

### Untitled

by J.R.T.

Being born at 40  
 Is quite the condition  
 The babbles been processed  
 And come to fruition  
 My pain? I swallowed  
 The poison that followed  
 The darkness complete  
 My heart was hallowed  
 When my gauge was read  
 And finally said  
 "E"

E is for everything's empty  
 And also for ending  
 The eventuality product  
 Was to stop my pretending

While waiting while wanting  
 A sign from the sky  
 It felt like an eon  
 Went crawling on by

A lightning strike!  
 An angel to fall  
 Or anything showing a cause  
 For it all

A key, a code? An order too tall?

That question still echoes

## Deadlock decision puts millions of lives on hold

**BY CYNTHIA ADAMS, NICHOLE MAHER AND DOUG STAMM**  
 CONTRIBUTING COLUMNISTS

As philanthropic organizations, we work hard every day to support thriving Oregon communities: We seed small businesses and job opportunities. We partner with communities to provide kids and families with quality, affordable care and education.

We create safe welcoming spaces for people of all cultural and religious backgrounds. We invest in affordable housing, clean rivers and healthy neighborhoods for all Oregonians.

And most importantly, we support diversity, because inclusive communities are strong communities. Our immigrant ancestors and our immigrant neighbors enrich our understanding of the world, our communities and ourselves. Oregon and the U.S. are stronger with all of us.

Last week's 4-4 tie decision by the Supreme Court of the United States in *Texas v. United States* leaves in place a lower court decision halting the implementation of expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA). It puts the lives of millions of immigrants and their families on hold. This deadlock prevents an estimated 5 million immigrants from gaining work authorization and protection from deportation. It also prolongs the worries and fears of their 6.4 million family members, not to mention their friends and neighbors. Our friends and neighbors.

The original Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

(DACA) program has benefitted nearly 730,000 individuals and their families, allowing young adults to stay in their home – this country – while working and going to school. In the face of last week's decision, we are more committed than ever to supporting the strength and resiliency of immigrant families and communities.

By welcoming immigrants, we foster thriving communities that benefit us all. We welcome families that have endured incredible hardships to leave bad situations to provide a better future for their kids. We welcome more entrepreneurs and more customers for local businesses. We welcome children who will grow up to be doctors and teachers, business owners and artists. We welcome neighbors, coworkers and friends who share our deepest dreams – the freedom to speak and pray, and the opportunity to raise healthy, happy families.

DACA and DAPA are a critical step in providing immediate stability to our neighbors, but they don't fix our broken immigration system. We invite both our colleagues in philanthropy and decision-makers at every level to join us in support of thoughtful, national, comprehensive immigration reform. Only by addressing both these immediate needs and long-term challenges can we ensure the health and prosperity of a diverse and thriving Oregon.

*Cynthia Adams is executive vice president of The Collins Foundation. Nichole Maher is president and CEO of Northwest Health Foundation. Doug Stamm is CEO of Meyer Memorial Trust.*

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