



*Working to Reduce Poverty in America.*

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Statement from Catholic Charities USA on USCIS Public Charge Final Rule**

Alexandria, Va. (August 12, 2019)–Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) is deeply concerned with the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) final rule on public charge, scheduled for formal publication in the Federal Register on August 14, 2019.<sup>1</sup> The rule will harm vulnerable immigrant communities and families by limiting access to social safety net programs and further impact them by removing access to basic needs services, diminishing public health & increasing the risk of death, and threatening family unity and stability, among other concerns.

We implore DHS to conduct additional consideration of the plethora of comments that are in opposition to this rule and rescind it in its entirety. We encourage the reconsideration of this rule to be completed in good-faith, focused on the reality of the actual harm described in the submitted comments and devoid of the harsh and divisive rhetoric used to support and justify this rule and similar policies.

### **About Catholic Charities USA**

A member of Caritas Internationalis, Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) is the national office for Catholic Charities agencies nationwide. CCUSA’s members provide help and create hope to more than nine million people a year regardless of religious, social, or economic backgrounds. To learn more about CCUSA, please visit our website at [www.catholiccharitiesusa.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org).

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<sup>1</sup> CLINIC /[https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/homeland-security-department?utm\\_source=federalregister.gov&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pi+subscription+mailing+list](https://www.federalregister.gov/agencies/homeland-security-department?utm_source=federalregister.gov&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pi+subscription+mailing+list)