



Hospital Sisters of St. Francis

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Statement of Support February 28, 2019

We, the Leadership of the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, stand in support of the statement issued by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Migration:

"We are deeply concerned about the President's action to fund the construction of a wall along the U.S./Mexico border, which circumvents the clear intent of Congress to limit funding of a wall. We oppose the use of these funds to further the construction of the wall. The wall first and foremost is a symbol of division and animosity between two friendly countries. We remain steadfast and resolute in the vision articulated by Pope Francis that at this time we need to be building bridges and not walls."

Our country has many very pressing needs for which the designated money was already budgeted by our Congress and for which it should be used. We, too, remain firm and resolute in the vision of Pope Francis that in these times, we need to be building bridges—not constructing more walls. Walls, by their nature, are structures designed to separate peoples, things and understanding. They serve as an obstacle to any kind of exchange.

Hospital Sisters of St. Francis Springfield, Illinois February 28, 2019