

Rt. Hon. Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A2
justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Hon. Marc Miller
Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6
Marc.Miller@parl.gc.ca, Minister@cic.gc.ca

RE: Regularize All Undocumented People and Ensure Permanent Resident Status for All Migrants

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Miller,

For over 100 years, Family Service Toronto (FST) has been helping people who are confronted with a variety of life challenges. We assist individuals and families through counselling, case management, community engagement and advocacy work. We envision a society in which all people are resilient and thriving in more just and supportive communities. We play a secretariate role for Campaign 2000: End Child and Family Poverty, a pan-Canadian coalition of over 120 community-based organizations from coast to coast to coast.

Temporary and undocumented workers, predominantly from Global South countries, are overrepresented in low-wage care work and agricultural production, working in jobs that are undervalued by the current economic system and receive little pay. Migrant care workers, who are predominately racialized women, often live in their employers' homes, which leave them especially vulnerable to abuse and gender-based violence from their employers. In our work with diverse communities in Toronto and through our partnerships across the country, we witness how the lack of immigration status negatively affects migrants in multiple ways that include lack of access to labour protections, health care, public services including childcare and adequate housing, and income tax benefits. Many undocumented people describe how these challenges lead to stress and mental health issues for them and their families.

In December 2021, we rejoiced when PM Trudeau made a mandate letter commitment asking the Immigration Minister to create a "regularization program" for undocumented migrants. That promise has been repeated many times, and most recently the Minister promised to bring a proposal to Cabinet in the Spring of 2024.

We write to you today ahead of House rising for the summer break to join hundreds of colleague organizations across the country to ask that the federal government take immediate action to support migrants by:

- Immediately creating a comprehensive and inclusive [regularization program](#) that allows all undocumented people to apply for permanent resident status immediately and has no caps, no restrictions by industry of work or geography, and no two step immigration which only gives temporary work permits.



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- Creating an interim program for migrant caregivers in Canada to apply for permanent resident status without educational accreditation and language test score requirements; and
- End migrant exploitation by ending tied work permits and hours of work limits for international students; and ensure permanent resident status for all working class people in Canada today.

Family Service Toronto fully supports the proposals created by the Migrant Rights Network on regularization and for migrant care workers and the principals they are based on.

Regularizing undocumented migrants and providing permanent resident status to all upon arrival to Canada are key to advancing federal commitments to poverty eradication, addressing systemic racism, gender equality, accessibility and creating thriving communities and opportunities for all.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Leila Sarangi, Senior Director of Strategy and Innovation, Family Service Toronto and National Director, Campaign 2000: End Child and Family Poverty, if you have any questions or would like further information. She can be reached at leilasa@familyserVICEToronto.org or 647.393.1097.

Sincerely,

Chris Brillinger
Executive Director, Family Service Toronto

Cc: Migrant Rights Network - letters@migrantrights.ca