



August 25, 2015  
Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People  
100 Witherspoon Street  
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear National Grant Committee,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Juntos' grant application to the National Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People.

I am certain that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) workshops that Juntos will be developing and facilitating for 2000 members of Philadelphia's undocumented Latin@ community will have great impact on the well-being of this community. As a result of these workshops, families will be able to understand the details of both of these programs, along with their current implementation status and application processes. As importantly, community members will gain the necessary information to protect themselves from being robbed or being taken advantage of by people pretending to be immigration lawyers. Additionally, families will be able to share this valuable information with fellow community members who aren't able to attend the workshops yet are at risk of being misled by people pretending to know the requirements and application processes related to DACA and DAPA. Lastly, the workshops will also collect crucial information about the life situations of undocumented people who currently do not qualify for these programs. This data will aid Juntos in devising a new organizing plan, in coalition with other community organizations in Philadelphia and the US, to effectively advocate for the protection of those who aren't currently protected by DACA and DAPA.

As director of the Philadelphia Student Union, I have worked with Juntos on campaigns and actions seeking justice and policy reforms impacting our city's education system as well as the incarcerations and deportations of undocumented families. The organization has demonstrated its effectiveness in carrying out meaningful solidarity with other organizations by showing political leadership, outlining the intersectionality of ICE detentions and the School to Prison Pipeline, and working in coalition with organizations outside of their base and community. I have no doubt the organization will use the funds obtained through your grant in a meaningful and principled manner.

I fully support Juntos in seeking funding to support the organization's bilingual and intergenerational DACA and DAPA workshops. The workshops will be designed and facilitated by undocumented people themselves and truly reflect the commitment of Juntos to privilege the voices and knowledge of those most affected by nativist and racist oppressive policies in our country. I vouch for the organization and truly hope you will support them in this invaluable way.

Sincerely,  
Hiram Rivera  
Philadelphia Student Union