



Statement from Ronald J. Degges, President, Disciples Home Missions

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S. and Canada

In Response to:

Fifth Circuit Court's Ruling Against President's Immigration Accountability Executive Action, and Obama Administration's Announcement of Plans to Appeal Court's Decision to Supreme Court

November 10, 2015

During each month that the President's Immigration Accountability Executive Action has remained blocked in the courts, we have learned of more members within our Disciples family of faith who live in the pain of separation and fear of division from their loved ones. We recognize the President's action would only bring temporary relief, and we continue to advocate for Congressional action on deeply needed immigration reform legislation that is just, humane and compassionate. Yet in the absence of such legislative solutions, we celebrated the President's announced protections last year, and partnered months ago to communicate their pain through a faith leaders' Amicus Brief to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Now today, while we are disappointed in the Fifth Circuit's ruling against Executive Action, we celebrate the Administration's intent to appeal for the Supreme Court to allow for its implementation. Such implementation will offer relief to families who have suffered greatly for years, but have--despite their pain--contributed with faithfulness and courage to our churches and communities. Enactment of the President's stated programs of relief would offer stability to families as they continue in service to God and neighbor. The implementation of Executive Action would help us live visibly God's challenge that "the sojourner who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you" (Leviticus 19:34).