

Our immigrant families woke up on Wednesday morning with their worst fears of a Trump presidency confirmed and advocates and lawyers are reeling from the fall out. There is a lot of unknown moving forward but we all agree that the mental health of the families in our community *especially* the youth. Making them feel as safe as possible as all of this unfolds needs to be our top priority. I have no training in mental health but what I can offer are some facts about what is going on w/ Trump and Immigration so that you can share them with your clients/students. We will know more as the week rolls on but there are a few appointment points to get out now:

- Right now, immigrants are as safe in Santa Fe and across the country as they were on Nov. 8th. Obama is still President and his immigration priorities are still in place. We are not expecting any escalation of deportations or raids in the coming weeks. We still live in a sanctuary city that does not participate with Federal law enforcement
- The Deferred Action program (DACA) that so many of our youth benefit from is still in place. Trump has vowed to cancel the program at the beginning of his presidency. We believe him. What we do not know is how that will work. Will they take cards away? Will they grandfather in those with valid DACA cards? What will they do with cases that are pending? We are cautiously telling people to still renew their cards and right now assessing the risk of sending new applications. The general sentiment seems to be that sending a first time application is too risky at the moment. This could change as we get more information
- Donald Trump promised mass deportations as a campaign tactic but it is not clear what is going to happen. What is clear is that immigrants, even undocumented ones, have rights. As the law stands now, an immigrant who is not just crossing the border cannot be deported without a hearing. We have an insane backlog in our courts and we don't have nearly enough beds to detain everyone. Now, of course, Trump could change that but it won't happen in January and it will not happen quickly. The point is that immigrants have rights. They have a right to counsel, the right to defend their deportation, and many, many people have the right to stay in the United States. The most important thing is that they never ever sign anything without learning about their rights when signing it.
- There are brave and powerful people all over this country who are not going to let them get hurt. We are a little bit disoriented right now but we are re-grouping and we are going to protect them. Millions of people all over the country see them and feel compassion and are going to stand up to anyone who tries to hurt them. It may feel like the only voice right now is this powerful bigot but that is not the truth. I heard from so many people today whose only message was *what can I do? How can I help?* This election has not changed the fact that millions of people believe in our immigrant youth and are still here to support their dreams.

Please let me know if there is something that I can clarify. The best way to contact is an email: [allegra@santafedreamersproject.org](mailto:allegra@santafedreamersproject.org). Reach out with general questions or if we can come and support your clients at your agency. We are in the process of pulling together a community forum so we can come together, allies and immigrants, in solidarity and feel our strength in numbers.

**SANTA FE  
DREAMERS  
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