestic Policy Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama, Secretary Johnson and Director Muñoz,

As leaders, members and friends of The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Sahuarita, Arizona, we write on behalf of our neighbor and sister in faith, Ms. Rosa Robles Loreto (A200-904-099). We urge you to use your discretionary authority to stop Rosa's pending deportation, which if prevented, will allow her family to stay together.

Rosa has made Tucson, Arizona her home since 1999. She not only is a faithful parishioner at Santa Monica Catholic Parish but also volunteers at her church, often undertaking cleaning and maintenance projects at the church. Her sons, Jose and Gerardo, Jr., are excellent students and Rosa helps them with their studies and volunteers at their school. Jose and Gerardo, Jr. are passionate about baseball and play on local teams. Rosa's husband, Gerardo Sr., coaches one of the teams with Rosa's support. Rosa is a trained Certified Public Accountant and works hard to support her family financially, emotionally and spiritually.

Rosa is a contributing member of the Tucson community and is a perfect example of an individual who should have had her case administratively closed long ago.

As a community of faith in the tradition of the United Church of Christ (UCC), we join UCC churches and leaders in a long history of calling for a fair and human approach to U.S. immigration policy that protects families and honors the humanity of immigrants in our communities and congregations. Our faith tradition calls us to work for justice for all and to offer hospitality to "immigrants, orphans and widows."

We believe our policies should be consistent with this call to love our neighbor, yet the House of Representatives has failed to take up immigration reform. Now the President must act to expand deferred action for all undocumented people that will provide relief from deportation and a work permit. Now is the time to stop tearing families like Rosa's apart and to take administrative action to grant deferred action for all.

Families are the building blocks of strong communities. As a community just fifty miles north of the US/Mexico border at Nogales, AZ/Nogales, Sonora, we know that separating families under US immigration laws in need of reform, harms children and impacts all of us.

You have the ability to intervene. We ask that you act swiftly and compassionately to stop Ms. Rosa Robles Loreto from being deported and provide deferred action for all undocumented people like Rosa.

Sincerely yours,
The Community of The Good Shepherd United Church of Christ,
Sahuarita, Arizona

Rev. Dr. Randy Mayer
Senior Pastor

Rev. Laura Folkwein
Assistant Minister/Sabbatical Pastor

Beverly Travers
Moderator

Nancy Linthicum
Moderator Elect

Additional endorsers from The Good Shepherd, United Church of Christ, Sahuarita, Arizona, on the following pages.