



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**World Relief Laments Impact of Court Decision Regarding DACA, Urges Congress to Act Immediately**

BALTIMORE, Md. – Today, a federal judge in Texas issued a decision that puts the future of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in jeopardy. While Judge Andrew Hanen’s order will not immediately impact individuals who presently rely upon DACA, it does require the federal government to halt the approval of new DACA requests.

World Relief laments the immediate effects of this order on young people with pending new applications and those preparing to apply for DACA for the first time, as well as for the hundreds of thousands who, though not immediately impacted by the ruling, once again are facing an uncertain future. World Relief is reiterating its call upon Congress to finally pass legislation that would allow Dreamers — individuals who came to the U.S. as children and have no path to permanent legal status — the opportunity to apply for U.S. citizenship.

“Many Dreamers have lived under a cloud of uncertainty for most of their lives,” said **World Relief President Scott Arbeiter**. “This new decision is devastating for these resilient young people, and for their families, churches, communities and employers. Congress should not wait for further court decisions: they must act immediately to finally pass legislation that the significant majority of Americans. Including the majority of evangelical Christians, say they support.”

World Relief has been advocating for a permanent solution for Dreamers for many years. In 2018, the organization published a [full-page ad](#) in the Washington Post that highlighted the concerns of many of the nation’s most prominent evangelical leaders. Through immigration legal services programs in locations throughout the country, World Relief has filed more than 4,300 DACA applications.

“This decision is heartbreaking, but it could also create the pressure to finally persuade Congress that they need to act,” noted **World Relief Senior Vice President for Policy and Advocacy Jenny Yang**. “The House of Representatives has already passed a bipartisan bill that would resolve this situation once and for all, and I pray that the Senate will quickly debate and pass legislation in the coming days that can ultimately be sent to the president’s desk to be signed into law.”

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*About World Relief:*

*World Relief is a global Christian humanitarian organization that seeks to overcome violence, poverty and injustice. Through love in action, we bring hope, healing and restoration to millions of the world’s most vulnerable women, men and children through vital and sustainable programs in disaster response, health and child development, economic development and peacebuilding,*



*as well as refugee and immigration services in the U.S. For 75 years, we've partnered with churches and communities, currently across more than 20 countries, to provide relief from suffering and help people rebuild their lives.*

*Learn more at [worldrelief.org](http://worldrelief.org).*