



#Faith4DACA

A VIRTUAL INTERFAITH HOME BLESSING LITANY

FOR DACA RECIPIENTS

Intro.: In sacred sutras, scrolls, scripts, and sweat lodges throughout the centuries, the world's faiths have guided pilgrims and saints with concepts and practices of home that have inspired and comforted. In this moment, with diversity of beliefs and across the miles of our distance, we are called to affirm the common threads that unite our traditions and bond our communities to protect and to bless homes of DACA recipients.

As we pray, we will weave together words of DACA leaders with commitments of sacred principles from some of our faiths to honor and stand for justice with each DACA leader. And we will say together at the end of each line: ***Bless the home of every DACA leader with safety. Surround each family with a community united to share love and work for justice that shows HOME IS HERE!***

Leader: As a Hindu text reminds how Mother came with wonderful eyes at the start of life's journey to provide sustenance like the gold of dawn to carry us on our way, we call for blessing on the home of Jung Woo, who reminded: "If I lose my DACA, I might not be able to send money to support my mother who depends on my earnings."

All: Bless the home of every DACA leader with safety. Surround each family with a community united to share love and work for justice that shows HOME IS HERE!

Leader: As Buddhist tradition has taught followers to "Be lamps unto yourselves as all of you must work out your own liberation," we call for blessing upon the home of Luz, who knows that a losing the liberating DACA leaders in our society would mean a loss of "the power and resilience these leaders and family earners project to their communities."

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Leader: As Islam encourages neighborly relationships for social solidarity and hospitality expressed through compassionate treatment of strangers and sharing, we call for blessing upon the home of

Jennifer, who recognizes that, *"We all belong to a family, a community....(and that) a family, community and congregation without their DACA recipients will be fragmented and wounded."*

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Leader: As Native American communities, such as the Lakota through "mitkuye oyasin," express that the spirit exists in all things and that we are connected with the spiritual as easily as we can wade in a river or feel the sun on our skin, we call for blessing upon the home of Valeria. She reminds us of devastating cracks in our connections when she says, *"To imagine DACA recipients being removed from this country is to imagine families that are incomplete, to see empty spaces that were once filled with such courageous, loving, kind, and hardworking individuals....To imagine this is to imagine an incomplete puzzle piece...simply ruined by the hands of those who refuse to see the bigger picture."*

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Leader: As Jewish communities for whom homes have played such a central role in Jewish religious life; establishing home since antiquity as a "mikdash m'at"—small sanctuary and holy place responsible for fostering a family's spiritual life—we call for blessing upon the home of the anonymous DACA recipient who jars us into remembering how *"the ending of DACA would mean taking away the one thing that has provided a sense of stability after decades of waiting, praying and actively looking for solutions. It would mean disrupting the support system I represent for my family, friends, and community."*

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Leader: As Christian tradition lifts up home as that place where parents are called to teach their children about love, where children are called to love their parents, and where as community we should greet one another saying 'Peace be to you, and to your house,' we call for blessing to be brought upon the house of Rev. Cassandra who communicates there cannot be peace unless there is full and permanent protections, as she has said, *"what scares me the most is all the people, whom I deeply love, who depend on me; including my 2-year-old daughter and the child that's on the way, and my church family who I have seen fight tirelessly for immigrants and migrants' rights."*

All: Bless the home of every DACA leader with safety. Surround each family with a community united to share love and work for justice that shows HOME IS HERE! AMEN.

Quotes from DACA leaders provided by Jung Woo Kim, Luz Chavez-Gonzales, Jennifer Hernandez, Valeria Bejar, Rev. Cassandra Nunez, and a DACA leader who chose to remain anonymous.

Full quotes available at: <http://bit.ly/DACALent2020>

INTERFAITH
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IMMIGRATION
COALITION

Prayer compiled by Rev. Sharon Stanley-Rea, IIC DACA Team Member