

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 15, 2022

DACA 10th Anniversary End their nightmares; give them back their dreams.

Statement by Fran Eskin-Royer Executive Director of the National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd

(Silver Spring, MD) – Children embody our hope; our dreams. And dreams embody the American spirit and opportunity. What does it say if we rip away the dreams of our children?

Ten years ago, we tried to fix a wrong. We told children who were illegally brought to America without their understanding that we would not send them away, that they could stay in the only country many of them knew; they could learn and work, grow and serve.

Most Americans want the Dreamers to stay. Now is the time for Congress to wake up and send a unifying and heart-warming message of American idealism.

These Dreamers are of all colors and shapes and come from all parts of the globe. Yet they are American. They are American in their souls, in their attitudes, aspirations and expectations. They power America with their toughness, passion, fortitude, hard work and spirit.

They need a solid, permanent foundation on which to build their lives. The National Advocacy Center honors them on the 10th anniversary of DACA and calls on Congress and President Biden to secure our social fabric that we have woven together by making DACA permanent and freeing these young people from threats and intimidation. End their nightmares; give them back their dreams.

"Rouse your heart to love, gratitude and generosity." Saint Mary Euphrasia Foundress of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

<u>The National Advocacy Center</u> educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The National Advocacy Center reflects the spirituality, history and mission of the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (better known as the Sisters of the Good Shepherd). The sisters and their agencies work in solidarity with the

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disenfranchised – particularly families, women and children – who often are forgotten, leftbehind or dismissed.

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.

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