Advancing Equity Through A Deeper Learning of Immigrant and Refugee Populations
Transforming Trauma into Hope + Action
Why are we here?

- There is an estimated **5.9 million** children in the US with at least one undocumented parent.
- **4.5 million** of whom are U.S. citizens.
- There are **16.7 million** people living mixed-status families.
- There are approximately **5,000** children living in foster care as result of guardian or family deportation.

Source: Pew Research Center and Urban Institute
Arizona

- Arizona Total Population: 7,171,646
- 226,794 children living with at least one unauthorized family member
- 446,047 total population with at least one unauthorized family member
- 10% of Arizona students K-12 live in a mixed status family; mostly US citizens

Source: Center for the Study of Immigrant
Policies and Legislation
Every child, regardless of immigration status, has a constitutional right to receive a K-12 education.
# Policies & Federal Legislation

## Leg. & Policies
- No pathway to citizenship since 1986
- DREAM Act failed in 2010
- DACA in 2012
- CIR in 2006, 07, 13, & 18

## Enforcement
- 1996 IIRIRA & PRWORA
- 287 (g)
- Secure Communities
- Executive Order (Trump 1/25)

## Education
- Plyler vs. Doe (1982)
- FAFSA reqs.
- Financial Aid
Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Who is eligible?

- Have come to the United States before your 16th birthday
- Have continuously lived in the U.S. since January 1, 2007
- Be physically present on June 15, 2012
- On June 15, 2012 applicants need to be under 30 years old
- Have graduated or currently attending school
- Served in the military
- Clear criminal background

Deferred Action was enacted by President Obama in 2012 (NOT A LAW)
Policies & Legislation: Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

DACA grants eligible individuals a 2-year work permit, social security number, and protection from deportation.

1.2 million undocumented immigrants are eligible for DACA, over 800,000+ have been accepted.
DACA IS NOT THE DREAM ACT

**DREAM ACT**
- Bipartisan bill by Congress
- Path to citizenship
- Failed as stand alone in 2010

**DACA**
- Policy by President Obama, 2012
- Protects from deportation
- Temporary Work Permit
Trump’s Administration Ends DACA on September 5, 2017

What did this mean for students + families?

- **DACA initials ended**
- **Advance Parole** ended
- **Only renewals** are still being accepted
- Leaves **2,000** undocumented students in the limbo
Supreme Court of the United States
Oral Hearings on DACA November 12, 2019

Emotions that may arise:

- Anxiety, confusion, stress, and/or pain

Recommendations:

- Hold space to process
- No decisions; emphasize calmness
- Connect them with organizations like Aliento
## STATE LEGISLATION (AZ)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEG. &amp; POLICIES</th>
<th>ENFORCEMENT</th>
<th>EDUCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• SB1070</td>
<td>• Sheriff Joe Arpaio Culture</td>
<td>• Prop 203 (SEI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Driver's Licenses</td>
<td>• 287 (g)</td>
<td>• Prop. 200</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• E-verify</td>
<td>• Prop. 300</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Arizona and Education Access

- Undocumented & DACA students are not eligible for in-state tuition in AZ

- Undocumented & DACA students are eligible for 150% rate at the state universities

- In-state Tuition @MCCCD - $86/credit hour

- Out-state Tuition @MCCCD - $327/credit hour
Using welcoming language!

We use the word **Undocumented** (NOT illegal) and the word **Immigrant** (NOT alien)

• **DACAmented** – undocumented youth who have DACA status

• **UndocuQueer** – undocumented youth who identify as LGBTQ +

• **Dreamer** – term derived by the DREAM Act. However, not all youth identify as dreamers.

