

DREAMER FUND

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STATEMENT FROM DREAMER FUND FORMER VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN AND CALIFORNIA SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS WIN THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

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Today is a historic day. The Trump Administration and its cruel anti-immigrant policies and rhetoric meet the end and we are joyous in this moment. However, we do not forget the pain, the hate, the evil - the utter destruction that Donald Trump, Steven Miller, and their entire cabinet have caused to immigrants - recent arrivals, DACA recipients, unaccompanied minors, asylum seekers, refugees and the entire undocumented community, in the last four years.

"Today marks a monumental win, the daughter of immigrants is headed to the White House and with that, an inhumane bigot is headed out," shared Board Member, Gabriela Mendez. *"Thank you to the courageous progressive grassroots organizers and BIPOC that have fought for this win over hatred, a win that undoubtedly has saved lives! Today, let's celebrate and commit to never go back to the oppressive "normal." Mañana seguiremos la lucha!"*

We are hopeful. Today, we understand that there is still an immense amount of work to be done, to include an incredible amount of undoing that must happen as well, so that we may see a semblance of justice. We are excited for President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris on their victory, which could not have come to fruition without the African American community, Latinx Community, the Native American community, and the Asian American Community. But be certain, that we will hold them accountable to the atrocities that have existed like that of children being ripped away from their parents, unjust deportations and detention, racial targeting in ICE raids and family separation.

As our General Counsel, Professor Bill Ong Hing, states:

"We should be celebrating the ouster of Donald Trump from the White House. His anti-immigrant, racist, homophobic, and evil agenda will finally be brought to a halt. Now the challenge begins to restore hope for the millions of noncitizens in the United States and their friends and relatives. The Biden-Harris Administration will certainly be better than the Trump Administration. But that's a low bar. Comprehensive immigration reform will only come about if we put pressure on the White House and Congress. If reform is not delivered immediately, then the Biden White House must issue executive orders to protect all noncitizens without papers from deportation. The Biden immigration platform is good, but we have to put constant pressure on him to deliver."

We do not forget the Obama-era detentions and deportations, nor the cold cages built for children. We demand the dismantling of racist policies of oppression built by the Trump Administration and his white supremacist ideologies. We demand the termination of the Migration Protection Protocol (MPP) and the restoration of protection for asylees and refugees. We demand a halt to expedited removal and prolonged detention. We demand protections for DACA and DAPA. We demand a viable pathway to citizenship and comprehensive immigration reform. Our work is only just beginning and we will not stop until we create meaningful and substantive change rooted in humanity, justice, due process, equality, racial equity and hope.

“MAGA came four years too early. Now it’s time to really make American great again,” explained our board Member, Jamal Atiba. *“There will always be challenges, but at least now our president will not be the main one.”*

Challenges are not always a bad thing, but they cannot be based in hatred, evil and lies. We are grateful for the work and labor of the local leaders, the youth, and grassroots organizers who continue to inspire a brighter future. It is our hope that the Biden-Harris Administration will now work with and learn from the leaders on the ground.

“As the theory of Rebellious Lawyering reminds us, we must work with and learn from the communities we serve and seek to be led by the communities that are affected by injustice,” asserted our Co-Executive Director, Monica Valencia. *“This includes the immigrant, undocumented, indigenous, and communities of color as well as their leaders.”*

The Dreamer Fund will continue to fight for the immigrant and undocumented community and insist that all immigrants be treated with respect, dignity and compassion, as they seek migration, safety, and freedom from systemic persecution, systems of oppression and violence.

Respectfully,

Executive Board
Dreamer Fund

