

**Media Contact:**

Eric L. Steckel  
Communications Manager  
510-768-3147  
[esteckel@cceb.org](mailto:esteckel@cceb.org)

**Diocese of Oakland, Catholic Charities of the East Bay and  
Oakland DACA/DAPA Project Kick Off Free Deferred Action For  
Childhood Arrivals Workshop**

**Partnership in Response to Pope Francis' Focus on Immigration**

OAKLAND, Calif. – October 8, 2015 – In the wake of Pope Francis' visit to the United States, and his focus on the issue of immigration, Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, of The Diocese of Oakland, [Catholic Charities of the East Bay](http://www.cceb.org), and the Oakland DACA/DAPA Project, will kick off a free Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) application workshop at the Cathedral of Christ the Light by hosting a press conference on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm.

The partnership will provide assistance to the large number of “Dreamers” - DACA-eligible youth - in the East Bay. The press conference will focus on the importance of obtaining DACA status, and will announce a free DACA Workshop at the Cathedral of Christ the Light on October 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm, where up to 300 citizenship and 40-50 DACA applicants are expected to attend. Vanessa Manzi-Pumar, the first “Dreamer” to be admitted to the State Bar of California, will share her inspiring story.

- Who:** Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ  
Chuck Fernandez, CEO Catholic Charities of the East Bay  
Vanessa Manzi-Pumar, Immigration Attorney, Catholic Charities of the East Bay  
Barbara Pinto, Immigration Attorney, Centro Legal de la Raza  
Other speakers TBA
- What:** Free DACA Application and Citizenship Workshop Kick Off
- When:** October 13, 2015 @ 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
- Where:** Cathedral of Christ the Light, Parish Hall; 2121 Harrison Street; Oakland, CA 94612 (Parking is available in the Cathedral underground lot. Enter the lot on the 21st street side of the Cathedral Center. Entrance to the Parish Hall is on Harrison Street.)

The Diocese of Oakland serves 84 parishes and an estimated Catholic population projected over 700,000 in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The Catholic Church throughout the diocese offers a range of service ministries assisting the elderly, the young, the poor, and the oppressed. For more information, visit [www.oakdiocese.org/diocese](http://www.oakdiocese.org/diocese).

Catholic Charities of the East Bay (CCEB) is a social services agency headquartered in Oakland, California. In the last fiscal year, Catholic Charities immigration legal team helped over 1,150 clients enter the pathway to citizenship. For more information, visit [www.cceb.org](http://www.cceb.org).

The Oakland DACA/DAPA Project will educate thousands of Oakland residents about the life changing benefits of these programs, which expand educational and employment opportunities, and access to healthcare for many members of our communities. The Oakland DACA/DAPA Project is comprised of eight (8) leading legal services and community-based organizations: Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, Catholic Charities of the East Bay, Centro Legal de la Raza, East Bay Sanctuary Covenant, Immigrant Legal Resource Center, International Institute of the Bay Area, Korean Community Center of the East Bay, and the East Bay Community Law Center.

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