• **Unaccompanied Minor** - children who lack lawful immigration status, are under the age of 18 and are without a parent or legal guardian in the U.S.
Arizona DACA Eligible Population

- 103,000 Dreamers in Arizona
- 46,000 DACA eligible population
- 25,000 + active received status
- 7,000 too young to apply
- 2,000 undocumented students graduate every year
Central American Asylum Seekers

- El Salvador, Guatemala, & Honduras
- Violence, persecution, & drug trade
- Migrant Protection Protocols
- Flores Settlement
Mexican Deterrence
Impact
2,000 terrified children skip school following an ICE raid in New Mexico

Gabe Ortiz
Daily Kos Staff

Thursday March 23, 2017 • 3:33 PM CDT

116 Comments 116 new
680 undocumented workers arrested in record-setting immigration sweep on the first day of school

By Dianne Gallagher, Catherine E. Shoichet and Madeline Holcombe, CNN

Reverend: 'Terror hit' when children were at school
Rhetoric Matters

- Drop the “I” word...
- The media and you:
  - Associated Press 2013, banned the use of the term illegal immigrant, saying the word illegal should describe only an action.
- Los Angeles Times, ABC, Univision, NBC and CNN
- Share briefly about research from Berkeley - Dr. Gonzalez
“You can do anything if you work hard enough”

- Understanding systemic/political barriers
- Misconceptions: working hard does not equal to real life award.
Resulting Mental Health Struggles

- Deportation
- Family Separation
- Drivers Lic.

- Uncertain Future
- Financial
- Field Trips

- Substance Abuse
- Suicide
- Alienation

- Blame Game
- Identity
- Language

Fear

Anxiety

Depression

Shame
Latinx & Immigrant Mental Health

- Anti-immigrant rhetoric
- Fear of family separation
- Perpetual foreigners
The Aliento Way
Who We Are

● Community organization that is **DACA, undocumented and youth-led**

● **Directly impacted** people and allies who are invested in the **well being**, **emotional healing**, and **leadership development** of those impacted by the **inequalities of lacking an immigration status**
What We Do

Transform **trauma** into **hope + action**
Learnings from The Aliento Way...

- Students are able to **articulate their emotions** through art
- **Breaks** down the **isolation**
- Builds **community**
- Helps families **cope in the midst of uncertainty**
- Connects them with **resources** in the community
- Centers students and young people as experts → They are our **Transformative Leaders + Change Agents!**
Resources and Action Steps
What Can You Do

1. Encourage institutions to pass pro-immigrant protection policies & resolutions (Like MPS and Phoenix Elementary)

1. Educate non-immigrants of our lived-reality

1. Fund and advocate for scholarships and/or financial support (Like Juan Reyes + Jose Patiño Dream Scholarship; Get There)

1. Connect students and/or families to resources and/or communities of support

1. Bring Aliento to your school
Posters & Visuals

![Poster on the left: "DREAMERS WELCOME"
Poster on the right: "FAMILIES BELONG TOGETHER, NOT IN DETENTION"
Arizona's Future
United for Arizona's Students

Arizona undocumented & DACA students tuition has increased over 300% at the community college level & 50% at the University. There are over 100,000 Dreamers in Arizona.

Let's ensure all AZ High School Graduates can afford higher education!

Sign the pledge!

bit.ly/pledgeaf
Resources

- alientoaz.org/resources
- alientoaz.org/scholarships
Stay Informed + Involved

Text the word “Education” to 33222

Email us at: info@alientoaz.org

Follow us @AlientoAZ

QUESTIONS?

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@ALIENTOAZ  @ALIENTOAZ
@ALIENTOAZ  WWW.ALIENTOAZ.ORG
Who is a Refugee?

1. Must cross an **international border**
2. **Cannot return** to country of origin
3. Unable to return due to **fear of persecution** because of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group
Durable Solutions

As identified by the United Nations:
1. Voluntary repatriation to their Home Country;
2. Integration into their Country of First Asylum;
3. Resettlement to a Third Country.
Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

Refugees
- Fled home country on founded fears
- Sought safety across international borders
- *Applied for relocation to a third country*
- Offered a path to citizenship in third country

Asylum-Seekers
- Fled home country on founded fears
- Sought safety across international borders
- *Applied for sanctuary with intent to remain in country of asylum*
- Temporary country authorization provided
Since 1994, 15,000+ refugees resettled by IRC in PHX

