

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) Renewal Fee Assistance

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Chapel Hill Town Council Business Meeting



Background

- In keeping with the Council goal of making Chapel Hill a ***Place for Everyone***, Council adopted a resolution in September of 2017 in support of DACA beneficiaries
- Staff recommend that Town Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into a performance agreement with El Centro Hispano to reimburse the agency for DACA renewal fees for Chapel Hill residents



What is DACA?

- Provide “deferred action” from deportation proceedings and eligibility for work authorization to eligible undocumented childhood arrivals
- An individual must prove they meet certain criteria
- In September of 2017, the Trump Administration rescinded DACA
- In January of 2018, a federal judge ordered that the U.S. government keep DACA on the same terms and conditions that were in effect before the September rescinding of DACA



Town Support of DACA Recipients

- September 2017 Council Resolution to support DACA recipients
- Staff evaluated the scope of the impact on residents
- Town partnered with Carrboro and El Centro to evaluate how to support community members impacted by DACA program changes
- Town co-sponsored community meetings and legal clinics for DACA renewal
- Staff continued to monitor national discussion about DACA and determine other options for support



DACA Beneficiaries in our Community

- ~66,000 total DACA eligible residents in NC
- ~22,000 current beneficiaries of DACA in NC
- ~3,000 Orange County residents who are DACA eligible
- El Centro Hispano has assisted with ~20 DACA renewals in the Triangle Area



Staff Recommendation

- **Authorize the Town Manager to enter into a performance agreement with El Centro Hispano to assist with DACA renewal fees for Chapel Hill residents in an amount not to exceed \$5,000**
- Staff continue providing support and make Town facilities available for community meetings and legal clinics
- Staff continue to monitor national debate and coordinate with local partners to determine other assistance



Staff Recommendation

- **Council adopt Resolution R-5** authorizing the Town Manager to enter into a performance agreement with El Centro Hispano to assist with DACA renewal fees for Chapel Hill residents

