

## United We Dream



United We Dream is the largest immigrant youth-led network in the nation, composed of 52 affiliates in over 25 states working together for equal access to higher education and legal status for immigrant youth and our families. Our affiliates are structured in eight regions: New England, Mid-Atlantic, Southeast, Mid-South, Midwest, Mid-North, Northwest, and Southwest. Together, we aim to develop a sustainable, grassroots movement, led by immigrant youth, both documented and undocumented, and

children of immigrants. We use leadership development, organizing, policy advocacy, alliance building, training, and capacity building to pursue our mission at the local, state, and national levels.

We believe that all individuals and organizations that wish to be a part of our collective effort can contribute and can do so in their own way. By acting and leading collectively we can build a movement toward the mission we wish to accomplish.

### Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

On June 15th of 2012, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) would not deport certain DREAM Act-eligible undocumented youth under the directive of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Under this directive from the secretary of DHS, these youth will be given temporary relief called "deferred action." Deferred action will be valid for two years and may be renewed at the end of the two years. Individuals who receive deferred action may apply for and may obtain employment authorization.



## Dream Educational Empowerment Program

Achieving equal access to higher education for all people, regardless of immigration status.



**United We Dream**

# DEEP

“Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot un-educate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore.”-Cesar Chavez

## WHAT IS DEEP?

The Dream Educational Empowerment Program (DEEP), a project of the UWDN, is designed to address the barriers that undocumented immigrant youth and their communities face as they pursue higher education. By providing opportunities for immigrant youth, their parents and their teachers to access information and plan for college, DEEP will empower United We Dream affiliate organizations and allies to improve educational access and success community by community.

## WHAT IS GOING ON RIGHT NOW WITH DEEP?

Since the announcement of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), DEEP has shifted its focus to ensure that no DREAMer is left behind as it relates to the educational requirements for DACA. DEEP will accomplish this by developing and distributing educational materials, holding webinars, and establishing DEEP/DREAM centers throughout the nation. Please feel free to use and share the resources in this page and feel free to provide your feedback to [laura@unitedwedream.org](mailto:laura@unitedwedream.org)

**The Details:** In an effort to ensure that as many DREAMers are able to benefit from Deferred Action, for the next 6 – 9 months, DEEP will focus on creating the following:

- **DEEP/DREAM Centers:** Information and resources centers that provide the tools necessary for DREAMers to attain the education requirements in order to apply

for DA. DEEP will equip affiliates, partners and stakeholders with:

- **GED/High School Re-enrollment Toolkits:** Toolkits based on DA guidelines.
- **Webinars for students, teachers and allies** providing comprehensive, user-friendly toolkits geared to youth who need to complete one of the educational requirements.
- **Building partnerships:** DEEP will work closely in collaboration of education leaders and allies such as National Education Association, American Federation of Teachers, Community College Consortium for Immigrant Education, Educators for Fair Consideration, and many others to ensure that the information is properly distributed to service providers and undocumented immigrant youth and their families.
- **Workforce Development:** DEEP will focus on providing DREAMers with the appropriate tools to join the workforce. DEEP will develop trainings for DREAMers to learn about worker rights, resume building and interview skills. As we move forward past the implementation phase of DA, DEEP will continue to work in the promotion of higher education, affordability, completion, and

## UWD's Campaigns & Program

### END Our Pain Campaign

The END, Education Not Deportation, Our Pain campaign is a national campaign to prevent the deportations of young people, thereby allowing immigrant youth to continue their lives in the United States, pursue higher education and achieve their dreams. Currently, an individual END campaign is initiated when a student is facing imminent deportation. END has a network of local immigrant youth organizations, which are instrumental in organizing the campaign for the student facing deportation or in detention and partners including Immigrant Legal Resource Center, NILC, and SEIU. The overarching END campaign builds on the momentum created by individual campaigns to push for systemic change, including a moratorium on deportations of immigrant youth who would benefit from a change in the current laws. The activities of the END campaign entail education of policymakers, legal advocacy, public campaigns, and targeting media.

### DREAM Educational Empowerment Program (DEEP)

The DREAM Educational Empowerment Program (DEEP) is an innovative project designed to address the barriers that impede undocumented youth from continuing their education past high school and by doing so will also increase the number of undocumented youth who could benefit from the DREAM Act once

implemented. Our goal is to ensure access and affordability to higher education for immigrant students in every state.

### Queer Undocumented Immigrant Project (QUIP)

QUIP is rooted in the intersection of our Queer Undocumented youth community and committed to strategically bring opportunities to Queer undocumented immigrant youth in order to intentionally build alliances between the LGBTQ and immigrant rights movements and thus continue to build power and create change in our communities.

Visit us at [www.unitedwedream.org](http://www.unitedwedream.org) or email DEEP coordinator at [laura@unitedwedream.org](mailto:laura@unitedwedream.org)

