



Hospital Sisters of St. Francis

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Statement of Support

The Leadership Team of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis stands in solidarity with the opposition by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious to the proposed changes to regulations for immigrants entitled Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds. We have committed ourselves to a life of meeting the needs of the poor, ill, marginalized and vulnerable.

This legislation would impose impossible restrictions on immigrants and their families, particularly those with lower income. It would increase difficulties in obtaining lawful immigration status and place further barriers to obtaining needed benefits for which their children qualify. Further restriction of obtaining legal immigration status and ability to care for their basic needs, their basic right to human dignity and their desire to be a contributing member of our communities is unjust and not in keeping with the values for which our country was founded. The restrictions would increase poverty, disease, homelessness and decrease access to education and general well-being. No one should be forced to choose between medical care, housing and food and endangering their eligibility for possible legal permanent residency.

The obvious attempt to target the most vulnerable within the immigrant population is completely contrary to our faith and creates further threats to the values of our country. Our faith encourages us to welcome the stranger and care for the vulnerable among us. Our national values lead us to work always for the welfare of children and families and to promote the common good.

We encourage all people of faith to advocate for protection of immigrants and to object to this unreasonable and harmful proposal.

The Leadership Team of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis
Springfield, Illinois
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