Undocu Allyship: Asian Pacific Islanders

Marissa Vichayapai
My Story

Connect with me! Marissa@21progress.org
Build Your Dream is a leadership development program designed with and for undocumented youth.

We Provide...
- Leadership Development
- Career Readiness
- College Readiness
- DACA Loan Program

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE BUILD YOUR DREAM FAMILY!

We create inclusive and liberating spaces
We honor and celebrate your whole self
FUN & Relational
Immigrant justice

Contact us at:
(206) 829-8482 OR daca@21progress.org
Building Impact

- Name
- What’s on your mind? Heart?
- What do you need to know?
Today’s Agenda

- Being Undocumented
- Community Challenges
- Resources
- Action
CITIZEN, LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT (LPR), & UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?
What rights do each group have?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>US Citizen</th>
<th>LPR</th>
<th>Undocumented Immigrant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Go to school</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live in the U.S.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work in the U.S.</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invite their foreign family members to come over</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Residency and Citizenship currently, is a 10 to 25 year process.
WAIT TIMES FOR FAMILY VISAS

Unmarried children of US citizens:
Vietnam- 4 years | Philippines- 13 years

Unmarried children of legal permanent residents:
China- 8 years | Philippines- 27 years

Sibling of adult US Citizens:
India- 49 years | China- 37 years

Married Children of US Citizens:
China- 37 years | Philippines- 92 years
Who Are Undocumented People?
Being Undocumented

Undocumented people are ‘foreign’ nationals who came to the United States without legal documentation or overstayed their visas.
Being Undocumented

Members of our community who care about this country and know the US as their home.

Diverse people from all over the world, including Asia and the Polynesian Islands.

They can be deported at any time.
Nationally:

11.5M Undocumented People

1.3M Identify as Asian or P.I.

Locally,

APIs in WA State make up 26% of the undocumented population

WA STATE:

25%  INDIA
22%  KOREA
18%  CHINA
13%  PHILIPPINES
13%  VIETNAM
13%  OTHER

Amy Kele

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUfLtl6hA-E&feature=youtu.be
DACA - Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals
WHAT IS DACA?

DACA is a federal program, started in 2012, that provides temporary work authorization, protection from deportation, a Social Security Number, and other benefits to certain immigrant youth who were brought to the U.S. as children.

DACA can be renewed every two years.
What is and isn’t DACA

Amnesty
Pathway to Citizenship
Legal Status
Legal Permanent Residence (Green Card)

vs

Renewable two years of deportation relief
Work authorization and social security number
Legal Presence
Ability to apply for a driver’s license

Source: United We Dream
WHY APPLY?

- Social Security Card
- Driver’s License
- Higher Education
- Work Permit
- Deportation Reprieve
DACA Eligibility

- Came to the US before the age of 16
- Were under the age of 31 on June 15th, 2012
- Have lived continuously in the US since June 15th, 2007
- Are at least 15 years old when you apply
- Are CURRENTLY in school, obtained a high school diploma or a GED, or enrolled in a qualifying educational program
- Had no lawful status and were present in the US on June 15th, 2012
- Have not been convicted of any felony or misdemeanor

For more information: thinkaboutit.us
APIs in WA State qualify for DACA or DAPA

22,000 qualified for relief

30% were DACA eligible

10% are DAPA eligible

700,000 HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR DACA!
APIS MAKE UP FOR LESS THAN 4.6% OF DACA APPLICATIONS
Application rates of DACA eligible APIs

India: 25%
Korea: 35%
Philippines: 17%
China: 5%

WHY ARE APIS NOT APPLYING?

- Unaware DACA exists
- Unaware that APIs are eligible for DACA
- **Misperception of DACA program**
- Cultural shame or stigma
- Fear
- Seen as risky
- Distrust in government and systems
- **Don’t want to jeopardize relationship with employers**
- Services unavailable
- Language barriers
- Exploring other options (asylum visa, u-visa, t-visa)
Current Issues: What to Know
Executive Orders Explained

- **Emphasis on “Securing” the Southern Border:**
  Calling for the construction of a physical wall across the Southern US border

- **Expand Detention, the Prison Industrial Complex, and Enforcement Mechanisms:**
  Construction of more detention centers at or near the land border with Mexico, increasing the number of asylum agents and immigration judges

- **Broadening the Police State:**
  Implementing 287g agreements, while granting unreviewable discretion to DHS Secretary John Kelly, and overarching powers to all officers and employees of the United States, and all state and local officers, to access all Federal lands

- **Harsher Procedures and Penalties:**
  Increasing expedited removals, and Federal prosecution and sentencing for people apprehended re-entering the US

- **Continued Human Rights Abuse:**
  Increasing the detention and deportation of unaccompanied minors

- **Increasing the Length of Detention:**
  Imposing harsher sentences and creating stricter parole regulations, limiting the use to “urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefits”

