

**HEALTH
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Health Providers Against Poverty
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3 July 2024
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

Cc: Migrant Rights Network - letters@migrantrights.ca

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

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau and Minister Miller,

As health providers working on the front lines, we have witnessed the devastating impact of immigration policies on the health and well-being of our communities. The current immigration system has created barriers to accessing healthcare for many individuals and families, leading to unnecessary suffering and preventable illness.

In December 2021 PM Trudeau made a [mandate letter](#) commitment asking the Immigration Minister to create a “regularization program” for undocumented migrants. Most recently the Minister promised to bring a proposal to Cabinet in the [Spring](#) of 2024.

We are heartened to see that your government has just announced it will be piloting two migrant caregiver programs which meet key needs including permanent residence status on arrival, as well as lowering barriers in terms of education and language requirements. We need regularization for ALL migrant workers, including those that have fought hard for these changes but do not benefit from the new pilot programs.

The federal government has the opportunity to build a fair society with equal rights for all which is only possible when everyone has the same immigration rights. This starts with welcoming immigrants and refugees and fostering a fair society with equal rights and permanent resident status for all.

The Migrants Rights Network has developed a clear framework for comprehensive and inclusive [regularization program](#) that allows all undocumented people to apply for permanent resident status immediately. The priorities are for there to be NO caps, NO restrictions by industry of work or geography, NO two-step immigration which only gives temporary work permits and to END migrant exploitation by ending tied work permits and hours of work limits for international students. Please see attached for the full brief.

Undocumented migrants are integral to our communities, yet they face exploitation and exclusion. Regularization will empower undocumented people to assert their rights at work; to protect themselves from abuse; and to access healthcare and essential services; while growing the economy which will fund public services. Regularization will change lives for generations to come.

Regularization is a critical investment in the future and only you can make it happen. Hundreds of organizations and millions of people across Canada who value fairness and equality want you to reject racist scapegoating, to be true to your commitment to inclusion and diversity and seize this historic opportunity.

We urge you to implement a regularization program granting permanent resident status to all undocumented people now. We urge the government to prioritize the rights of immigrants and work towards a fair and compassionate immigration policy. This includes providing a pathway to regularization for undocumented individuals and addressing the systemic issues that lead to precarious immigration status.

It is crucial for the health and stability of our communities that everyone has access to essential healthcare services without fear of deportation or discrimination. We believe that by creating a more inclusive and just immigration system, we can foster healthier and more resilient communities for all Canadians.

We are committed to working with the government to address these pressing issues and advocate for policies that prioritize the well-being of all members of our society, regardless of their immigration status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paige Homme".

Dr. Paige Homme MD PGY2 Family Medicine, Toronto
Chair of Health Providers Against Poverty (HPAP) 2024/25

Signing on behalf of HPAP Steering Committee and Members