



**SCOTUS Issues a Tied Decision on Expanded DACA and DAPA
Latino Community Foundation of Colorado STATEMENT**

The Supreme Court of the United States' 4-4 vote puts the hopes and dreams of vulnerable immigrants and their families on hold. The tie leaves in place, at least for now, the lower court decision halting the implementation of expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA). This prevents an estimated 3.6 million unauthorized immigrants who are parents of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents from gaining work authorization and protection from deportation. It will prolong the worries and fears of an additional 6.4 million individuals who live in families with at least one DAPA-eligible adult, including U.S. citizens who constitute 85 percent of the children in these families.

The tie leaves immigrants like Marisol, a low-income working mother of three, in limbo with her family's future uncertain. Until a final ruling is reached, she and her U.S.-citizen children will continue to live in fear of deportation and family separation, and her dream of pursuing a nursing degree and a career in the health profession will remain unrealized.

Reflecting on our mission of building strong Latino communities, the Latino Community Foundation of Colorado, an initiative of Rose Community Foundation, stands ready to support the resiliency and strength of families like Marisol's in these uncertain and challenging times. This is a critical opportunity for philanthropy to reaffirm the value and contributions of immigrants—and support organizations that provide vital services to children and families in need and ensure that they are not exploited or defrauded. The Court's vote does not affect the original DACA policy, which has benefited nearly 730,000 immigrants, and philanthropy can support efforts to encourage the hundreds of thousands of eligible immigrants to come forward, including those aging into eligibility and those who could qualify once they meet the educational requirements.

Beyond this temporary setback, philanthropy—as well as stakeholders in the public and private sectors—must look to the longer-term challenge of reforming our nation's immigration system. Philanthropy can invest in efforts to bring about policy change and in programs that facilitate immigrants' social, economic and civic integration. Only by addressing both the immediate needs and the long-term challenges can philanthropy ensure the future vitality of our diverse communities.