***Analysis Developed by Colectiva Legal del Pueblo, with the support of the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network***
Executive Orders Explained

- **Increase Enforcement and Removal Capacity**
  Hiring an additional 10,000 ICE officers, re-introducing Secure Communities and 287g, expanding expedited/"prompt removal", and strong arming other countries to increase repatriation

- **Expand Enforcement Priorities**
  Removal of any alien who has been convicted of any criminal offense, been charged with any criminal offense (where such charges has not been resolved), committed acts that constitute a chargeable criminal offense, are subject to a final order of removal (but who have not left the US), or are labeled a “risk to public safety or national security” as identified by an immigration officer

- **Expanding the Reach of Immigration**
  DHS Secretary and the Attorney General will be directed to collect and provide quarterly reports on people incarcerated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, those who are Federal pretrial detainees, in the custody of the US Marshals Service, and who are incarcerated in state prisons and local detention centers

- **Circumvent Privacy Protections**
  Bullying agencies to “ensure that their privacy policies exclude persons who are not United States Citizens or Legal Permanent Residents” from the protections of the Privacy Act

- **Establish Fines and Penalties**
  DHS Secretary will assess and collect fines from people unlawfully present in the US, AND from those who facilitate their presence in the US

- **Threatening to Withhold Federal Funds for Sanctuary Jurisdictions**
  Including those who have not publicly announced their participation, but are designated a Sanctuary jurisdiction by DHS Secretary John Kelly

***Analysis Developed by Colectiva Legal del Pueblo, with the support of the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network***
In WA State, We’ve Seen...

Threats to DACA

- DACA Eligible folks should NOT apply at this time.
- If someone’s DACA is set to expire within 150 days, they should apply to renew it now.
- We don’t know what will happen to the DACA program yet.
- The new President may cancel DACA if he chooses
  - Uncertain lawful presence and work permit status
Practical Steps if DACA is Repealed

1) Start saving money.

2) Make sure you know your dates. Make copies of all your documents

3) Get other forms of IDs.

4) Know Your Rights.

5) Make a safety plan with your family.

6) Seek mental health resources if you are feeling overwhelmed and stressed and alone.

7) get involved in the fight for DACA and more and to protect all of our immigrant community that is threatened by more than just the cancellation of DACA. Join actions, sign petitions, make calls, tell your story, let’s fight for this together!
Increased Enforcement Activity

In WA State, We’ve Seen...

- ICE vans have been seen frequently downtown, around King County, Pierce County, and Yakima
- Increase security activity on public transit & ferries.
- Increase in deportations
- DACA holders have been detained, e.g., Daniel Ramirez Medina
- Previously deprioritized immigrants are being targeted
Immigration Enforcement

Immigration enforcement is how the government and its agencies deport immigrants (undocumented & even with green card holders)

1984: Gov. deported 20,000 per year
2014: Gov. deported 400,000 per year

It’s not new!
WHAT TO DO IF ICE COMES TO YOUR DOOR

DO NOT OPEN DOORS
ICE cannot come in without a signed warrant by a criminal court judge. They can only come in if you let them.

REMAIN SILENT
ICE can use anything you say against you in your immigration case so claim your right to remain silent!
*Say "I plead the fifth amendment and choose to remain silent"*

DO NOT SIGN
Don’t sign anything ICE gives you without talking to an attorney.

REPORT & RECORD!
Take pictures & video unless you’re on federal government property.
Take notes of badge numbers, number of agents, time, type of car and exactly what happened!

FIGHT BACK!
Get a trustworthy attorney & explore all options to fight your case. If detained, you may be able to get bail - don’t give up hope! Join your local team to defend yourself from enforcement!

unitedwedream.org/end

STOP THE RAIDS
PILIPINO WORKERS CENTER (PWC)
Impact on our youth and families

Research consistently shows that immigration enforcement actions have a harmful impact on the health, safety, academic performance, and overall well-being of children

- More likely to experience symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder
- Changes in sleeping and eating patterns and much higher degrees of fear and anxiety
- Significant behavioral changes and increased absenteeism among students following a local community raid

Source: United We Dream
Increase Bullying & Fear in Schools

- Increase in teachers & school’s display of anti-immigrant sentiments & actions
- Lack of safe spaces on campus & protection from ICE
- Uncertainty of privacy laws, i.e., FERPA

In WA State, We’ve Seen...
Rights of Undocumented Students

1. Eligible for in-state tuition through HB 1079 & The REAL Hope Act - WASFA

2. **High school senior** and **college students** continue to apply for WASFA with discretion - WSAC has committed to securing information.*
WASFA Completion: Seniors & College Students

- 2014-2015: 2,522
- 2015-2016: 3,693
- 2016-2017: 2,443

Source: Washington Student Achievement Council (WSAC)
In WA State, We’ve Seen...

