

Identify Dream students from various backgrounds and at all academic levels to develop a book with biographies to motivate and inform young Dream students, and develop workshop presentations that include current CA legislations, educational and career opportunities, and financial resources available for Dream students.

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

Within the Fresno State service area there are approximately 20,000 undocumented students currently enrolled in the K-12 educational system. The majority of these students are not aware of the educational options and career opportunities available. The problem is even bigger. Many counselors, faculty, and staff within the school districts are unaware of such opportunities as well. In order to improve educational services for undocumented students we must develop a comprehensive campaign to inform our community of these existing opportunities.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

The solution comes in two steps. One, is to identify Dream students from various backgrounds and at all academic levels to develop a book with biographies, and video documentaries that can be used as evidence to motivate and inform young Dream students how to prepare for a college education. Two, develop workshop presentations that include current California legislations, educational and career opportunities, and financial resources available for Dream students. These presentations would include testimonials presented through the written biographies or video documentaries. The target audience would be K-12 administrators, faculty, staff, and high school students. Separate presentations conducted in Spanish and other identified languages should be presented to parents and the general public.

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

Currently there is much confusion between Dream, DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), AB540, migrant vs. immigrant students, and what constitutes an undocumented individual. Through this campaign we can increase the number of Dream students that apply for and attend Fresno State. I may add, that administrators, faculty, and staff at Fresno State may also benefit from participating in these workshops in efforts to increase their knowledge and help retain and graduate Dream students.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

At Fresno State there are more than 500 enrolled students identified as AB 540. More than 1,000 Dream students have submitted an application to attend Fresno State in the Fall 2016. The number of Dream students is increasing significantly, and we must create a united front in order to help these students achieve their dream.