#HERE TO STAY

The University of Utah
Dream Center
INTRODUCTION

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@UofUDreamCenter
The Dream Center works holistically with undocumented students and mixed-status families from college access to graduation. The Dream Center
(1) engages in specialized college outreach and access strategies,
(2) provides individualized advising and scholarship support for current and future University of Utah undocumented students,
(3) promotes campus-wide advocacy and trainings for University of Utah students, faculty, staff and administration, and
(4) increases community-wide awareness of policies affecting current and future University of Utah undocumented students.
Immigration is a global phenomena

- 11,000,000 Undocumented Immigrants
  - Reside in the United States

- 660,880 DACA Beneficiaries
  - Reside in the United States

- 200,000 Undocumented Students
  - Enrolled in United States Colleges & Universities
Undocumented Immigrants in Utah

- **110,000** Undocumented Immigrants Reside in Utah
- **9,872** DACA Beneficiaries Reside in Utah
- **1,182+** Undocumented Students Enrolled in Utah Colleges & Universities
Utah Laws

HB 144 (2002)
- 3+ Years in a Utah High School
- Graduate from a Utah High School/GED
- Enroll in a USHE School > 2002
- Sign & Submit Affidavit to O.A.

SB 253 (2015)
- Utah High School Graduates
- Eligible for Private Funds Administered through USHE Institutions Regardless of Immigration Status
Undocu-Realities in Higher Education

"Students Don’t Show Up"

Socioemotional Distress
Identities
Limited Opportunities
Sociohistorical Contexts

"Students Don’t Care"

Institutional Policies
State Policies
Laws
Campus Safety
Socio-Political Uncertainty

Tuition
Personal Challenges
“Earlier this year I had to go to the financial aid office because my reimbursement was placed on hold due to my [presumed] status as an international student. After trying to explain to an employee that I was not an international student because I pay in-state tuition due to HB144, they did not understand [my concern] and therefore were not able to fully help me. It is already difficult to navigate this system but makes it even more frustrating when [staff members] do not know the policies in place that affect undocumented students with or without DACA.”

Third-Year Undergraduate Student
University of Utah
Campus Experience
“I don't see [the] inclusion of undocumented students in campus-wide events, or our accomplishments highlighted, for example in the U of U newspaper, social media, online website, etc...”
(Im)migration Status Exhaustion

“Some professors do not know much about undocumented immigrants...

They spread the wrong information to students.”
“I like to be civically engaged, but professors demanding everyone to vote, or staff asking me where is my "I Voted" sticker on election days [is frustrating]... ”
“I wish the University of Utah could [provide us with more resources]. We need legal advice and cannot afford it. We want to renew our DACAs and cannot afford it.”
"Being undocumented is a multifaceted experience. Not one story is the same. One of the best things that Student Affairs professionals can do [to support undocumented students] is get educated on the subject [matter]! Knowing the policies that affect undocumented students make[s] it easier on us and saves us time [and energy] from constantly explaining them..."
THANKS!

Questions? / Preguntas?
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