



Office for Immigrant Affairs & Immigration Education

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Mt. 25:35)



Linda Brubaker, MD, MS, FACS, FACOG
Dean, Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine
2160 South First Avenue
Maywood, Illinois 60153

June 20, 2013

Dear Ms. Linda Brubaker,

On behalf of the Office for Immigrant Affairs and Immigration Education of the Archdiocese of Chicago, I extend our congratulations and gratitude for the momentous decision of allowing undocumented students to attend Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. At a time when our country is consumed in the debate on immigration reform, your school has become a beacon of hope for thousands of undocumented children and young adults unsure of their personal futures.

Our office praises actions like yours. We work to bring human dignity for all our brothers and sisters, but especially for the immigrants contained in the shadows of our communities. In 2005 we were established by the USCCB as the Catholic Campaign for Immigration Reform (CCIR). In 2009 the Archdiocese of Chicago created the Office for Immigrant Affairs to support our new vision that includes CCIR, the Immigrant-to-Immigrant Ministry (e.g. Pastoral Migratoria and Polish Immigrant-to-Immigrant Ministry), as well as ministries of accompaniment to families separated by detention or deportation. In addition to the 357 archdiocesan parishes and hundreds of immigrant and native-born lay leaders, our office works in collaboration with active networks of 59 religious orders, over 200 priests, local Catholic universities, and a large number of ethnic community organizations.

We pray that your courageous action will inspire a change of heart in other universities across the country toward immigrants, with Catholic institutions leading by example. This will allow for undocumented young men and women, who wish for nothing more than to contribute to our society, to seek an education that unjustly has been blocked from them.

Again, thank you for taking this bold step. I also offer our complete support. If there is anything our office can do to further your efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss possible collaborations at 312-534-5333 or esegura@archchicago.org.

May our God of compassion bless you and the Stritch School of Medicine for your good work.

Sincerely,

Elena Segura, director