

Sharing the Dream

Wednesday, May 18, 2016
University of St Francis, Joliet, Illinois

#sharingthedream2016

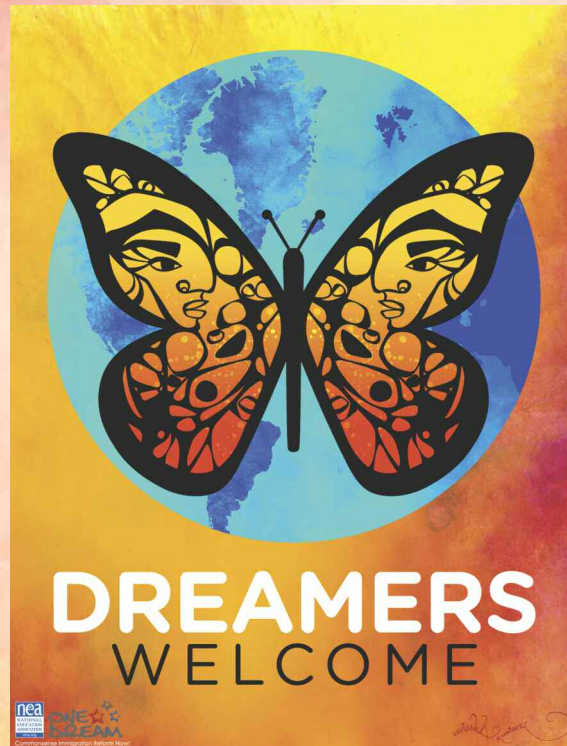


Image by Favianna Rodriguez

We would like to welcome each of you to the second annual “Sharing the Dream” Conference. The first conference was designed to introduce resources and establish a network meant to support allies and advocates of undocumented students. Due to the complexity of the subject, we were only able to touch the surface of many topics. Our goal for today is to provide a more profound understanding of various issues that undocumented students face in their journey to obtain post-secondary opportunities. Sessions are aimed at introducing the plight of undocumented students, but we also hope to provide the opportunity to dive deeper into the broader issues that challenge undocumented immigrant populations. Through the sessions, we hope to break away from the singular narrative of the deserving high-achieving undocumented student and open our minds and networks to all undocumented students and how we can support them.

Today’s debates on immigration continue to produce misinformation. More than ever, we must rally in support of undocumented students and create communities that are

empowered through information and advocacy. Initiatives such as the proposal of the Student Access Bill, which would allow undocumented students to apply for scholarships at Illinois public universities, and student led clubs at high schools and universities are just a few examples of ways we can and should continue to level the amount of opportunities available to undocumented students. Undocumented students are resilient despite all the obstacles they face, but they can be especially successful provided the appropriate supports. Access to education for undocumented students is an important social justice issue facing the 21st century and we all have the opportunity to lead this effort together.

As you go through the sessions we invite you to engage others and exchange ideas. We thank you for joining us today and for your continued investment in the future of our student’s lives. We are glad to have you join us as we attempt to craft inclusive communities that foster support and breed a movement: a movement by which all students may benefit from sharing the dream.



Sharing the Dream

Agenda

7:30 am – 8:30 am Registration/Continental Breakfast
Pat Sullivan Recreation Center

8:30 am – 8:40 am Welcome
Pat Sullivan Recreation Center
*Eric Ruiz, Associate Director of Admissions,
University of St. Francis, Sharing the Dream Committee*

8:40 am – 8:45 am Opening Remarks
Pat Sullivan Recreation Center
Dr. Arvid C. Johnson, President, University of St. Francis

9:00 am – 10:00 am **WORKSHOP SESSIONS I**

Becoming Allies

Sexton Auditorium
College Track

*Dr. Daniel Lopez, Vice President of Student Affairs,
Northeastern Illinois University*
*Luvia Moreno, Director of Undocumented Student Resources,
Northeastern Illinois University*

The Undocumented Students Project collaborated with various university partners, legal experts, and community organizations to ensure that NEIU has the resources necessary to help their undocumented students succeed with their educational pursuits. You will hear from the individuals involved in the effort to create a welcoming environment for undocumented students. Learn about their struggles and challenges faced throughout the process.

