



CARECEN

CENTRAL AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER / CENTRO DE RECURSOS CENTROAMERICANOS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES TO OBAMA, CONGRESS AND SENATE:  
DO NOT TAKE OUR VOTE FOR GRANTED**

(October 31, 2014, Los Angeles) – One the eve of mid-term elections, Latino communities are carrying out a nationally coordinated action in key states with large Latino populations to send a strong message to President Obama, the House, and the Senate that the time to act is NOW on immigration reform and on administrative relief for undocumented families.

This action is coordinated by the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities (NALACC). CARECEN LA is a member and is participating in the action. Members and allies are hosting vigils, community forums, marches, and rallies. They are also launching a massive social media campaign to put pressure on politicians. Local activities are taking place in Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Greenville, NC; Homestead, FL; Houston, TX; Los Angeles, CA; and San Francisco, CA.

“We have waited long enough. You ask for our vote, and we ask you to take action,” said Teodoro Aguiluz, Executive Director of CRECEN/*America Para Todos* in Houston, which is hosting a vigil in front of an immigration detention center. “Congress needs to stop delaying immigration reform, and the President should take immediate action on administrative relief from deportations.”

“Our communities are watching closely and will vote based on performance on immigration issues,” said Patricia Montes, Executive Director of *Centro Presente* in Boston. “We are not wedded to any political party; we are looking for results and a more humane response to immigration policy.”

In addition to the local actions, NALACC members will carry out a massive social media action via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Hashtags: #NoMoreWaiting, #NoMoreAtole, #PowerOfThePen.

“We are using social media platforms to speak out and tell elected officials that we are tired of being held hostage to partisan games” said Angela Sanbrano, Director of the Network of Mexican Leaders and Organizations, based in Los Angeles. Meanwhile in Homestead, FL, community activist Levis Torres and NALACC board member said that “As we prepare for mid-term elections, now is the time for politicians to show Latino community that you are serious about stopping deportations.”

**ABOUT NALACC**

NALACC is a network of community-based; Latino and Caribbean immigrant-led organizations in the US that seeks to raise the quality of life for immigrant communities in the United States, as well as communities in migrant-sending countries in Latin America. Over the years, NALACC has built close working relationships with





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key civil society organizations throughout Latin America. For more information, go to [www.nalacc.org](http://www.nalacc.org) and Facebook "nalacc2004".

#### **ABOUT CARECEN LA**

CARECEN has worked for 31 years to protect the rights and dignity of Central American and Latino immigrants in Southern California. Since its founding in 1983, when thousands of Central Americans were fleeing the brutality of civil war, CARECEN has worked to change unjust immigration policies, win legal status for immigrants, and foster community activism on issues such as education reform, workers and immigrant rights, economic justice and community strengthening.

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**Photos available or other media note**

