

## **SEIU Healthcare Minnesota: “A SANCTUARY UNION” Resolution**

**WHEREAS**, our Union has repeatedly adopted resolutions and programs committed to fighting discrimination and oppression in all forms and in all places including our workplaces, communities and in ourselves, and

**WHEREAS**, our Union has a long and proud history of linking arms with other social-justice movements to build a wider movement that can win on multiple fronts and wield power for working people—regardless of race, immigration status, religion, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation, and

**WHEREAS**, white supremacists, neo-Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan have said they feel empowered to openly mobilize and come out of the shadows, and inflict further terror on American communities as witnessed in St. Paul, Charlottesville, Boston, and cities across the country, and

**WHEREAS**, our members and leaders strongly condemned the violence that took place at the Dar Al Farooq Islamic Center, a place of worship in Bloomington, and

**WHEREAS**, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents have reportedly been targeting Nursing Homes where many of our immigrant members work, thus increasing levels of fear, anxiety, and insecurity among patients, healthcare workers and their family members, and

**WHEREAS**, the current administration is rescinding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) that has provided over 800,000 young people (“DREAMERS”) relief from deportation since 2012, and allowed these young people to work, serve in the military, and go to college and, therefore, contribute to the nation’s well-being.

### **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT SEIU HEALTHCARE MINNESOTA WILL:**

- Unconditionally denounce fear-mongering, racism, anti-Semitism, bigotry and violence perpetrated by white supremacists, neo-Nazis, the KKK and other hate groups.
- Continue to actively partner with people-of-color-led organizations to fight for issues that are of central importance to our members of color, and fully support the development of an organizational infrastructure needed to make racial equity a lasting priority in our state.
- Call on this Administration to maintain and expand the DACA program, and urge Congress to permanently address the legal status of DREAMERS.

### **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT SEIU HEALTHCARE MINNESOTA WILL:**

- Declare itself a “**Sanctuary Union**” and will:
  - Actively protect the rights and safety of every member of our union, our community and all patients regardless of one’s immigration status.

- Not voluntarily cooperate with federal agents to enforce immigration laws - and will not record any information from our members that may be used against them in terms of their immigration status.
- Request that our hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and other healthcare providers declare support and protection of undocumented people and their families, affirmatively creating a welcoming environment as “safe zones” so that no member of our community feels threatened when seeking medical care.
- Commit to holding ‘Know Your Rights’ training and sharing legal resources with our community, and to collectively bargain new contract languages that strengthen workplace protection for our immigrant members.
- Continue to build alliances with others organizations engaged in similar work while continuing to resist on the streets and disrupting structures that attempt to divide us.