

Undocumented Student Success

By: The Mason DREAMers

Learning Outcomes

- Raise awareness of undocumented students' needs at Mason
- Discuss the historical context and current discourse
- Explore existing models of undocumented student success
- Creating a more inclusive environment for undocumented students through UndocuAlly Trainings

Mason DREAMers and the Mason IDEA

- Innovative
- Diversity
- Entrepreneurial
- Accessible = We are an **open** and **welcoming** community. We partner with public and private organizations in our region and around the world. We proactively engage with our community. We define our success by how many talented students with potential we serve, not how many we leave out.

Who are undocumented students?

- Students who are not US citizens, permanent residents or visa holders
- Most grew up in the US and do not know any other country
- Can attend college in most states
- Most are first-generation students from working class families
- Most are prevented from going to college because of high cost and limited aid

Undocumented Students at Mason

- Majority commute from home, long hours, on public transportation
- Many don't eat regularly
- Work in cash economy
- Many experience financial problems while in school
- Must support family
- Take leaves to save up money for school
- Many internalize stress due to pressure, lack of understanding both at home and school

Challenges at Mason

- 1. Undocumented students cannot afford **out-of-state cost**, many who pay taxes and contribute to the Virginia economy
- 2. Vague and/or inconsistent communication, policies and procedures
- 3. Lack of resources that cater to the needs of undocumented students

Terms you should know

- **The D.R.E.A.M Act**
- The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act is also known as the DREAM Act. This act is a proposed legislation that allows qualified high school students who are undocumented, and wish to serve in the Army or receive a higher education by going to college, may gain legal status in the United States.

ACTIVITY

Undocumented

- Describes individuals who are in the US with no legal status. They either entered the US without a visa or legal documentation or they violated the terms of his or her status and remained in the US without authorization.

DACA

- On June 15, 2012, Executive Order
- Certain people who came to the United States as children and meet several key guidelines may request consideration of deferred action
- Two years, subject to renewal, and would then be eligible for work authorization.
- NOT a path toward citizenship, nor a green card, nor is it the DREAM Act.

HB88

- Attended a public or private high school in VA
- Has resided in the Commonwealth for at least three years since the date he/she graduated high school
- Parents paid taxes at least three years
- DACA recipient

Existing Models

- Let's take a look at universities that have existing models that foster the success of undocumented students

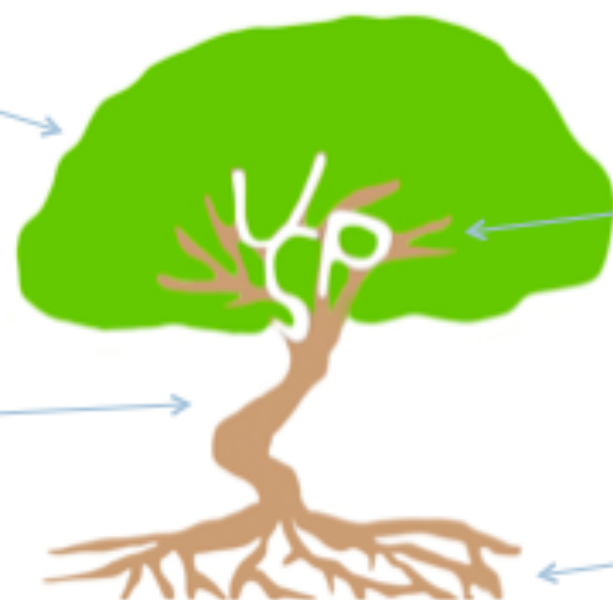


University of California, Los Angeles

- **Undocumented Student Program**
- A variety of workshops centered around undocumented student experiences, such as legal rights, career development, post undergraduate options, financial aid, and mental wellness
- Counselor and staff in-service training for campus departments to ensure campus personnel are informed of federal and state policies that impact undocumented students

Student
Community,
vibrant

Barriers,
Character,
Assets



Institutional
Resources and
Support

Roots, Family,
Community
Transnational

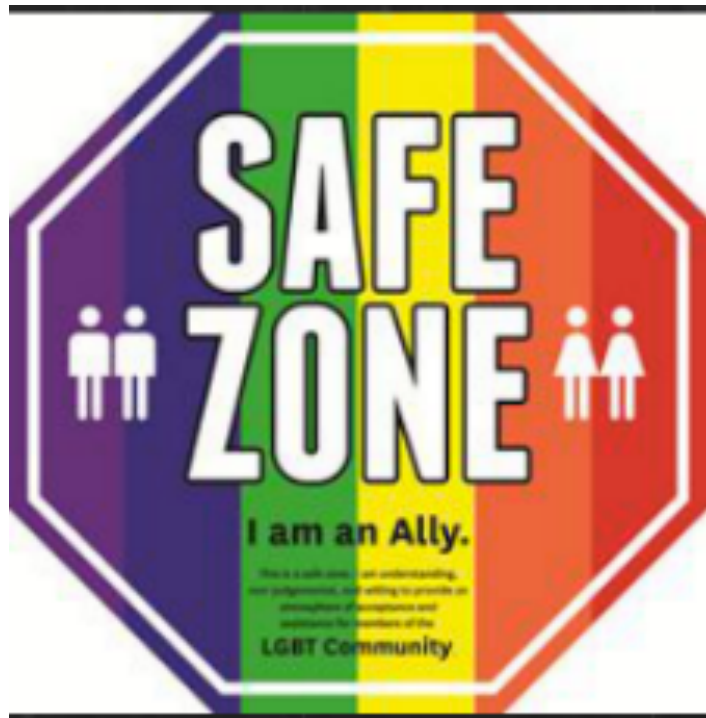
UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT PROGRAM

UCLA: Bruin Resource Center

- "BRC works closely with several programs across campus whose staff members understand the special needs and concerns of undocumented students."
 - Academic Advising
 - Counseling and Psychological Services
 - LGBT Resource Center
 - Office for Students with Disabilities
 - Scholarship Resource Center
 - Student Legal Services
 - UCLA Career Center

Undocumented a Hidden Identity?

- Lets add Dreamers into conversations about invisible identities (LGBTQ, WAVES, ODS, Veterans)



Solution: UndocuAlly Training



University of California, Berkeley

- "A team of UC Berkeley staff and students came together in support of undocumented students on our campus. The team began meeting regularly to develop a campus training for staff and faculty, as well as an ally sticker project. "

Purpose of UndocuAlly Trainings

- Create safe zone/ally trainings for the entire Mason community
- "We hope for staff/faculty members to leave this training with an understanding of the history, legislation, and current/future realities of this student community"

JUNE 25, 2012

Up with Churches By Joe Klein / Syria's Cyberwar / Starbucks 2.0

TIME

WE ARE AMERICANS*

*Just not legally

We're some of the nearly 12 million undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. Why we're done hiding. By Jose Antonio Vargas

www.time.com

What will you do?

- “If you've come here to help me, you're wasting your time. But if you've come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.”

— Australian Aboriginal Elder Lilla Watson

Thank you

- Second Annual DREAM Week: March 3rd-6th
- Dates of Trainings
 - Sunday, February 16th
 - Sunday, March 23rd
 - Sunday, April 13th