

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

I am writing to you this Sunday to remind you that St. Cecilia is part of the Ames Catholic Community Stephen Ministry. We have been a Stephen Ministry parish since 2012. Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-on-one caring relationships those who are hurting can receive the love and care they need to support them through difficult times, such as death of a loved one, chronic or terminal illness, divorce, job loss and/or unemployment, divorce or separation, incarceration, birth, adoption or infertility, loneliness, relocation, or many other life challenges. Typically, Stephen Ministers meet with their care receivers about one hour a week. They may also be in touch by phone or text more frequently than this.

Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctly Christian care. He or she is a caring Christian friend who walks beside a hurting person. A Stephen Minister will listen, act as a sounding board, pray with, if that is what the care receiver desires, and walk with his or her care receiver. A Stephen Minister is **NOT** a counselor or therapist, a problem solver or a casual visitor. Stephen Ministry is strictly confidential and Stephen Ministers are only paired with same sex care receivers. Stephen Ministers meet twice a month for peer supervision, support, and continuing education.

Stephen Ministry is an extension of pastoral care. With a congregation of 5,000 people, it is impossible for one priest as pastor to meet regularly with all the people in need. Stephen Ministry helps our parish to reach out to people in need. It is open to people in our congregation and to anyone else in the community who has a need. It has my full support.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact referral coordinators: Anne Schmitt (515 291-8257), Sue Osweiler (515 709-0021), Cindy Hauber (515 291-0250) or Deacon Mark Bortle (515 291-4989).

In Christ's peace,  
Father Jim Secora

## What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus' command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care they need to support them.

- *Is life more than you can handle alone right now?*
- *Are your health, your attitude, or your relationships suffering?*
- *Are you adjusting to a new job, a change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move?*
- *Would you like to have someone in your life who really cares?*

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God's love with you can help you get through the confusion, stress, or loneliness you may be experiencing.

### Stephen Ministers Are Called to Be Caregivers

*Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.*

Galatians 6:2

*Encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.*

1 Thessalonians 5:14b

### God Is the Caregiver

*Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you.*

Psalms 55:22a

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

Matthew 11:28

*Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*

1 Peter 5:7



## What is a Stephen Minister?

A Stephen Minister is . . .

- a child of God who walks beside a hurting person;
- a caring Christian friend who really listens;
- a lay person who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care.

A Stephen Minister is NOT . . .

- a counselor or therapist;
- a problem-solver;
- a casual visitor.

## Stephen Ministry helps meet the needs of individuals who are . . .

- hospitalized;
- terminally ill;
- bereaved;
- in a job crisis;
- new members of the church;
- disabled;
- homebound;
- lonely;
- in a spiritual crisis; or
- looking for a caring Christian friend.

## How does the referrals process work?

- A person—either you, a relative, or a friend—is hurting and in need of Christian care.
- The Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator learns about this need for care—from the pastor, the person, or a friend, always with the person's permission.
- The Referrals Coordinator meets with the person to talk about Stephen Ministry.
- With the person's permission, the Referrals Coordinator assigns a Stephen Minister to meet on a weekly basis with the person.
- The Stephen Minister continues to provide distinctively Christian care for the person in strict confidentiality.

Consider allowing a Stephen Minister to walk with you on your journey to wholeness.



**Catholic  
Charities**  
Archdiocese of Dubuque

Sister Mary Lawrence Community Center  
420 Sixth St. SE, Suite 220  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
319-364-7121

## **DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) PROGRAM TERMINATED**

### **September 14, 2017**

On September 5, 2017, the Trump Administration announced the termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. This program was created in 2012 under President Obama's administration to allow undocumented immigrants who were brought to the US as children to be protected from deportation, stay in school and apply for work authorization. For now, DACA holders maintain DACA status until their work permit or employment authorization document (EAD) expires. Below is a brief summary of the changes to the DACA program:

1. No new DACA applications will be accepted. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/USCIS will not accept or process first-time applications for DACA after September 5, 2017.
2. If you had DACA on September 5th, you still have DACA. The Administration ended DACA on September 5th, however your DACA is valid until its expiration date. Both DACA and work permits/EAD will remain valid until their designated expiration date.
3. USCIS will process initial or renewal applications for DACA if it was accepted by their lockbox office as of September 5, 2017. You should attend your biometric (fingerprint) appointment and respond to any request for evidence from USCIS.
4. **IF YOUR DACA AND WORK PERMIT IS SET TO EXPIRE BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 AND MARCH 5, 2018, YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT YOUR RENEWAL. IT MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 5, 2017.** If you already have DACA and a work permit that will expire between now and March 5, 2018, and you want to renew it, you must file the renewal and have the application be accepted (not postmarked) by October 5, 2017.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

**If you meet the guidelines set forth by DHS for renewal, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque (CCAD) is available to provide legal assistance in this process. For this time period, CCAD Immigration Attorney, Emily Rebelskey, can assist to help file DACA renewals. Please contact our Cedar Rapids office at 319-364-7121 to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.**

For more information on DACA updates:

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque – [www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org)

Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC) – <https://cliniclegal.org/daca>

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) - <https://www.ilrc.org/daca>.

