

## **Are you working with students who are DACA, Undocumented, Immigrant, Asylees and/or Refugees? What can you do to support your students succeed regardless of their status?**

A.S.P.I.R.A @ Merritt College held an UndocuDREAM Training on 8/1/2017 to support DACA, Undocumented, Immigrant, Asylees and Refugees and to inform Staff, Faculty and students of resources. In the training covered an overview of AB 540, AB 2000, the California Dream Act and DACA. This population of students has difficulty navigating and enrolling into community college. Many students are not aware that they can attend college. A.S.P.I.R.A has been successful thus far in filling the gap by outreaching and enrolling students by assisting them with translation in various languages, the application process, A&R, Financial Aid, and other support services.

According to Education Trust-West, undocumented immigrants come from all over the world. Moreover, 1 in 13 Californians are undocumented and 1 in 5 reside in California. In addition, 750,000 K-12 student in California have undocumented parents. There is a variation of State and Federal policies that impact these students. These students are faced with many challenges both at school and at home. Currently, the State Chancellor's Office and Peralta Community College District have adopted a resolution in support of undocumented and concerned students.

### **Resource Links:**

Remembering the Differences [http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC\\_Remembering\\_the\\_Differences.pdf](http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC_Remembering_the_Differences.pdf)  
E4FC Educational Resource Quick Guide [http://e4fc.org/images/Educational\\_Resources\\_flyer.pdf](http://e4fc.org/images/Educational_Resources_flyer.pdf)  
California Dream Act Map [http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC\\_DreamActMap\\_2017-18.pdf](http://e4fc.org/images/E4FC_DreamActMap_2017-18.pdf)  
Top 10 Ways Educators Can Support Undocumented Students <http://e4fc.org/educatorguides.html>  
Fact Sheet: <https://west.edtrust.org/resource/fact-sheet-undocumented-students/>  
Toolkit: <https://west.edtrust.org/undocumented-students-toolkit/>

### **Training Staff testimonies:**

*Rachel Ellis – “My experience with the undocuDREAM training held on August 1, 2017 injected a new meaning, understanding and personal motivation to my work with assisting the students of Merritt College. I have been employed by the district working at Merritt for over 20 years and this was the first time that student's, as well as, staff members personal journeys and struggles were talked about in a supportive manner. I choose to truly understand, and cultivate inclusiveness of all people in a caring environment as we all expand our minds and hearts through education. I commend this direction especially in the current political climate of divisiveness. Thank you Dr. Chavez for your pioneering leadership and guidance.”*

*Daraja Wagner - “My experience in participating in the UndocuDream Training was powerful. The most inspiring part was the open participation at the end where participants had to guess what each presenter's status was. It gently provided the platform to discuss passing judgment and being judged in a healthy and safe environment. I also thought the timeframe was good, the presenter was knowledgeable and the food was great!”*

*Ron Nelson – “The UndocuDREAM Training was not only superbly informative with resources, web sites, explanations of the entire immigration, undocumented, refugee dream act, and all that relates to "migration", but also the testimonies of the students who are in these categories was revealing and the ultimate learning experience. For all of us who work with students, we must know all about these processes and threats, as well as inform students from the resources provided.”*

*Regan Pruitt – “My testimony for the UndocuDream training, is first thanks again for educating us on this, because I had no idea at all about this issue. Secondly, it really touched my heart and made me realize to be thankful stop complaining, watch, listen, and learn as well as extend my hand if help is needed. Most of all, do not stereotype because you really don't know what any individual has to face to make it. Again thanks and keep up the wonderful work you are doing.”*