OUR IMPACT THIS YEAR:
FY 2021-22

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PROGRAM IMPACT AREAS

1. College Programs
2. Career Programs
3. Law School Programs
4. Entrepreneurship Programs
5. Legal Services
6. Mental Health
7. COVID Relief
8. Storytelling
During the COVID-19 pandemic, an unprecedented number of undocumented college students nationwide dropped out of school in order to support themselves and their families. Now they are struggling to continue their higher education journeys.
COLLEGE PROGRAMS

Immigrants Rising helps **undocumented college students** get all the funding they're eligible for, as well as the coaching and mentoring they need to stay motivated. We also work with **educators and institutions** to build long-term systemic support for undocumented student success.
150 undocumented college students received 1,234 hours of 1:1 mentorship, coaching, or group support to help them achieve their educational goals.

4,133 educators received specialized training and technical assistance to support undocumented students.

710,000 users accessed our online resources about college.
“A mentor with similar experiences or an ally to undocumented folks makes the greatest difference because we feel supported, seen, and know someone can listen to us. I don't have to be scared of sharing my status.”

— Estefanía Escalante,
College Mentorship Program
CAREER PROGRAMS
Undocumented professionals often **struggle to start their careers** due to a lack of work authorization, professional networks, relevant work experience, and role models.
Immigrants Rising provides undocumented professionals with the hands-on training, professional development, and mentoring they need to launch and grow their careers.
35 undocumented professionals received 4,148 hours of training, mentorship, and hands-on career experience, four of whom gained 1,680 hours towards their mental health provider licensure.
“The Mental Health Career Program has opened the doors to incredible people and an empowering community. It has given me hope that I can get through this journey of career licensing.”

— Julio Cesar Zamarripa,
Career Program Participant
LAW SCHOOL PROGRAMS
Many undocumented people are motivated and qualified to pursue careers in law due to their own experiences navigating the legal system. Unfortunately, financial assistance for law school and professional contacts are often unavailable to undocumented students.
Immigrants Rising provides undocumented law school applicants with financial support, help navigating the application process, and a network of other pre-law students and legal professionals.
58 undocumented students participated in a “Pre-Law Bootcamp” with 12 hours of workshops about applying to law school.

20 undocumented students received $50,000 in “Pre-Law Fund” grants in order to apply to law school.
After attending the Pre-Law Bootcamp, I am even more determined to become an attorney to confront systemic injustices and advocate for human rights."

— Ana Hyo Young, Pre-Law Fund Recipient
ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS
Undocumented entrepreneurs have proven essential to our country as we recover from the **crippling economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic**. Our nation needs their tenacity and innovation to forge a path forward.
Through a $5.41 million SEED grant, Immigrants Rising provides training and micro-grants to help undocumented entrepreneurs across California start or grow their businesses. Entrepreneurship Programs are offered in English, Spanish, Korean, and Tagalog.
789 undocumented entrepreneurs received entrepreneurship training and were selected to receive over $4,075,000 in grants to launch or grow their businesses.
"Being a solo undocumented entrepreneur is overwhelming, but receiving training and a $5,000 grant from Immigrants Rising has enabled me to develop a vision for scaling my business up."

— Tobore Oweh, Entrepreneurship Grant Recipient
LEGAL SERVICES
Despite the gridlock in immigration reform and the challenge of navigating a complex legal system, undocumented people have opportunities to adjust their immigration status and to live and travel with confidence.
Since 2009, Immigrants Rising has helped over 4,600 undocumented people identify their potential immigration remedies and benefits. Our other legal resources offer valuable insights for navigating life, and making informed legal decisions.
243 undocumented people learned about their immigration legal remedies through our online intake service.

118,000 users accessed our information and resources created for undocumented people to confidently travel.
I got a very good understanding of my options and the tools I could use to work towards possible sponsorship. If it wasn’t for Immigrants Rising, I may never have known what my true options were."

— Seung Eli Oh, Legal Intake Service User
Mental Health

Undocumented people are resilient and adaptive to change, but living without status amid a constant stream of toxic anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies can take a significant toll on a person’s well-being.
Immigrants Rising’s **Wellness Support Groups** help undocumented people stay grounded and connected to community, while our **Mental Health Connector** provides them with direct culturally competent psychological support.
300 undocumented people received 15,000 hours of individual therapy.

350 undocumented people received 2,100 hours of group mental health support.
I can safely say that Immigrants Rising saved my life. For a long time I felt alone and hopeless being undocumented. But therapy has steadied me mentally and emotionally when I needed it most."

— Wayne Rasto, Wellness Group Participant
COVID RELIEF
As immigrant communities faced the brunt of the fallout from COVID-19, Immigrants Rising provided direct financial support and continued to foster undocumented leadership in California.
422 undocumented high school and college students received $211,000 in COVID-relief emergency grants.
“I’ve had to struggle to support myself because I’m here alone in this country. It became more difficult when COVID hit because I couldn't work as much and struggled to pay for stuff.”

— Mission High School Student, Grant Recipient
STORYTELLING
Undocumented people are too often the **subjects, rather than the protagonists** of stories in mainstream media. There is an urgent need for nuanced, complex narratives that are told by undocumented immigrants themselves.
Immigrants Rising is committed to ensuring that a diverse array of storytellers, including marginalized groups within the undocumented community, have the opportunity to **reclaim and share their personal stories** in order to heal, strengthen community bonds, transform hearts and minds, and advance policy legislation.
62 undocumented people of diverse backgrounds had opportunities to share their stories publicly.
Undocumented folks’ willingness to share our stories is very telling of who we are as a community, in and beyond this country. It gives me hope to hear how we are living our best lives.

— Alejandro Espinoza, Storytelling Fellow