

TO ALL MEDIA:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 19, 2018

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******PRESS RELEASE******

**STATEMENT FROM FOURTEEN OF THE NATION'S LARGEST NON-PROFITS:
ADMINISTRATION'S ZERO TOLERANCE IMMIGRATION POLICY HARMFUL TO CHILDREN**

(WASHINGTON, June 19, 2018) – In a statement from fourteen CEOs from some of the nation's largest and most influential human service non-profits, nonprofit leaders noted:

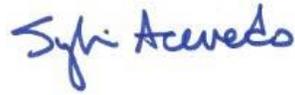
“Separating immigrant children from their parents when they come to the border should never be a part of American policy. On behalf of the human services sector, representing more than five million staff and volunteers, we call on the Trump Administration to immediately stop this wrong and immoral policy, that has resulted in more than 2000 children being needlessly separated from their parents while their parents are being processed at our borders. Furthermore, we call on the U.S. Health and Human Services’ Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to take immediate steps to restore connections between the infants, toddlers and teens who are currently in custody and their family members who are awaiting processing, including regular visitation and communication. The standards of care for these children must be equal to that expected in our current child welfare system, which at a minimum, should include access to a safe environment appropriate for families, age-appropriate services including education, trauma-informed mental and other health services, and family-based legal and immigration counseling. We urge the Administration and Congress to immediately put into place the laws, processes and resources that will ensure the health, safety and well-being of children and not be harmful and traumatizing to them, and stand ready to work with them to implement such policies. We must ensure all of our actions are grounded in the humanitarian values we have long held as a nation.”

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Signers:



Susan Dreyfus
President & CEO
**Alliance for Strong Families
and Communities**



Sylvia Acevedo
Chief Executive Officer
Girl Scouts of the USA



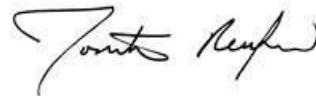
Nancy Brown
Chief Executive Officer
American Heart Association



Judy Vredenburg
President & CEO
Girls Incorporated



Sister Donna Markham
President & CEO
Catholic Charities USA



Jonathan Reckford
Chief Executive Officer
Habitat for Humanity International



Michael Brown
Chief Executive Officer
City Year



Charlotte Haberaecker
President & CEO
Lutheran Services in America



Matthew M. Knott
President
Feeding America



Paul Gionfriddo
President & CEO
Mental Health America



James Firman
President & CEO
National Council on Aging



Brian Gallagher
President & CEO
United Way Worldwide



Mike King
President
Volunteers of America



Alejandra Castillo
Chief Executive Officer
YWCA USA