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Cuesta College Statement re: Trump Administration's Action to End DACA for Dreamers

"The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program protects 800,000 immigrant youth from deportation and gives them freedom to work and live life. They are in school, and working hard. They are our friends, our classmates, our co-workers and neighbors.

They are Cuesta College students.

DACA recipients were brought to the U.S. as children, attended U.S. high schools, and have no criminal record. Their DACA deferral from deportation has allowed them to attend college and legally hold a job in the U.S. Cuesta College denounces President Trump's decision to end the DACA program.

In the words of the <u>California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley</u>, 'ending DACA is a heartless and senseless decision that goes against American ideals and basic human decency. In California, we don't put dreams – or Dreamers – on hold. The California Community Colleges remain committed to serving all students, regardless of immigration status and to providing safe and welcoming environments in which to learn. We will do all within our power to assist students affected by this decision.'

Cuesta College remains an inclusive institution committed to creating a welcoming and supportive classroom and campus environment. We will continue to support all of our students to achieve their dreams and honor their diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

Please visit the <u>Cuesta College Multicultural and Diversity Resources web page</u> for more information."

Dr. Mark Sanchez

Cuesta College Assistant Superintendent/Vice President of Student Services

Additional resources:

- Legal Memorandum from the CA Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Re: the Sept. 5, 2017 Federal Decision to Effectively End DACA
- <u>Statement from the Association of Community College Trustees</u>
- Immigration Legal Services