April 16, 2021

Hon. Philip D. Murphy, Governor
225 W. State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney
125 W State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin
125 W State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Gov. Murphy and Leadership:

It is partly because of the labor provided by many Essential workers that America finds itself at the precipice of recovery and the very reason for writing this letter. As an affiliate of the AFL-CIO, the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement is a grassroots organization directed by Latino labor leaders who use our collective power to secure rights and job protections. LCLAA has been committed to the growth and progress of the labor movement and the Latino community. It has played a significant role in the election of Latinos at all levels of government.

Many of our battles have begun in the streets, in a struggle to press for social, economic, and labor justice. For this reason, LCLAA urges you to support relief for our undocumented brothers and sisters in New Jersey. These undocumented workers have not been able to access any governmental aid that they need and deserve. Many of them are people of color who put their lives on the line to ensure ours during this difficult time. These families are struggling much in part because they are excluded from aid.

Many states see the impact this lack of aid has had on these vulnerable workers and have begun to establish funds for excluded workers. It is incredulous to count them as essential workers but not provide the much-needed support they deserve. As such, LCLAA supports the demands of the Recovery4All coalition that calls to extend $2,000 direct cash payments to immigrants left behind from...
federal relief and $600 weekly wage replacement to workers that are ineligible for unemployment due to their immigration status.

New Jersey can and must do better for all those who live in this great state. We cannot allow families to struggle because they are excluded from the aid they need and frankly deserve. These workers were and are essential to the recovery of New Jersey. Do not make them a casualty of the Pandemic, for they were present when we need them. LCLAA asks you to support these workers and do what’s right and provide significant relief to these excluded workers and their families.

In Solidarity,

Jose Vargas, LCLAA National Executive Director