Immigration Policies as They Relate to Undocumented Students

Moes Room
High School and College Track

*Abel Montoya, Director of Outreach Operations,
Illinois Student Assistance Commission*
*Lisa Palumbo, Supervisory Attorney,
Legal Assistance Foundation Chicago*

This workshop will give a general lay of the land on the current immigration policies that affect students as they pursue a college credential, financial resources, and potential paths to residency. Topics also include Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals and the Illinois Dream Act.

Mental Health Resources and Working with Undocumented Students

Turk Theater
High School and College Track

Oliver Camacho, Counselor, Triton College

Undocumented students are diagnosed with higher levels of anxiety, adjustment disorders, alcohol abuse, depression, and other psychological problems than their counterparts. This session will illustrate how to be an advocate in a large learning community and teach you what resources you can provide to address mental health issues. One will learn common techniques and practices one can employ to develop resiliency in undocumented students, and it will provide mental health resources that are available in times of crisis management.

10:15 am – 11:15 am **WORKSHOP SESSIONS II**

Case Studies—How to be a Change Agent in Your Institution

Sexton Auditorium
College Track

Evelyn Gonzalez, Proyecto Pa'Lante, Academic Advisor/Instructor, Northeastern Illinois University
Dave Marcial, Director of Recruitment, Golden Apple Foundation
Flavio Bravo, Co-Founder of Magis Scholarship, Loyola University Chicago Alum '16

Changing the culture of an institution or organization can be challenging and a slow process. Through this session, you will hear how individuals were able to influence policy at their respective institutions and organizations through persistence, research, and collaboration.

Creating a DREAMers Club

Moes Room
High School Track

Penina Noonan, School Counselor, Round Lake High School
Charo Mendoza, Social Worker, Highland Park High School

This workshop is intended for high school professionals or community based educators who are interested in establishing a Dreamers Club. The We Dream Club at Round Lake High School and the Dreamers Group at Highland Park High School work to promote a unified and inclusive environment for Dreamers and allies. Dreamers clubs can provide students with a safe place to talk about their individual narratives, provide them with the resources necessary to be successful in high school, and increase college access and career education. Presenters will also share a handout with 15 ways to advocate for undocumented youth.

Community College Panel

Turk Theater College Track

Andriana Esparza, Recruitment and Outreach Specialist,
Oakton Community College
Norma De La Rosa, Recruitment Coordinator,
Elgin Community College
Ulysses Diaz, Bilingual Coordinator,
Waubensee Community College
Maureen Lopez Fitzpatrick, Associate Dean of City Colleges,
City Colleges of Chicago

Join a panel of community colleges that are working with their undocumented student populations in unique and supportive ways. Hear what these institutions are doing to help undocumented students achieve their dreams here in Illinois. From clubs and organizations, campus resources, policy shifts, scholarships, and need-based aid, find out how each school is able to create pathways for success.

Undocuqueer: Stories of Struggles and Success

Abbey High School and College Track

Laura Munoz, Student, University of St. Francis

This workshop, facilitated by an undocuqueer student, is an introduction to the lives of undocumented and LGBTQ individuals in the United States. This is a two-part session which includes an informational presentation and discussion. Attendees will be able to share their personal experiences and knowledge about the undocuqueer community, in hopes of shedding light on the intersectionality of both identities.

