

#### **2010-04: The Episcopal Church's witness with and for immigrants in Southern Ohio**

**Resolved**, that the 136th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio call on the United States government for comprehensive immigration reform that supports:

- A path to citizenship for the 10-12 million undocumented people in the U.S.;
- Reform of our immigration system, so that migrant workers can enter the United States and work in a safe, regulated and humane manner;
- Reform of the family-based immigration system, so that waiting times/backlogs to reunite families are significantly reduced;
- Restoration of due process protections for immigrants;
- Reform that is humane, workable and reflects the paramount importance and socio-economic necessity of family unity;
- Development and implementation of policies that address the root causes of migration, such as economic development in poor countries;

*and be it further*

**Resolved**, that the 136th Convention call each congregation to affirm the 76th General Convention Resolution B006, "Immigration: Economic Implications," and become informed about the realities of immigration, including its root causes and to collaborate in ministries that meet the needs of new immigrants to our communities; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that the 136th Convention specifically call for termination of any programs, allowing or mandating local or state agencies to enforce federal immigration law and linking local or state computers to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, returning enforcement to federal immigration agents and leaving local law enforcement agencies and their resources to the work of investigating and preventing crime to keep communities safe; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that the 136th Convention specifically oppose local or statewide legislation that would require police officers to verify a person's immigration status upon arrest or require immigrants to prove that they are authorized to be in the country or risk state charges; *and be it further*

**Resolved**, that the 136th Convention of the Diocese of Southern Ohio communicate this resolution and B006 to the Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, and

Attorney General of the State of Ohio; and that each congregation be encouraged to communicate the same to their state legislators and local law enforcement agencies.