



The Interfaith Immigration Coalition is a partnership of faith-based organizations committed to enacting fair and humane immigration reform. **Together we invite you to participate in DREAM Sabbath 2011, a time for education, reflection, action and solidarity in diverse faith communities across the country.** During DREAM Sabbath 2011, September 16th–October 9th, communities of faith will lift up the lives of DREAM students in the prayers, readings, reflection and education during at least one Sabbath service as a way to increase understanding of the circumstances DREAM students face, and their hopes and contributions to our communities, and to build support for the DREAM Act.

Why now?

In December of 2010, we were just 5 votes short of passing the DREAM Act and ensuring that millions of immigrant children can stay in the United States, where they call home. Faith communities around the country were deeply disappointed when the Senate failed to invoke cloture on the DREAM Act, but we have remained committed to the issue.

This year, on June 28th, the Senate Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Immigration Refugees, and Border Security held a hearing on the DREAM Act, chaired by Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL) who has championed this legislation from the beginning. For the first time in years, public support for positive immigration reform surpassed opposition. **In many ways, momentum is building! We invite you to participate in DREAM Sabbath 2011 to help us keep moving forward, building more and more support for the DREAM Act until it passes.**

At the same time, this is a time of crisis for DREAM students and their families, and we are called to respond. Deportations, including deportations of DREAM-eligible youth and young adults, are continuing in unprecedented numbers. We encourage communities who participate in DREAM Sabbath 2011 to join our call to the Obama administration to grant deferred action to DREAM students.

How to Get Involved

Visit the IIC website, InterfaithImmigration.org, and sign up to participate in DREAM Sabbath 2011, September 16-October 9. **Let us know the dates of your faith community's DREAM Sabbath celebration so we can include your event as we spread the word that faith communities are fighting for the DREAM Act.**



This packet includes planning resources, sacred readings, reflections and more to help you plan your DREAM Sabbath event. Please feel free to adapt what you find here and share it with others! As you think about your DREAM Sabbath celebration, consider inviting a DREAM student or DREAM student ally to tell their own story or the story of a friend (with their permission, of course) in order to ground your reflection and prayers in the real hardship, suffering and gifts in DREAMers lives. **Let us know if you need help contacting a DREAM student in your area—we will do everything we can to make those connections!**

Every community's DREAM Sabbath celebration will look different, but whatever form your event takes, your prayers and actions will be joined with other people of faith around the country, and your participation will help spread understanding of the DREAM Act and build broad support for DREAM students!

Thanks for your good work—we're excited to know many voices from diverse faith communities will be raised up this fall in a vibrant show of support for the DREAM Act! For more information please send an email to: interfaith.immigration.coalition@gmail.com

