

Ms Frances Fitzgerald T.D.
Minister for Justice and Equality
Department of Justice and Equality
51 St Stephen's Green
Dublin 2

YOUR COUNTY E.G DUBLIN

TODAY'S DATE HERE

- THIS IS JUST A **SAMPLE LETTER** - DELETE AND CHANGE AS NECESSARY
- THE LETTER IS **STRONGER** IF YOU **MAKE IT PERSONAL** AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE
- YOUR LETTER CAN BE **TYPED OR HAND WRITTEN** – JUST MAKE SURE IT'S **READABLE**
- **DO NOT** GIVE YOUR FULL NAME AND ADDRESS – GIVE YOUR **FIRST NAME AND COUNTY**

Dear Minister,

1. INTRODUCE YOURSELF – where you live, your job & your family situation

- My **name** is _____. Ireland has been my home for _____ years
- I **live** and work in _____ (e.g Galway/ Dublin).
- I **am** an experienced _____ (e.g. Chef) **OR** I work as (a carer for an older person) **OR** I own a small business and am an employer.
- I **am a Mother/Father** and I am here working hard to support my family **OR** I have two children born in Ireland **OR** who are growing up in Ireland.
- I love my community in Rathmines/Navan. I have great neighbours. My children have friends and go to school there. Ireland is my home. I am undocumented.

2. WHY SHOULD THE MINISTER CARE? – Choose 2-3 points from below. Pick the strongest parts of your story (e.g. if you have been working a long time here or if you have children growing up here)

- I **came to Ireland to** build a better life for myself and for my family. I have worked hard and made a valuable contribution to Ireland and the Irish economy for many years.
- **Being undocumented is really hard.** I have been badly exploited in my job **OR** my children live in fear of being taken away **OR** we couldn't go to my parents funerals when they died **OR** I haven't seen my children in years
- **My employer needs my experience and skills.** They say they would be lost without me and their business would suffer. I know if I get my status I will continue to use my skills and experience to benefit Ireland.
- **My children were born OR live in Ireland.** They go to school here. Their friends are here. They speak with a Dublin accent. It's the only home they know. Their future is here.

- **I just want a chance to build a future and a better life.** I want to continue to work hard and buy a house / I want to set up my own business / I want to give my children a good education and future.
ADD MORE OF YOUR STORY HERE

3. END WITH AN ASK - what the Minister should do – Introduce a regularisation

I urge you, as Minister for Justice and Equality, to introduce a regularisation scheme and give undocumented people like me an opportunity to come forward. We have struggled for so long. Like the Irish undocumented in the US and Australia we just want a chance.

Choose 2-3 points to make to 'sell' our regularisation ask

- Regularisation doesn't need a new law. This is a simple scheme.
- Doing this will help stop the exploitation of hard working people like me.
- It will bring in a lot of money for the economy through taxes and immigration fees.
- It will allow people to live free from fear and anxiety.
- My children growing up here have the right to hope for a future. Ireland is their home.
- It's the right thing to do and it's the smart thing to do.
- We are the future voters of tomorrow. We have a contribution to make. Let us make it.

Yours Sincerely,

YOUR FIRST NAME HERE

- SIGN THE LETTER WITH YOUR **FIRST NAME ONLY** (NO SURNAME AND JUST YOUR COUNTY)
- DROP THE LETTER INTO THE **MIGRANT RIGHTS CENTRE IRELAND, 37 DAME STREET, DUBLIN 2** WITH RAZ AT OUR RECEPTION – **FOR THE ATTENTION OF BILLY**
- OR POST IT TO MRCI FOR THE ATTENTION OF BILLY
- **WE WILL SCAN YOUR LETTER TO KEEP A COPY**
- WE WILL **ORGANISE ALL LETTERS** FROM UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS SO THAT THEY **ARE GOING ON A WEEKLY BASIS INTO THE MINISTER** FROM NOW UNTIL DEC 2015