**CAC MESSAGE GUIDANCE – GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN**

President Trump and his congressional allies, who control the administration and both branches of Congress, shut down the federal government. They have put our kids and families at risk and undermined vital disaster relief. And why? The president’s chaotic mismanagement and his [racist/bigoted] policies.

* Why would President Trump put children, families and communities of color at risk? Because he couldn’t stomach a bipartisan deal to protect 800,000 Dreamers, provide health insurance to children – many of whom are Latino and African-American, and deliver disaster relief to millions of Americans – including millions in Puerto Rico who still don’t have running water or power.
* The president has demonstrated a repeated pattern of [racist/bigoted] behavior and beliefs. His decisions, which continue to disproportionately and negatively impact people of color, reflect this. Trump’s shutdown is sadly more of the same.
* The president’s shutdown is a moral and governing failure. And it’s dangerous, especially since it likely undermines or delays enforcement of federal health protections.
* The Trump shutdown and the president’s chaotic mismanagement will undermine and delay the EPA’s work protecting our air, water and climate.
  + The Trump shutdown could force business to postpone plans to build or expand facilities as they wait on delayed environmental permits and licenses.
  + The Trump shutdown could force EPA to delay hazardous waste cleanups, also known as Superfund cleanups
  + Families are still picking up the pieces from wildfires in California and supercharged hurricanes in Texas, Louisiana, Florida and Puerto Rico. The shutdown could force them to suffer even longer as they await now-delayed support.
* Instead of doing his job to protect public lands, clean air, “crystal clean” water and our climate, Trump is shutting down the government to advance extreme and bigoted policies. The American people deserve far better.