Yumiri, a mother of 4 and wife to Ramon, waits everyday with her children for news of her husband, who sits in an immigration detention center in Arizona. Valeria (18) who recently graduated high school and is the only child of the four who was not born in the US, has spent nearly her entire life in Arizona with her family. Jairo (12), Shadai (6) and Sabdiel (4) were all born in Arizona.

This family, active members of the Disciples of Christ congregation Iglesia Alas de Salvacion in Gilbert, AZ, spend each day uncertain of their future. Valeria, who qualifies for the DACA program will submit her papers when allowed. Her mother and father, both potentially eligible for DAPA, await the opportunity to live without the anxiety of leaving home every day not knowing whether they will be coming home to her children each night.

Ramon was arrested en route to work January 1, 2013 while a passenger in a car that was stopped due to a broken taillight. He was deported without the privilege of seeing a judge and returned in September to be with his family. A hard working father and provider for his family, Ramon was stopped and arrested once again in November 2014 while pushing his car out of the road after running out of gas—a normal everyday occurrence for thousands of Americans. Ramon waits today for his fate to be decided by an immigration detention officer who will determine whether he has sufficient evidence of needing to be with his family.

For more information, and to share other stories and see how you can help, contact: Refugee & Immigration Ministries (Disciples Home Missions) Rev. Dr. Sharon Stanley-Rea, Director. 202-957-7826, sstanley@dhm.disciples.org