National Immigration Law Center (NILC) - <https://www.nilc.org/issues/daca/daca-termination-faq/>



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## **EL PROGRAMA DE ACCIÓN DEFERIDA PARA LOS LLEGADOS EN LA INFANCIA (DACA) TERMINADO**

**14 de Septiembre 2017**

El 5 de septiembre de 2017, la administración de Trump anunció la terminación del programa de Acción Deferida Para Los Llegados En La Infancia (DACA). Este programa fue creado en 2012 bajo la administración del Presidente Obama para permitir que inmigrantes indocumentados que se trajeron a los Estados Unidos en la infancia se protejeran de la deportación y que recibieran la oportunidad de quedarse en la escuela y solicitar autorización para trabajar. Por ahora, los que tienen DACA mantienen su estatus hasta que expiren su permiso de trabajo o documento de autorización de empleo (EAD). Abajo hay un resumen breve de los cambios al programa DACA:

1. No se aceptarán nuevas solicitudes para DACA. El Departamento de Seguridad Nacional (DHS)/USCIS no aceptará y no procesará primeras solicitudes para DACA después del 5 de septiembre de 2017.
2. Si usted tenía DACA el 5 de septiembre de 2017, todavía tiene DACA. La administración terminó con DACA el 5 de septiembre; sin embargo, su DACA es válida hasta su fecha de expiración. DACA y permisos de trabajo/EAD permanecerán válidos hasta su fecha de expiración indicada.
3. USCIS procesará solicitudes iniciales o de renovación de DACA si éstas fueron aceptadas por su oficina de caja fuerte el 5 de septiembre de 2017. Ud. debe asistir a su cita biométrica (de huellas) y responder a cualquier pedido de evidencia de USCIS.
4. **SI SU DACA Y PERMISO DE TRABAJO SE VAN A EXPIRAR ENTRE EL 5 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2017 Y EL 5 DE MARZO DE 2018, UD. TIENE DERECHO A ENTREGAR SU SOLICITUD DE RENOVACIÓN. ÉSTA TIENE QUE SER RECIBIDA ANTES DEL 5 DE OCTUBRE DE 2017.** Si usted ya tiene DACA y un permiso de trabajo que se expirarán entre ahora y el 5 de marzo de 2018, y desea renovarlos, hay que entregar la renovación y asegurar que sea aceptada (no solamente enviada y sellada) antes del 5 de octubre de 2017.

### **¿QUÉ PUEDE HACER USTED?**

**Si usted califica para renovación bajo los lineamientos de DHS, Caridades Católicas de la Arquidiócesis de Dubuque (CCAD) está disponible a proveer asistencia legal en el proceso. Durante este tiempo, La Abogada de Inmigración de CCAD, Emily Rebelskey, puede ayudar a usted en la entrega de renovaciones de DACA. Por favor contacte a nuestra oficina en Cedar Rapids a 319-364-7121 para confirmar una cita lo más pronto posible.**

Para más información sobre noticias de DACA:

Caridades Católicas de la Arquidiócesis de Dubuque – [www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org](http://www.catholiccharitiesdubuque.org)

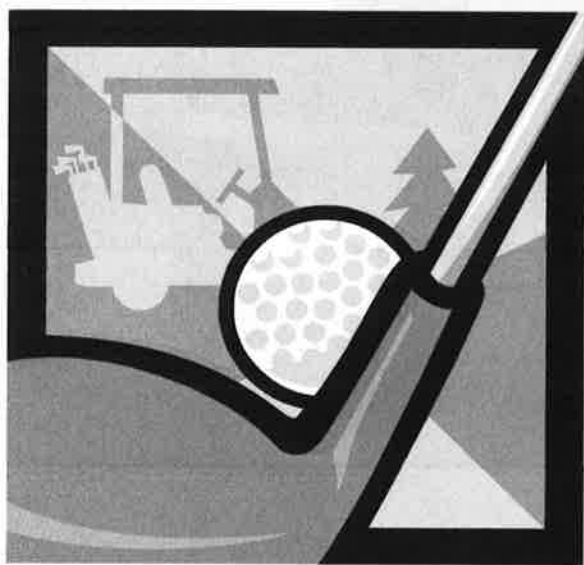
Red Católica de Inmigración Legal (CLINIC) – <https://cliniclegal.org/daca>

Centro de Recursos Legales Para Inmigrantes (ILRC) - <https://www.ilrc.org/daca>.

