



HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE ALLY FOR UNDOCUMENTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Highland Park High School

Senn High School

DESCRIPTION

This session will highlight the various ways high school educators can support undocumented students on the path to college. Presenters will address the importance of student identification and the need to create opportunities for self-disclosure. By utilizing student support groups and promoting parent engagement, high schools can help undocumented students explore their post-secondary options and advance their college dreams.



PRESENTERS

- Pablo Alvarez, Highland Park High School
- Amy Moore, Art Teacher, Senn High School

Guest Speakers

- Andrea Gonzalez, ISACorps
- Erika Nunez, Student Advocate for Gear Up and Co-sponsor of Senn Dreamers



OUTLINE

- Introduction of Session/Presenters (Roberto)
- Highland Park High School (Pablo)
- Senn High School (Amy and Guest Speakers)
- Discussion (Q/A)
- Conclusion (Roberto)



HIGHLAND PARK HIGH SCHOOL

- North Suburban High School
- 2097 Students
- 20% Minority Population
 - 17% Hispanic
- Involve faculty, students, parents , & community with our work with undocumented population.
- Developing a POSITIVE relationship with all students is at the crux.



FACULTY

- Educate Faculty on undocumented students
 - Students who immigrated recently with parents and all are undocumented
 - Students who immigrated recently without parents (typically to work)
 - Students who immigrated recently to reunite with siblings and/or parents
 - Students who immigrated at a very early age with parents and all are undocumented (DREAMERS)
 - Improve scholarship opportunities – look at requirements for local scholarships.
 - Develop an information/resource sheet with procedures and scholarship information. Disseminate to all counselors.
- Educate Student Service Personnel
 - Counselors, Case Managers, Psychologists, Social Workers, & Interns



STUDENTS



- Create Safe Zones
- Emphasize that undocumented students can attend college
- Disseminate scholarship information for undocumented students-Naviance Scholarship Data Base
- Affinity Groups
 - Young Men United—a support group for Latino males
 - Latina Support Group—a support group for Latinas
 - English Learners Group—a support group English Learners (ESL students)
 - Pathway Scholars—First gen academic support group
- Spring Break College Trips—Expose first gen students to college campuses

PARENTS

- Rumbo a la Universidad
 - Annual workshop on college and financial aid in Spanish
 - Held every Wednesday in February
 - One workshop is dedicated to HP programming on college and details for undocumented students & families
 - Dispel myths, encourage dialogue, educate on resources and scholarships available
 - College visit in April
 - 2015—University of St. Francis
 - 2014—Dominican University
 - 2013—Lake Forest College



PARENTS & STUDENTS

Talk about paying for college EARLY!

- Don't assume a community college is the only option
 - Keep a four year plan in mind
 - More scholarships available for freshmen vs. transfer students
- Talk about costs early on and have a plan B if plan A is not affordable.
 - Discuss option of attending college part-time vs. full-time.
 - Explain payment plans
 - Develop outside scholarship opportunities



HP COMMUNITY

- Highland Park/Highwood Legal Clinic
 - Opened May 1
 - Staffed by retired lawyers
 - Specifically for HP/HW residents
 - Focus on:
 - Immigration
 - Housing
 - Domestic Abuse



HIGHLAND PARK – HIGHWOOD
LEGAL AID CLINIC



HP COMMUNITY

- City of Highland Park recognized HP Counselor, Aliza Gilbert with the 2015 Humanitarian Award for her work and passion with undocumented students



- Amy Moore
- **Starting a Dreamers Club**
- Purpose: to provide undocumented students with encouragement, support, practical advice, and resources to help build their futures, and to create a forum for all students and staff to advocate for immigrant rights and justice.



SUPPORT THE DREAM ACT

Dreamers Club

What We Do:
 Support undocumented students and immigrant rights!
 We have guest speakers on the first Friday of every month.
 We meet socially every third Friday of the month.

First meeting: This Friday Nov. 8th, 9th period

This week counselors will speak about the college application process for undocumented students.

Meet in room 150 at 3:20 p.m. See you there!



NO HUMAN BEING IS ILLEGAL

Human beings can be beautiful or more beautiful, they can be fat or skinny, they can be right or wrong, but illegal? How can a human being be illegal?
 - Elie Wiesel

Dreamers Club

Join the Dream!

Support undocumented students and immigrant rights! We have meetings on Fridays. Everyone is welcome to join!

Meet in room 150 on Fridays at 3:20 p.m.

See you there!

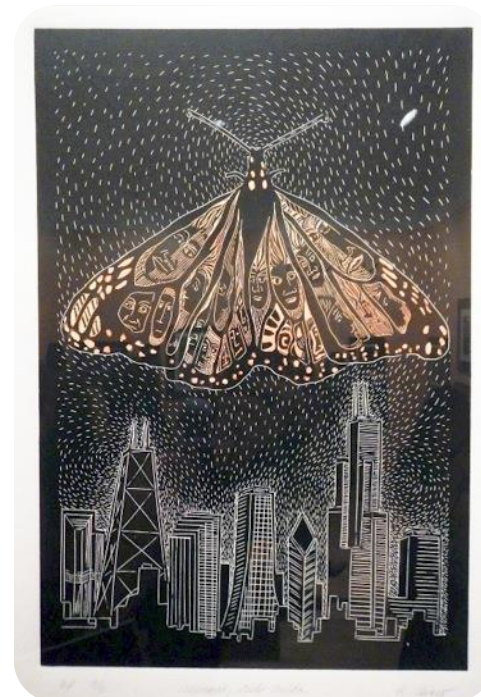
○ *Creating an Atmosphere of Support and Encouragement for Disclosure & Trust*

- Flyers
- Artwork & Signs
- Email Database – Seniors and Dreamers
- Dreamers Bulletin Board with Information
- Dreamers Page/Links on School/Counseling Website
- Dreamers Information Station - Counseling Office



Dreamers Club: Speakers

- Alumni Panel – former undocumented students
- Immigrant Teachers – share their experiences
- Illinois Student Assistance Commission
- National Immigration Justice Center
- DACA workshops
- Immigration Attorneys
- Visiting Artists
- Field Trips / Events



Dreamers Club: Student Activities

- Write formal letters, emails, call local representatives
- Facebook Page
- Share immigration stories; post narratives
- Create video/film narratives
- Discuss immigration news and legislation
- Connect with other schools and local Dreamer events
- Updates on scholarship opportunities
- Fundraising for School Dreamers Scholarships
- T-Shirts/Posters – raise schoolwide awareness



Andrea Gonzalez

REACH OUT TO US







EMPOWER Us



PostEverything

I told Harvard I was an undocumented immigrant. They gave me a full scholarship.

When I discovered my status in high school, I was worried I wouldn't be able to attend college at all.

Immigration Reform 2015: Loyola University Votes To Increase Fees To Support Undocumented Student Scholarship



TAKE THE **FIRST** STEP WITH **Us**





IT'S OUR RACE



HAVE RESOURCES AT THE READY



ERIKA NUNEZ

I AM
UN•DOC•U•MENT•ED
(ən-ˈdä-kyə-,men-təd)



MAKING COLLEGE REAL FOR **EVERYONE**



SCHOLARSHIP WITHIN SCHOOL/DACA APPLICATION FEE



DISCUSSION

- Questions for the speakers.
- What works at your institution/organization?
- What are obstacles you are encountering?
- What are your takeaways?



CONCLUSION

