



FRANCISCAN ACTION NETWORK

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FRANCISCAN ACTION NETWORK DECRIES THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET ATTACK ON IMMIGRANTS AND OTHER VULNERABLE PEOPLE

May 26, 2017

Franciscan Action Network (FAN) views President Trump's 2018 budget proposal as a totally unrealistic sharp blow to the welfare of people who are poor, sick, and elderly, with undocumented immigrants being a special target. The bottom line is, the wealthy gain, and poor, vulnerable women, children and men lose in a big way. "FAN deplores this cruel budget, and will work with others to assure it does not become a reality," states Patrick Carolan, FAN's Executive Director.

FAN is a faith organization that advocates with and for people whose human rights are violated and human needs ignored, including immigrants and refugees. Not only does the President request a \$2.7 **billion** increase for further security for border security and immigration enforcement, but calls for new steps to keep undocumented persons from receiving tax credits and adds a requirement that those claiming the child tax credit provide a social security number valid for employment. The tax credit changes would harm children, including U.S. citizen children.

The budget for Department of Homeland Security (DHS) also indicates that deportation of immigrants in the country without proper authorization is high on the President's list of priorities. The budget calls for \$100 million to support over 200,000 Border Patrol agents, including funds to train 500 new agents. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) would receive \$189.5 million to hire 850 new officers, 150 criminal investigators, and 805 new support staff. The list goes on in this President's war against undocumented immigrants, ignoring the fact that most are hard-working, tax-paying, people who contribute in many ways to this society.

FAN believes that a national budget reflects a country's values. This budget is cruel, discriminatory, and morally bankrupt. It must not stand.