11:30 am – 12:45 pm Lunch and Keynote

Pat Sullivan Recreation Center

Enrique Rodriguez Rios,
Weekend Anchor/Reporter, Univision Chicago

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm WORKSHOP SESSIONS III

Supporting High School DREAMers Towards College Success: A Comprehensive Approach

Sexton Auditorium High School Track

Luis Narvaez, Director of Strategic Projects,
Chicago Public Schools
Dr. Aide Acosta, DREAMer Supports Manager, Noble Network

This session is intended to have participants walk out with a better understanding on how to support their DREAMer students through the transition from high school to college. By using the Noble Network for Charter Schools' approach (designating one College Coach specifically working with DREAMers at each campus), high schools can see an increase on the college application number of this population, in addition to seeing more dollars coming in terms of scholarship offers for this student population. Participants will also understand how to engage students' families and the community at large by creating a network of support that extends beyond the classroom walls.

Race to the White House—What It Means for Undocumented Students

Moes Room High School and College Track

Celina Villanueva, Civic and Youth Engagement Manager,
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights

This year's candidates for President vary widely in their opinions, plans, and rhetoric, raising many questions about the impact each candidate would have if he or she would become the next President of the United States. This session will address the platforms of the candidates and how they can potentially affect undocumented students and DACA, along with any potential immigration reform.

Four Year College Panel

Turk Theater College Track

Luke Kerber, Freshman Admissions Counselor, Aurora University
Luvia Moreno, Director of Undocumented Student Resources,
Northeastern Illinois University
Sandy Lopez, Assistant to the Director of Latino and Latin American Studies, Northern Illinois University
Eric Ruiz, Associate Director of Admissions,
University of St. Francis

Join a panel of both public and private 4-year colleges that are working with their undocumented student populations in unique and supportive ways. Hear what these institutions are doing to help undocumented students achieve their dreams here in Illinois. From clubs and organizations, campus resources, policy shifts, scholarships, and need-based aid, find out how each school is able to create pathways for success.

Cultivating a Meaningful Career: Career Counseling for Undocumented Students

Abbey High School and College Track

Farrah Ellison Moore, Student Counselor & Career Coordinator,
Arrupe College of Loyola University Chicago
Raven Curling, Student Employment Coordinator,
Career Development Center, Loyola University Chicago

Session will focus on ways in which to address the varying needs of undocumented students. It will include best practices and career counseling theories in order to help students discern appropriate career choice. Other topics include career issues undocumented students face along with how to develop successful partnerships and collaborative efforts with non-career service groups and organizations.



2:15 pm – 3:15 pm

**Undocumented Alumni Panel:
What are they doing now?**

San Damiano Hall
All

Alumni Panel

There is a light at the end of the tunnel. For undocumented students, the first hurdles toward higher education may be applying to college, funding it, and graduating. But then what? This session will highlight a panel of recent and fairly recent college graduates. Presenters will discuss their personal path through the system and their challenges and successes in starting their careers given the opportunities available. The panelists will share their advice of how counselors and educators can advise students about the career landscape.

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Closing & Reception

San Damiano Hall
All

Dr. Aliza Gilbert, College Counselor, Highland Park High School



**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING SHARING THE DREAM CONFERENCE!
YOUR TIME AND PASSION WILL TRULY BENEFIT STUDENTS!**

Sharing the Dream Committee

Todd Burrell, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Tanya Cabrera, Illinois Institute of Technology and Illinois Dream Fund Chair

Mike Dessimoz, Illinois College Access Network

Andriana Esparza, Oakton Community College

Gabrielle Feldman, Loyola Academy

Alicia Funes, East Leyden High School

Aliza Gilbert, Highland Park High School

Luke Kerber, Aurora University

Mayra Lagunas, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

Rodrigo Lopez, Elgin Community College

Dave Marcial, Golden Apple Foundation

Elisabet Miramontes, University of St. Francis

Abel Montoya, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Eric Ruiz, University of St. Francis

Stephanie Szczepanski, Saint Louis University

**Special thanks to
University of St. Francis**



Supported by IACAC



Visit www.iacac.org/undocumented for more resources for undocumented students
and to access the College Advising Guide for Undocumented Students