OUR IMPACT THIS YEAR: FY 2024

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Our Core Strategies

- Systems-Level Change
- Storytelling & Narrative Change
- Individual Agency
- Org Resilience
We are spearheading institutional policy changes and dismantling systemic barriers to dramatically increase access to opportunities for undocumented people to thrive.
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**Storytelling & Narrative Change**

We are using our platforms to elevate authentic, multidimensional immigrant stories.
Individual Agency

We are providing direct services and support to undocumented individuals whose successes uplift entire communities.
Organizational Resilience

We are fostering internal leadership and creating alignment toward a shared vision in preparation for our 501c3 transition.
Strategy 1: SYSTEMS-LEVEL CHANGE
Immigrants Rising has established a strong reputation in immigrant advocacy through our ever-expanding slate of resources and programming created to help undocumented people navigate the complex systems designed to exclude them.

Now we are applying our innovative thought leadership and policy advocacy to transform those very systems for greater inclusion and equity.
1. Increase **access to funding & support** for undocumented students to initiate & sustain their higher ed journeys.
Systems-Level Change: Higher Education

- Train 1,000+ educators at 120 California colleges/universities and to equitably implement in-state tuition and financial aid.

- Support 4 state bills that expand in-state tuition and financial aid eligibility.

- Our resources on best practices for enrolling, retaining, and improving graduation rates of undocumented students will receive 20,000+ views.
2. Increase **access to capital & technical assistance** for undocumented entrepreneurs to start & scale businesses
Systems-Level Change: Entrepreneurship

- Our presentations will equip 4,000 community leaders at CBOs, as well as colleges and universities to support undocumented entrepreneurs to access capital, and launch or sustain small businesses.

- Our publications and presentations about the SEED initiative will receive 3,000 views and catalyze advocacy efforts across the state and nation.
3. Increase **awareness of immigration remedies** for undocumented people among key decision-makers.
Systems-Level Change: Legal Services

- Our “Inclusive Work Practices” resource will receive 1,000 views and increase awareness of how employers can support DACA and undocumented professionals.

- Our “Immigration Legal Intake Service Report” will receive 1,000 views, and influence how legal providers cater their services to the needs of undocumented immigrants.
“Immigrants Rising is like a lighthouse for undocumented students who sail a deep sea that can sometimes be very rough, guiding us safely to shore. I believe that when more opportunities are open to undocumented people, all of society benefits.”

— Luis Antonio Carreón, Undocumented Student Advocate
Strategy 2:

STORYTELLING & NARRATIVE CHANGE
Storytelling has long been central to how Immigrants Rising connects with our audience and program participants, but we have not always embraced our power to challenge mainstream portrayals of immigrants.

Now, we’re using our growing national platform to produce and share complex and authentic stories from the undocumented community that shatter stereotypes.
Transform the media representation of undocumented people by uplifting their authentic voices.

Narrative Change: Storytelling

50 educators
25 storytellers
15 videos
50 educators will implement our MCORE Training to guide undocumented students through the reclamation of their immigration journeys and personal stories.

We will produce and share 15 videos that elevate the voices of undocumented students and professionals with non-traditional pathways.

25 undocumented individuals' stories will be highlighted in external media and our digital storytelling projects
“Participating in The Future is Undocumented Storytelling Project compelled me to journey through my personal evolution and confront how radically I’ve transformed over time. As a Black and undocumented woman, I’m committed to unlearning mainstream narratives and learning to tap into my inner voice.”

— Shirleen Achieng, The Future is Undocumented Contributor
Strategy 3: INDIVIDUAL AGENCY
Individual Agency

Throughout our evolution from a small scholarship program to an organization that serves thousands annually, Immigrants Rising’s founding ethos has remained the same: personal transformation fuels broader change.

We know that with the right tools, funding, and support, undocumented individuals can connect, get informed, heal, and inspire one another.
Individual Agency: Higher Education

1. Increase **agency of undocumented students** in higher education
Individual Agency: Higher Education

- Our **35 online resources** about higher education include our In-State Tuition Tool, California Dream Act Guides, College Application Guides, and Scholarship List that will receive **800,000+ views**.
2. Provide **tools, training, and financial support** to undocumented entrepreneurs

- **$1.5MM** microgrants
- **1,000** SEED grantees
- **13K** online users
Individual Agency: Entrepreneurship

- We will disburse $1,500,000 in micro-grants to undocumented entrepreneurs—including current and former DACA beneficiaries—to launch or grow their businesses.
- 1,000+ undocumented SEED grantees will participate in workshops on business management.
- Our Spark materials will be accessed by 13,000 users across all 50 states.
3. Introduce undocumented individuals to the legal rights & immigration remedies available to them
Individual Agency: Legal Services

- **250 undocumented people** will learn about their immigration legal remedies through our online intake service. 50 users will receive 1:1 consultation with an attorney to better understand their immigration options.

- **200,000 users** will access our legal resource guides.

- **10 DACA recipients** will participate in Advance Parole to experience life abroad.
4. Provide **access, training, and financial support** to undocumented professionals to reach career goals.
Individual Agency: Career Programs

- **84 undocumented professionals** will receive over **3,800 hours** of training, mentorship, coaching, and hands-on career experience, 6 of whom will gain 3,000 hours towards their mental health provider licensure.

- We will provide **$121,000 in grants and stipends** to our Mental Health Career Program participants, UndocuEducators, and Pre-Law Fund grantees.
5. Increase access to mental health services for undocumented immigrants
Individual Agency: Mental Health

- **290 undocumented people** will receive over **4,060 hours** of free, confidential 1:1 therapy with experienced and culturally competent professionals.

- **336 undocumented people**—at least 40% of whom are DACA recipients—will each receive 6 hours of support through our Wellness Support Groups.
“As a DACAmented API individual, I’m so glad the UndocuAPI Wellness Group exists. It was the first time I got to meet other undocumented Asian Pacific Islander individuals like myself sharing their brave journey navigating and unlearning cultural beliefs around mental health. I felt seen and understood.”

— Huyen “Kiki” Vo,
UndocuAPI Wellness Support Group Facilitator
Strategy 4: ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE
Organizational Resilience

After 17 years under Kathy Gin’s leadership, we have a new Executive Director at the helm and a plan to form our own 501c3 by June 2024. In preparation, we are ensuring our resilience by fostering internal leadership, supporting the retention of DACA staff, and refining our long-term vision so that we can continue to have a lasting impact on the undocumented community for years to come.
Organizational Resilience

Foster internal leadership and forge long-term vision alignment

NEW
Executive Director

501c3
transition

$55K
staff support
Organizational Resilience

- Our new Executive Director will meet with key stakeholders, complete training, and lead a strategic planning process.
- We will build and train our own board and adopt new administrative procedures in preparation to form our own 501c3.
- In an effort to retain the talent of our team, we will provide legal, financial, and mental health support to our staff facing immigration uncertainties.
“My vision is to deliver a holistic approach to empowering undocumented individuals that champions innovative programming rooted in personal experience, granting undocumented people the freedom to thrive now and into the future.”

— Iliana G. Perez, Executive Director