



NEWS

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Released June 19, 2018

Statement about Separated Immigrant Children and Families at the Border

Dr. Albert Reyes

President and CEO. Buckner International

Buckner has received numerous inquiries from supporters, volunteers, churches, sister organizations, media outlets, and strategic alliance partners about our response to the situation of immigrant children and families who have been separated at the U.S. Border.

One of our core mandates at Buckner is to protect children and strengthen families. We also believe children are best protected and families are at their strongest when they are together and strongly encourage our leaders to quickly seek solutions to reunite these families.

As a ministry dedicated to serving children and families, we are actively seeking ways to respond to this situation. We have been in contact with sister agency heads and our own staff ministering along the South Texas Border to both monitor the current situation and plan for potential responses. Our staff has consulted with government officials at border detention centers who have informed us that the authorities are managing the needs of the children. However, we are ready to assist if needed. We are also ready to help families who are reunited and released.

We are giving this response our primary attention and our staff is assessing our potential capabilities and best response methods should we be invited to assist.

I encourage everyone to pray for this situation. Pray for comfort for the children who have been separated from their parents. Pray for their parents who are undoubtedly anxious about the safety and well-being of their children. Pray for our federal, state and local leaders, that they would find unity in their response.

And pray that all of us in the United States would pursue justice in our hearts to "Defend the weak and the fatherless" and "uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed" in the spirit of Psalm 82:3.

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Buckner International is a faith-based ministry dedicated to transforming the lives of orphans, vulnerable children, families and senior adults in the United States and internationally. Founded in 1879 in Dallas, Texas, today Buckner serves people through a variety of programs designed to protect children and build strong families. These programs include foster care and adoption, family transition programs, community-based family preservation programs and retirement services for senior adults. Buckner also provides humanitarian aid and crisis relief to poverty-stricken children and families. Learn more and get involved at buckner.org.