



Sisters of Charity Center  
6301 Riverdale Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10471 - 1093  
718.549.9200  
fax 718.884.3013  
[www.scny.org](http://www.scny.org)

**SISTERS**  
*of* **CHARITY**  
**NEW YORK**

## **SISTERS OF CHARITY OF NEW YORK STATEMENT ON IMMIGRATION**

The Sisters of Charity have been providing services and advocating for immigrants since they arrived in New York City in 1817. Throughout the years they staffed orphanages, schools, and hospitals that served the poorest in New York, which over time consisted of Irish, Italian, Polish, and other immigrant populations that came to New York seeking a better life.

Today the Sisters of Charity of New York can be found in multi-service centers, such as Casa de Esperanza in Yonkers, NY, which they sponsor, and as advocates for immigrant rights. Some serve as board members in grassroots organizations such as Somos la Llave Del Futuro, in Dutchess County, NY; others collaborate with the New Sanctuary Movement–NYC where they walk with many going through deportation proceedings. Sisters of Charity collaborate with national groups such as the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (Justice for Immigrants Campaign) and NETWORK, and can also be found on the front lines when it comes to advocating for just, comprehensive immigration reform that:

- provides a pathway to citizenship for undocumented persons in the country;
- preserves family unity as a cornerstone of our immigration system;
- protects the rights of immigrant workers;
- acknowledges that our borders are already secure, with only minor changes needed;
- speeds up processing of already approved immigrants;
- restores due process protections to our immigrant enforcement policies;
- addresses the root causes of migration, such as persecution and economic disparity.

People throughout the country are demanding that we fix our broken Immigration system.

At their 2011 Assembly the Sisters of Charity of New York recommitted themselves to welcoming the immigrant. In so doing they committed themselves to prayer, advocacy, and systemic change so that just comprehensive immigration reform would become a reality in the United States of America. The SCNY Immigration Task Force, chaired by Sisters Eileen Judge and Wilda Asfour, coordinates educational, advocacy, and prayer initiatives.

Therefore, the Sisters of Charity of New York call upon all legislators to work together to fix the broken immigration system now. People cannot wait any longer. They have been living in fear too long.

*Living Lives of Love...Viviendo Vidas de Amor*

February 2014