



# Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles

## MEDIA ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Alvaro Huerta, CHIRLA, 213.210.6735

### “WE NEED IMMIGRATION REFORM, *FAST!*”

#### Students Refuse to Give Up Hope, Launch Statewide Fast for Immigration Reform

**What:** **Students and youth** will go on a **week-long fast** aimed at urging the California congressional delegation to move forward immigration reform that includes legal residency and a path to citizenship for hundreds of thousands of undocumented youth. The fast begins today, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, and organized events will take place in five cities across the state: Santa Ana, Los Angeles, Bakersfield, San Jose, and San Francisco.

**When & Where:** **DAY 1- July 2nd:** Join us in as we launch our Fasting Caravan for the entire week and take the voice of immigrant youth and their allies to **Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez**.

**Program:**

8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m.: **Mass** at St. Boniface Church, 120 N. Janss Street, Anaheim

10:00 a.m. until 11:30 am: Delegation to **Rep. Sanchez's Office**, 12397 Lewis Street, Garden Grove

**12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.: Rally at Sasser Park, Santa Ana, Santa Ana**

6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.: **Vigil** and Entertainment at Sasser Park, Santa Ana

9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.: **Overnight Camp** at Sasser Park, Santa Ana  
(Sasser Park located on Ross between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets, in Santa Ana)

Students will caravan from Santa Ana to San Francisco. Day 2 – Pasadena.

**Who:** Several students and youth, parents, school administrators, as well as education and immigration advocates. **Twenty-four** participants have signed up to fast for a full week; **twelve** of them are **from Southern California**. Fasters will be visiting the offices of Representative Loretta Sanchez and will be joined by prominent community leaders.

**Why:** Students across California will lead the way for the rest of the nation as they bring attention to the plight of thousands of talented, undocumented youth who graduate from high school and college each year with little hope of attaining higher education or a job once out of school. With the Senate recently failing to move forward a viable immigration reform bill, their dreams remain out of reach and hang on a string. Now their hopes move to the House of Representatives where Congressional leaders still have an opportunity to demonstrate their leadership by finding just, humane and workable immigration reform solutions. Students and youth are also paying close attention to the closely related DREAM Act – which would allow undocumented students who meet certain requirements to obtain legal residency – which has been stalled for years by politics, though it remains widely supported by many members of Congress. Youth will participate in the fast across the state in order to make sure that students' voices are included in the debate and that Congress and the President take action to pass just and humane immigration reform this year.

**Visuals:** Colorful, youth-led rally at Sasser Park in Santa Ana. Vigil and entertainment in the park.

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*The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) was formed in 1986 to advance the human and civil rights of immigrants and refugees in Los Angeles, promote harmonious multi-ethnic and multi-racial human relations and through coalition-building, advocacy, community education and organizing, empower immigrants and their allies to build a more just society.*