Centro Nacional Para la Ley Migratoria (NILC) - <https://www.nilc.org/issues/daca/daca-termination-faq/>

# St. Cecilia Golf Outing

**Four Person Best Shot-  
Get Your Foursome Together**



**Sunday, October 1, 2017**

**At 1:00PM**

**Ames Golf and Country Club**

**Entrance Fee-\$50.00 per Golfer-  
Includes Driving Range 18 Holes of  
Golf, Cart, Prizes and a Meal at the  
Country Club after Golf**

**Non-golfer dinner is \$8.00 (send to  
parish office with registration)**

**Contact Dan Scoles @ [danscoles54@gmail.com](mailto:danscoles54@gmail.com) with questions.**

**REGISTRATION - send to Parish Office**

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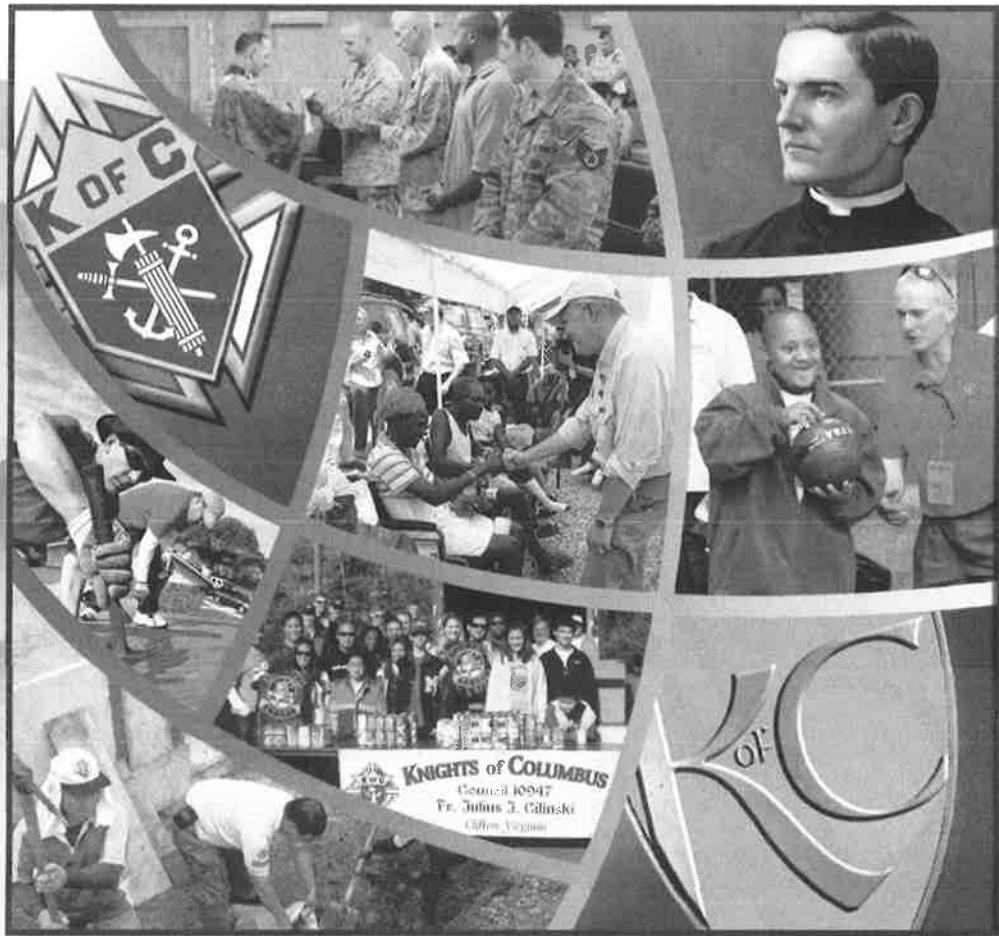
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**Grow** their faith  
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**Transform** the world  
**Join us.**



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