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ADELANTE STATEMENT ON DACA ANNOUNCEMENT

Cesar Mata, Community Organizer at Adelante, made the following statement in response to the Trump Administration's announcement that it will cancel the DACA program:

“We condemn the Trump Administration’s decision to revoke the DACA program that allowed thousands of young people to work, study, and travel around safely, especially in a state like Alabama where these doors are closed to undocumented people. And our hearts go out to all of those whose future plans have been thrown into chaos because Trump and Sessions have taken away their DACA. But this comes as no surprise. Like the Muslim ban, backing out of the Paris climate accords, and attempting to strip away healthcare and build a border wall, revoking DACA was one of Trump’s consistent campaign promises and a rallying cry for his supporters on the extreme right. This is just the latest in a series of attacks against working class, black and brown people from our federal government. We shouldn’t assume that it will be the last. In the spirit of the Dreamers who fought tirelessly against deportations, but also of their parents, who bravely crossed deserts and oceans to bring them here, we must continue to fight back.

“Now more than ever, it is the time to unite and call on our local elected leaders to take a stand to protect *all* residents of our communities from unlawful detention, deportation, and profiling. The Birmingham City Council has declared our city a sanctuary city, and is currently considering an [ordinance](#) that will make that promise a reality. The Council should delay no longer and pass the sanctuary ordinance now! This is the moment for local government to step up and do what’s right. We cannot look to the federal government for any form of protection for our communities. We should be extremely wary of any bills that emerge from Congress in the wake of Trump’s DACA announcement, tying relief for certain young people to even more ramped-up immigration enforcement and border militarization. This is exactly what Trump and his supporters want.”

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Adelante is a non-profit organization that unites low-wage immigrant workers and their families in the Birmingham area to defend our rights, promote our dignity, and pursue justice for all. To learn more and get involved, visit www.adelantealabama.org.

To learn more about the Birmingham Sanctuary City campaign, visit bit.ly/sanctuary4bham.