

As faith leaders in Ohio, we call on authorities to suspend the deportation of Jesus Lara Lopez, US resident for 16 years, which is scheduled for July 18. Lara is an Ohio father of four US citizen children ages 6 to 13 and a vital member of his community. Lara owns a home in Willard, Ohio where he works hard to provide for his family and is active in his church.

As a community of faith, we believe that families are sacred and deserve to stay together. But throughout Ohio, we minister to our immigrant neighbors who are overwhelmed by the fear that their mothers, fathers, brothers or sisters could be deported at any time.

As people of faith and Americans, we must choose a better way forward by modernizing our outdated immigration policies, not resorting to aggressive deportation policies that tear parents away from their children. We can keep families together and our communities safe by pursuing practical solutions.

We call for a solution based on morally sound immigration policies. We call for Immigration and Customs Enforcement to cancel the planned deportation of Jesus Lara Lopez.

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