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**IMMIGRATION ATTORNEYS, ADVOCATES AND ACTIVISTS
COME TOGETHER TO DEFEND DREAMS**
New Pro Bono Program Launched: DREAM Defenders

WASHINGTON, DC – The United We DREAM (UWD) Network proudly announces a partnership with immigration attorneys committed to fighting the deportation of DREAMers. This first-ever national collaboration of social activist groups, immigration lawyers, and student groups includes the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild, the National Immigration Law Center (NILC), Educators for Fair Consideration (E4FC), DREAM Activist and the National Immigrant Youth Alliance (NIYA).

This alliance coalesces at a time when the Obama administration just reached one million deportations. Many of those have been ordered for talented youth that would qualify for the DREAM Act. The 35 affiliates of the UWD Network refuse to stand on the sidelines and we will continue reminding the Obama Administration that it has the power to stop deportations. UWD is working together with lawyers, activists and advocates to stop these deportations, also known as Education Not Deportation (END) cases. Through pro bono legal representation and grassroots activism, DREAMers facing deportation will now have a better chance of using their stories to challenge the labyrinth that is the immigration process.

“The DREAM Defenders program strengthens our chances to stop DREAMers’ deportation, creating a one-two punch of advocacy and grassroots pressure” said Loren Campos, an END Field Coordinator in Texas.

Former president of AILA, David Leopold, praised the DREAM Defenders partnership. “With this partnership, we really are defending dreams; this is the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs that America needs to prosper.”

“Now more than ever, efforts like these, where activist and professionals work together to ensure immigrant youth and their families are not uprooted from their homes and disappeared by ICE, bring hope to a generation of young people, whose entire dreams are being denied” said Gaby Pacheco, END Project Coordinator.

The United We Dream Network is a national network of immigrant youth that organize and advocate for access to college and legal status for ALL. We have members in over 25 states, you can learn more at www.unitedwedream.org

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