Increases in scams

- Deportation Insurance
- Letter of Deportation Notice
- Report them to:
  - Andrus, Karen
    - Karen.Q.Andrus@uscis.dhs.gov
  - AG Consumer Protection Division

**BEWARE OF IMMIGRATION FRAUD!**

Offers of “deportation insurance” or suspicious “deportation notices” are just some of the scams targeting immigrant communities. If you receive or observe a suspicious offer, letter, or demand for payment regarding someone’s immigration status, contact:

Attorney General Consumer Protection Division
www.atg.wa.gov/file-complaint
800.551.4636 (Open M-F, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
In WA State, We’ve Seen...

Increase hostility between “good” immigrants & “bad” immigrants

- Increase anti-undocu sentiments in some API groups
- Increase hostility in some API groups
- Reports currently under investigation
What We’re Advocating For
Sanctuary Cities*

Doesn’t allow local law enforcement agents to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement (ICE)

- Police officers can’t ask about a person's immigration status
- Jails can’t give immigration agents advance notice of an inmate's detention or release from jail
Protection for K-12 Students

**ALL** students have the right to free and safe education.

Sign the Petition To Protect Undocumented Students:

http://www.undocustudentcoalitionwa.org/#support
Creating Safety Plans

- Help ease anxiety of the unknown
- Increase the chances of families being able to stay together should separation occur
- Prevent children from unnecessarily entering the child welfare system.
- Parents should create a plan and share as much of that plan as possible with their children. Don’t wait—be proactive and plan ahead.
Safe, Supportive & Culturally Competent Places

● Community Centers
  ○ Asian Counseling & Referral Services
  ○ 21 Progress
  ○ El Centro de la Raza
  ○ Casa Latina
  ○ OneAmerica
  ○ Colectiva Legal

● Faith Based Centers & Churches

● Public Spaces
Increase of “Sensitive Locations”

According to a policy memorandum released by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency in 2011, commonly referred to as the “sensitive locations memo,” ICE officers and agents are to refrain from enforcement actions at least at the following locations and events:

- Schools
- Hospitals
- Churches, synagogues, mosques and other institutions of worship
- During funerals, weddings and other public religious ceremonies
- During public demonstrations, such as a march, rally or parade.
Actions: Work With Undocu People & Families

- Distribute “know your rights” materials to youth and families about what to do if a raid occurs or an individual is detained.
- Provide counseling for people who have had a family member detained by ICE.
- Provide a safe place for undocumented youth to wait if a parent or sibling has been detained.
- Work with parents to develop a family immigration raid emergency plan.
Actions: Building Community Empowerment

● Connect with Ethnic Media

● Share News and Information, Connect with local coalitions

● Maintain a list of resources, such as the names of social workers, pro bono attorneys and local immigration advocates and organizations, that can be shared with your students and their families.

● Partner with a pro bono attorney, legal aid organization or immigrant rights organization to schedule a “know your rights” workshop on campus to inform students and families about their rights.

● Find out if there is a local immigration raid rapid response team. These teams usually consist of attorneys, media personnel and community leaders who may be able to provide support.
Actions: Policy & Inst. Change

- Appoint an immigration resource advocate in your organization.
- Issue statements condemning raids and calling for the immediate release of detained people.
- Work with your board to pass a resolution affirming your space as welcoming places of learning for all people.
- Make your organization/institution/space an ICE-free school.
- Participate in National Institutions Coming Out Day, held annually on April 7 (www.unitedwedream.org/nicod)
Related Resources
Legal Resources

Mental Health

DACA & Undocu Support

WA Immigrant Solidarity Network
Mailing List info:
https://lists.mayfirst.org/mailman/listinfo/waimmigrantsolidaritynetwork
Related Resources

K-12 Coalition to Protect Undocumented Students

Undocu Ally Starter Toolkit:
www.undocustudentcoalitionwa.org

- Know Your Rights Trainings
- Know Your Rights Materials
- List of Attorneys
- MigraWatch & Rapid Response
- Directory of Resources
What do we do when our community is under attack?

RISE UP FIGHT BACK!
Together we...

- **KNOW** that our communities have been under attack for generations
- Need to be **AWARE** that the causes of forced migration are rooted in US imperialism, militarization and colonialism
- **REJECT** the claim that immigrants are a threat to national security and public safety, and insist that enforcement efforts stop scapegoating our communities
- **DEMAND** an end to the detention and deportation machine
- **DENOUNCE** the continued criminalization of our communities to expand the prison industrial complex, which incarcerates black and brown folks for profit, while donating nearly $675,000 to the Presidential Campaign
- **DEMAND** that our leaders be courageous and reject these orders
- **BE Courageous ourselves. PUT OUR BODIES ON THE LINE! & ASK our allies to do the same.**
Thank You!

Keep Connected With Us

- Like 21 Progress on Facebook
- Sign up to receive our Newsletter
- Let us know how we can help you

Remember - We are stronger together!