

# Serving Undocumented Students and their Families

Olivia Rosas, Associate Vice President, Student Success & Educational Equity  
Maria Barragan-Maldonado, Lead Coordinator, Undocumented Student Success Center  
California State University, San Bernardino

## BACKGROUND

To address the unique needs of the undocumented student population, CSUSB established the Undocumented Student Success Center (USSC) on November 5, 2015, becoming the 4th campus in the CSU system to establish such a center. Nonetheless, more work remains to support student development and promote retention and degree completion. Located in the Santos Manuel Student Union, the USSC is currently staffed with a permanent Lead Coordinator and two student employees.

## PURPOSE

This poster presentation will provide participants with an overview of the work the USSC is doing to address the specific needs of the undocumented student population as well as provide support to their families. In addition, the Center aims to promote a safe space and strong networks to help students succeed and graduate in a timely manner.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

- Assistance with financial aid application process (CA Dream Act)
- Provide scholarship information, employment opportunities and other resources
- Mental wellness, empowerment, and leadership workshops
- Info session on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)
- Referrals to immigration attorneys
- Networking opportunities
- Free printing, scantrons and other school supplies



## COLLABORATIONS

- The DREAM.US
- Mexican and Guatemala consulates of San Bernardino
- Immigration Law Offices of Hadley Bajarmovic, PC
- UCR and SBVC Undocumented and Dreamer Student Centers
- CSUSB community

## WAYS TO SUPPORT UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS

- Attend events led by undocumented immigrants
- Ensure information is accurate before sharing
- Educate the undocumented community (tell them to create a plan and attend informational workshops/panels)
- Learn about the different kinds of organizing, activism and/or lobbying and educating
- Guide students to become comfortable and empowered by their story

## SUMMARY

The Undocumented Student Success Center serves over 700 undocumented students, approximately 3.5% of the total student enrollment. Our goal is to provide access and support to students from the point of interest through graduation.