Queridas Hermanas/Dear Sisters,

In recent weeks, we have seen actions that affect yet connect us as a community across the our of California and across the nation. In light of these actions, we are committed to supporting our students enrolled in the California Community Colleges (CCC).

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, the Trump administration announced that it would rescind Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which provides 800,000 young immigrants across the United States with temporary, renewable authorization to live, study, and work “legally” in the United States. To qualify for DACA, applicants must first meet rigorous criteria; among them, they must have arrived in the United States before the age of 16, have lived continuously in the country since June 2007, not have a criminal record, and be enrolled in school or have completed school or military service.

The program was and is not an amnesty program, but created a window of hope for many in the U.S. and throughout all CCC. At this time, DACA has not been terminated. A six-month window was created by the current Administration with a stated goal of allowing Congress to put the program into legislation. For the time being, individuals with DACA status will continue to enjoy the benefits of the DACA program.

The California Community Colleges and Latina Leadership Network of CCC will continue to stand in solidarity with DACA participants, fight alongside them to keep the program alive, provide them with educational opportunities and protect and support all current and future students who rely on the program. We stand with you and will support you through these trying times because we will #DefendDACA and we are #HereToStay.

In solidarity,

Dolores Cornejo, M.A. Ed.
President,
Latina Leadership Network of the California Community Colleges
September 15th to October 15th Americans observe the National Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month. We embrace and celebrate histories, cultures and several contributions from our ancestors in Mexico, Spain, the Caribbean and Central and South American.

Los Angeles has several events plan! They are kicking-it off with the Latinos in Hollywood Photo Exhibit at Plaza de la Raza. Followed by El Grito in LA City Hall. For more information about LA’s events, visit: latinoheritage.la/calendar/

San Francisco will be highlighting the independence of Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. They have ecents such as the Mission Dolores Walking Tour, Salsa Block Party and a Mexican Museum. Please visit: http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2017/08/29/best-ways-to-celebrate-hispanic-heritage-month-in-san-francisco/

Sacramento will also have a wide array of festivities, including an Immigration Forum. If interested, check-out: eventbrite.com/d/ca--sacramento/latino/
7th Annual AB540 & Dreamers Conference!

By Diablo Valley College (DVC)

If you are available and in the local area, please be sure to attend this FREE conference hosted by DVC, on Saturday, October 21st. Check-in begins at 8:15am, and the conference is scheduled from 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM.

If you cannot attend this event, rest assured because there will be several webinars available. Thank you Ana Gomez, Casey McCullough and the LLN Cuesta Chapter. More information will be available regarding registration.

CCC CONFER INFORMATION/WEBINARS Phone #: 1-888-886-3951
Meeting Details
Title: UndocuAlly Training 1: Foundational Knowledge
10/20/2017 12:00 PM—3:00PM
Meeting Type: Meet & Confer
Click here for Meeting Link
Meeting Passcode: 428916

CCC CONFER INFORMATION/WEBINARS Phone #: 1-888-886-3951
Meeting Details
Title: UndocuAlly Training 2: Taking the Next Steps
10/27/2017 12:00 PM—3:00PM
Meeting Type: Meet & Confer
Click here for Meeting Link
Meeting Passcode: 929145

CCC CONFER INFORMATION/WEBINARS Phone #: 1-888-886-3951
Meeting Details
Title: UndocuAlly Training 3: Becoming an Ally
11/03/2017 12:00 PM—3:00PM
Meeting Type: Meet & Confer
Click here for Meeting Link
Meeting Passcode: 229151

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Currently, it is tough to say what to do in these current times. Policies and regulations keep changing, and it’s difficult to determine what exactly to do. For example, “Do I submit my DACA application now?”

One thing for sure is to get involved! Join local organizations, support your current students, attend conferences/trainings and inform yourself of current protests or start your own! When in doubt, donate.

DACA is still active for two years.

The Dream Act is a California policy that is unrelated to DACA, so students will still be able to apply for financial aid!

Most California colleges are considered sanctuary campuses for undocumented students.
The Inside/Out College Program is designed to provide higher educational opportunities for inside” (incarcerated) and “outside” (campus) students which explore critical sociological issues through individual and group activities, assignments, and projects. The program is modeled after The Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program developed and designed by Lori Pompa of Temple University in 1997 to bring college students and incarcerated individual together as peers in a classroom setting that emphasizes dialogue and critical thinking.

An incredible initiative, Imperial Valley College and Imperial County Sheriff’s Office with Imperial County Probation Center have united to offer courses for individuals incarcerated in the imperial County Jail along with non-incarcerated IVC students. The program provides higher education opportunities for incarcerated students to not only learn, but to emphasize dialogue and critical thinking with other peers. Imperial Valley College Kitchen has snack pantry available for students! Over 300 students at IVC reported food/housing insecurities. This partnership with the IV Food Bank will provide food packs and snacks where students can easily access food.
Congratulations Danna Tejada-Baquero!

LLN Cuesta Chapter won the 2017 Latino Business Award. Danna Tejada-Baquero, LLN Cuesta Chapter President, was recognized for her leadership. Tajeda-Baquero helped create a community forum on undocumented student success. 50 faculty and staff were trained which spread across several colleges throughout the area. Tajeda-Baquero felt a strong sense of belonging when she began her journey as a student at Cuesta College, and now continues to spread the feeling of familia and home, with the Cuesta College student population.
Ohlone College is celebrating their 50th year!

This Fall there will be several celebratory events each month, to acknowledge and recognize all the work that has gone into Ohlone’s success. For more information visit: ohlone50.org

Skyline Shines!

Meta-Majors and Guided Pathways are in the process of being implemented at Skyline College. Several faculty members are taking time to create “houses” for students to complete their academic goal in a timely manner! More information to come, but it is an exciting time.