Populations resettled in FY19 by IRC Phoenix:
DRC (377), Burma (61), Afghanistan (34), Eritrea (29), & Others (54)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency Name</th>
<th>Maricopa</th>
<th>Pima</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Charities</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Social Services</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Rescue Committee</td>
<td>580</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona Immigrant &amp; Refugee Services</td>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,072</strong></td>
<td><strong>456</strong></td>
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### Top countries served in FY19 statewide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Maricopa</th>
<th>Pima</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>67</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
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Struggles Facing Refugee Students

• Trauma
• Limited Formal Education, Interrupted Education
• Acculturation
The Triple Trauma Paradigm

Pre-Flight  Flight  Post-Flight
Refugee Education Experience

- Gaps in Education
- Limited Access
- Lack of Structure
- Teacher Choice
- Gender Dynamics
- Camp Education v. Urban Education
New concepts may include…

• Sitting in one place the entire class
• Raising one’s hand to speak
• Girls attending school
• Co-ed classrooms
• Standing in single-file lines
• Homework
• Discipline methods
• The role of the parent in the U.S. school system

It is important to note that all situations are different.
Refugee Education Experience

It is critical to consider these aspects when assessing a refugee child’s emotional/behavioral issues:

- Culture shock: Adapting to a new culture
- Survivor guilt: Why did I make it and they didn’t
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): 50-90% of refugee children under 18 years of age have symptoms matching PTSD (ORR, 2015)
- Memories of home country and family/friends left behind
- Shifting family dynamics: Children learn English faster, women going to work, etc.
Parents
Cultural Misinformation

- Everyone has perceptions about different cultures
- Commonalities do exist but are often over-simplified and assumed where they may not exist
- Stereotyping limits what we can see and understand about an individual
- Recognize your own assumptions and biases
Students with Limited Formal Education need basic skills development

• How to follow schedules
• Expectations in classrooms (staying seated for long periods of time, bringing books and materials to class, raising hands)
• Develop basic literacy skills:
  • Numeric and letter discrimination
  • Understanding sound and symbol correspondence
  • Develop fine motor skills
• Sequenced literacy and academic instruction
• Acquiring literacy solely in English takes more time and steps than acquiring literacy based on substantial oral-language development in student’s native language

How Do Schools Support Newcomers?

Newcomers and their families have four basic needs and schools provide that by:

1. Creating a Welcoming Environment
2. Having high-quality academic programs designed to meet the academic and language development needs of newcomer students
3. Implementing Social emotional support and skills development to be successful in school and beyond
4. Encouragement and support to engage in the education process

Resettlement Agencies

- International Rescue Committee
- Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
- Arizona Immigrant & Refugee Services
- Catholic Charities Community Services
Resilient!
Resources

Welcome to Our Schools Program -- http://otda.ny.gov/programs/bria/wtos.asp

Immigration and Refugee Services of America (IRSA) www.refugeeus.org

Refugees International – USA www.refugeesinternational.org

U.S. Committee For Refugees (USCR) www.refugees.org

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children’s Services (BRYCS) www.brycs.org


Responsive Classroom – www.responsiveclassroom.org


Spring Institute – www.spring-institute.org

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) www.unhcr.ch

Who belongs here? Teachers guide, Margy Burns Knight and Thomas V. Chan
Administration for Children & Families/Office of Refugee Resettlement
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/orr
Resources continued…

Teaching refugees with limited Formal schooling –
www.teachingrefugees.com/instructional-programming/resources/

International Rescue Committee –

http://www.schools.utah.gov/fsp/ELL-Services/Effective-Programs-for-ELLs-with-Interrupted-Forma.aspx

Church World Service – www.churchworldservice.org

Colorin Colorado – www.colorincolorado.org

http://www.margaritacalderon.org

National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition – www.ncela.gwu/webinars/event/38
Questions & Conversation
2019-2020 Series Topics Include:

- Foster Youth (Sept.)
- Refugee & Immigrant (Oct.)
- Rural & Remote (Nov.)
- Homelessness (Jan.)
- Allies (Feb.)
- Special Education: IEP/ 504 (Mar.)
- Special Education: Gifted (Apr.)
- Equity Event Mar. 5th & 6th