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## **Joint Statement from Boston-Area Funders in Response to Recent Federal DACA Decision**

**BOSTON—SEPTEMBER 12, 2017**—In response to last week’s announcement concerning the sun setting of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, a group of Boston-area philanthropic institutions released the following statement:

We emphatically denounce the Trump Administration’s decision to put an end to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

The job of philanthropy is to create a just and prosperous world for all. Since its launch in 2012, DACA has provided young people the opportunity to pursue their passions, attain their educational goals, and contribute to the sustainability, creativity, and vitality of our communities. It has provided security and safety in an age of rising nationalism and political volatility. More than anything, it has allowed families to build their lives together in the country we all call home.

With the stroke of a pen, the Administration has thrown the lives of 800,000 young people and their families into turmoil and uncertainty. The decision is unjust, cruel, and anything but “compassionate.” It is an affront to the values we hold, as funders, as Americans, as proud residents of the Greater Boston Area.

Years of courageous advocacy and organizing won the DACA program, and our partners work every day to make Boston a just, equitable, and prosperous city for all. Inaction is unacceptable, and each one of us has a role to play. We are committed, as funders, to working together with other responsible leaders of our country to justly address the immediate needs of the people affected by this action and ensure long-term solutions for communities impacted by exclusionary policies.

We stand with Dreamers across America. DACA was a first step in fulfilling our nation’s promise to you, and we will not watch it be broken.

The Hyams Foundation

The Lenny Zakim Fund

The Herman and Frieda I. Miller Foundation

The Boston Foundation  
Haymarket People's Fund  
The Fish Family Foundation