



# Creating Alternatives to Employment for Undocumented Young People: Let's Talk about It!

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# Goals for This Session

1. The diversity of undocumented youth
2. Federal history regarding citizenship, employment, and job training
3. Provide some basic information and resources that any person working with young people can pass along
4. California-specific issues
5. Local decisions for undocumented young people

# Why Are You Here?

Why Are You Interested in Talking  
about Undocumented Youth?

# National Landscape Update

- Basic facts about undocumented youth
- Background on citizenship status and employment
- DACA update

# Defining Undocumented

We define the term “undocumented” broadly to include **all immigrants who reside in the United States without legal status**. This includes individuals who:

1. **Entered without Inspection** (also known as “EWI”)
2. **Entered with Legal Status but Overstayed**
3. **Have or Previously Had Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)**
4. **Are Currently in the Process of Legalizing**
5. **Vulnerable Immigrants**

# DACA Criteria

- are under 31 years of age as of June 15, 2012;
- came to the U.S. while under the age of 16;
- have continuously resided in the U.S. from June 15, 2007 to the present. (For purposes of calculating this five year period, brief and innocent absences from the United States for humanitarian reasons will not be included);
- entered the U.S. without inspection or fell out of lawful visa status before June 15, 2012;
- were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making the request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
- are currently in school, have graduated from high school, have obtained a GED, or have been honorably discharged from the Coast Guard or armed forces;
- have not been convicted of a felony offense, a significant misdemeanor, or more than three misdemeanors of any kind; and
- do not pose a threat to national security or public safety.
- THIS IS ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE UNDOCUMENTED COMMUNITY

# Alternatives to Employment

- Working for yourself (Independent Contracting)
- Sole Proprietorship: Type of business entity owned and run by one individual where there is no legal distinction between the owner and the business
- LLC, Worker Cooperative: A worker cooperative is a business comprised of members who are both workers and owners of the business.
- REMEMBER - Resources from Immigrants Rising



# Options for Services and Employment

- WIOA Title II (Adult Education)
- Self-service at AJCs
- Entrepreneurship and other employment arrangements

# California Specifics

- Risk aversion still prevalent mindset
- State DREAM Act is a start; more needed
- Resources are available!

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Questions?

# How Will You Tackle This?

Guiding questions:

- Is your organization focusing on undocumented young people now?
- What are your biggest goals for reaching or serving undocumented young people?
- What are some logical first steps?
- What will be some of your biggest challenges locally?



# Share-Out and Problem Navigation



Thank You!