

**Congregation of the Humility of Mary Public Statement on
Support for Immigrants and Refugees.**



Whereas

- *All humans are children of God with a right to life, safety and respect for their dignity;*
- *The current global situation of wars, violence, and dire poverty compels millions of people to flee their home countries;*
- *Current attitudes, policies and practices prevalent in our own country threaten both the safe passage of refugees and immigrants as well as the lives of those already living within our borders; such attitudes, policies and practices threaten the very human and civil rights to which they are entitled;*
- *The Gospel as well as our CHM mission mandate that we care for the least among us. As women of faith we feel called to speak publicly and act fearlessly in support of refugees forced to migrate from their home countries and/or immigrants seeking safety and a new life in these United States.*

**Public Statement of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary on
Support for Refugees and Immigrants**

As a community of women religious who were welcomed to the United States as immigrants we, Congregation of the Humility of Mary, support refugees and immigrants from all countries. For more than 150 years, we have ministered alongside refugees, immigrants, and migrants. As citizens of the United States, we recognize that our diverse cultures and nationalities are an integral part of our heritage and the foundation of our democracy. As members of the human family, we echo Pope Francis who reminds us that, “migrants are our brothers and sisters in search of a better life, far away from poverty, hunger, exploitation and the unjust distribution of the planet’s resources which are meant to be equitably shared by all.” In response to the recent refugee ban, increased deportations, and anti-immigrant sentiments, we, Congregation of the Humility of Mary, commit ourselves to act with others on behalf of refugees, immigrants, and migrants by:

- ❖ **deepening our awareness and understanding of policies and legislation which affect them;**
- ❖ **using our resources to help meet their needs for shelter, education, healthcare, protection, mentoring, and advocacy;**
- ❖ **calling on elected officials to enact comprehensive legislation and humane immigration policies that promote: a path to citizenship, the rights of migrant children, family unification, protection from unjust and inhumane detention and treatment of undocumented workers and other persons, control of our borders through compassionate initiatives, and equal access to the U.S. refugee resettlement program regardless of ethnic and religious background.**

We, Congregation of the Humility of Mary, join with others in prayer as we call upon concerned citizens to advocate for immigration policies that continue to promote the United States as a beacon of hope for our diverse, global community.