



June 20, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

Today, on World Refugee Day, I want to take a moment to reiterate our commitment at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals to the health, safety and welfare of our immigrant families.

In light of recent national stirrings around increased ICE activity and deportation threats, I feel it is our duty – as health care providers and advocates – to stand up in support of immigrant children and their families, and to reassure them that BCH is committed to providing the safest and highest level of medical care to all of our patients, while vigorously enforcing our privacy policies and ethical obligations.

Nearly a quarter of our nation's 44 million immigrants call California home, and half of our state's children have at least one immigrant parent. To help ensure these families get the care they need and have the voice they deserve, we have been working diligently to establish the UCSF Center for Immigrant and Family Health, which will provide high-level leadership, advocacy, research, and training focused on the immigrant children we serve, while enhancing the depth of care we provide. This is work of the most important kind, having a direct impact on our patients, while underscoring our commitment to advocating for social justice, locally and globally.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns about this vital human rights issue. I also encourage you to review the California Attorney General's immigration enforcement-related guidance and model policies for health facilities, entitled "Promoting Safe and Secure Healthcare Access for All," available [here](#).

Thank you for all of your hard work on behalf of Healthy Children, Healthy Communities, and a Healthy World, and for your dedication to serving every patient and family that walks through our doors.

Respectfully,

Michael Anderson, MD  
President, UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals