

## **Report to NCHEA**

### **I. Activity Title**

*Second Undocumented Youth Conference*

### **II. Name of the representatives from each of the campuses who led the activity/event.**

Daniel Finkenthal, Palomar College was our Palomar "point person" who has pitched in to help Professor Martha Martinez. They worked with the student clubs and advertising to students, staff, and faculty to attend the conference. Additionally, they supported the Director of Student Success and Equity Olga Diaz who coordinated the logistics for the conference including room scheduling, parking, and food.

Faculty Counselor at MiraCosta College, Karina Duarte-Braunstein, provided feedback to the conference organizers and connected them to Alison Cotter, financial aid student services coordinator, to present on issues of financial aid at the community college including the CA Dream Act application and scholarship eligibility. Karina also presented a comprehensive workshop about the process of transferring to a four-year university, which included how to answer citizenship, residency and social security inquiries within the UC and CSU application, identifying undocu-friendly CSU, UC and private colleges with robust resources and financial aid packages for students.

Michelle F. Ramos Pellicia, California State University San Marcos, coordinated the grant proposal, gathered the information for the presenters, collected gift cards, contacted presenters for their contact information, and distributed gift cards at the event.

### **III. Summary/description of the activity/event. How did it go?**

The Second Annual Undocumented Youth Conference took place on Saturday, December 2nd, 2017 from 8:30am until 2:00pm at Palomar College. The event was conceived by Andrea Guerrero and Viviana González from the San Diego Dream Team (SDDT). The conference was successful because of the organizational and institutional support of Palomar College, Mira Costa College, and California State University San Marcos, as well as the NCHEA collaborative grant.

Vice President of Student Affairs at CSUSM, Dr. Lorena Checa, contributed \$700 to the conference. Olga Díaz, Palomar College, helped with logistics for the event. The facilities request granted access to Palomar College Student Union (SU) as well as four nearby classrooms in the MD building. Palomar College waived the facilities use fees. Additionally, Dr. Blake allocated \$1,500 toward the cost of food for the event. The conference started with a breakfast and concluded with a

lunch. Breakfast consisted of a variety of muffins, donuts, fruit juice and coffee. Lunch was a classic cook out which included grilled hamburgers with alternative meals for vegetarians/vegans. Registration took place during breakfast and was open until the end of the event. A resource fair happened concurrently with lunch, and closing statements were followed with a raffle.

Parking lot 1 at Palomar College main entrance was free for the event.

The conference Facebook page had received messages from community members who threatened to call immigration enforcement to the event. Screenshots of the threats were shared with Palomar College and the conference organizing committee. With respect to security measures, we had Palomar College Campus Police available the entire event and, in case we needed them, we could reach them directly. San Diego Dream Team had volunteers who were part of the security/peacekeeper team during the conference. Katia Hansen from UURISE had two (2) staff members attend the conference at various times and were also part of the security/peacemaker team. Child-care was provided through the San Diego Dream Team for students attending the conference with children.

The conference started with a plenary which comprised the sharing of high school students' experiences. These students are undocumented and are the SDDT scholarship recipients. The scholarship recipients contributed with the organization and coordination of the different workshops offered at the conference.

The conference consisted of three (3) sessions that each contained four (4) concurrent workshops in both Spanish and English. A description of each workshop is included in the conference program attached as supporting document.

8:30am-9:00am	Registration & Breakfast
9:00am-9:30am	Welcome & Keynote
9:40am- 10:30am	Session 1
10:40am-11:30am	Session 2
11:40am-12:30pm	Session 3
12:30pm-1:30pm	Lunch & Resource Fair
1:30pm-2:00pm	Closing & Raffle

The workshops offered were the following:

**Session 1 9:40am- 10:30am**

Know your Rights (Spanish)  
Pedro Ríos, American Friends Service Committee

Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing (English)  
Nidya Ibarra, MFTI

Financial Aid: DREAM Act:  
Alison Cotter, MiraCosta College

Clean DREAM Act Campaign:  
Betsy García,UDW NLC

**Session 2 10:40am-11:30am**

Know your Rights (English):  
Pedro Ríos, American Friends Service Committee

Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing (Spanish):  
Nidya Ibarra, MFTI

Intersections: Criminal Justice & Immigration System:  
Crissel Rodríguez  
California Immigration  
Youth Justice Alliance

Undocugrads: Applying to Graduate School as an Undocumented Student:  
Diana Valdivia

**Session 3: 11:40am-12:30pm**

Transferring to a 4-year College  
Karina Duarte-Braunstein, Mira Costa College

LGBTQ Immigrant Organizing:  
Jorge Gutiérrez  
Familia: Trans Queer Liberation Movement

Educators/Allies  
Marisol Clark-Ibáñez, CSUSM

DACA Updates & Alternative Forms of Relief:  
Maria Carmen, UURISE

Each workshop averaged an attendance of between fifteen (15) to twenty (20) faculty, staff, and community members.

The Resource Fair included representatives of the following organizations:

- UURISE
- North County Immigration Task Force
- Alianza Comunitaria
- SDSU Undocumented Student Coordinator

- Palomar ESL Department
- CSUSM DREAM Resource Center

**IV. Description of intercampus collaboration. Who attended (broken down by students/faculty/staff and institution) and how did they communicate/collaborate together?**

The intercampus collaboration for this conference began in September and continued until now. The SDDT had wanted to host this conference in North County and the sister colleges responded positively from the beginning. There was a key group of the NCHEA team who communicated over email. Then, other group members met in person or by phone to make final decisions or deal with specific issues. Our collaboration is an extension of the on-going work that has been funded by NCHEA.

We do not have the specific breakdown of attendees by students, faculty, staff and institutions, as this information was not asked on the sign-in sheets. While we do not have this information, based on personal interactions the day of the conference we know that attendees included students from Mira Costa, Palomar, CSUSM, SDSU, UCSD, Grossmont College, Mission Hills High School, among others. The intercampus collaboration was visible in the areas of conference workshops, outreach, and scholarship recipients. For example, staff from CSUSM and Mira Costa facilitated two workshops. There was also a lot of outreach done across campuses and on the original conference registration link many people noted that they heard about the conference from a school staff/counselor. Furthermore, SDDT scholarship recipients who helped organized the conference include current students at SDSU, UCSD, Mira Costa, and CSUSM.