

June 27, 2019

We Stand for the Children

A Statement of the Sisters of St. Joseph-TOSF Leadership and Social Justice Committee

"This is what the LORD says: 'A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.'" Jeremiah 31:15

As a Franciscan Religious Congregation of Women, we demand that the current federal administration and Congress provide the necessary supplies (including nutritional food, hygiene products and blankets) and legal assistance for children being held in detention camps at the border and in Florida. More efforts to contact family members and release them into their care are imperative.

We cannot remain silent at this time in our country's history in which our foundational values are being tested and found to be inadequate. The stories of children trying to provide comfort and health care to other children is heartbreaking. Too many children have already died. Others are ill and held in quarantine. The U.S. is better than this.

One of the deepest desires of our congregation is to **SPEAK** to the Church and to the world from our common understanding that there be no outcasts in our experience of life on this earth. We do this now and will continue to do this if these horrible conditions continue.

