Immigrant Ally Training - Skills March 12, 2021

Immigrant Mountaineers Movement Representatives: Cecilia Chan, Sarah Donovan, and María Hofman Hernandez





Immigrant Mountaineers Movement Team



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Student Representatives



Jas Nataly
Sophomore Junior Sociology
Communication; Major; Psychology
Sociology Minor Minor

Cecilia
Sophomore
Theatre Arts;
Concentration in Design
& Technology

Lizzy
Senior
Political Science;
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Immigrant Mountaineers Movement

Mission, Vision, Values, Goals & Outcomes

University Mission

Appalachian State University prepares students to lead purposeful lives as engaged global citizens who understand their responsibilities in creating a sustainable future for all.

Who is an ally?

An Ally of immigrant and immigration-affected Mountaineers is a person who:

- Knows that immigrant students have a right to be enrolled
- · Becomes informed about immigration rights
- · Finds ways to assist and advocate for immigration-affected Mountaineers within existing federal and state restrictions
- Understands that immigration status is an invisible and complex identity
- Recognizes and denounces anti-immigration rhetoric within their communities and spheres of influence
- Contributes to dialogues related to immigration on campus
- Acknowledges that someone with citizenship has different privileges from those with no or other documentation
- · Wants to advocate for and initiate support on behalf of and with immigrants/immigration-affected people

Outcomes

The desired outcomes for this training are to:

- Engage students by strategically educating and uniting specific collectives within the institution committed to the Immigrant Mountaineers Movement
- Strengthen relationships between offices, departments, and divisions under the common intention of being visible, knowledgeable, and supportive allies to immigration-affected Mountaineers; [and]
- Foster awareness, skill development, and action planning—through immigrant ally training workshops (Levels 1-3) for the Mountaineer community.

Goals

The mission of the Immigrant Ally Training at Appalachian State University is to educate the Mountaineer community on the needs and concerns of immigration-affected individuals and their families, providing effective practices to support these Mountaineers, in order to:

- Create a welcoming and supportive campus environment for all campus members, including those who are immigrants and/or have family members with an immigrant status;
- Inform faculty, staff, & students about relevant immigration topics that may impact individual Mountaineers and their loved ones, causing stress and creating challenges or barriers to their education.



Immigration-Related Updates & Current Events

- Muslim & African Ban
- Wall Construction
- Deportation moratorium
- Revised enforcement priorities
- Building infrastructure to process those who have active cases in Trump's "Remain in Mexico"
 Asylum System
 - Virtual Application Process to Minimize the Need to travel
 - The 25k active cases will be triaged with the goal of processing 300 cases daily

- Reunification: Deported parents with missing children
 - Reunification task forces
 - Path toward citizenships are being considered for these families
 - Some children have been reunited with families, but most have not
- Other Goals
 - Pathway to citizenship (8 years)
 - Immigration reform bill
 - DACA support
 - Changing word "alien" to noncitizen

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) a temporary status afforded to nationals from some countries affected by armed conflict or natural disaster, allowing persons to live and work in the United States for limited times.

Current designated nations for TPS consideration (Approximately 320,000 TPS individuals in the U.S.)

UPCOMING TPS TERMINATION DATES:

- Mar. 31, 2021 Syria
- Sep. 3, 2021 Yemen
- Sep, 17, 2021 Somalia
- October 4, 2021 El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sudan
- May 2, 2022 South Sudan

El Salvador (195,000)	Honduras (57,000)
Haiti (46,000)	Syria
Nepal	Yemen
Somalia	Sudan
Nicaragua	South Sudan

Becoming an Ally: Level 2 Build SKILLS by...

Using your AWARENESS & KNOWLEDGE

Think about the things you know now that you didn't know before. Use that information, insight, and understanding to communicate with others to foster belonging in the community.

Acquire new SKILLS

You can acquire more related skills through:

- attending workshops
- role-playing with friends and peers
- developing a support network of allies and advocates

Scenarios for reflection

Spend some time in your breakout group discussing the scenario presented in your group. As you discuss, designate one or more people from your group to take down notes to bring back and share with the larger group. If you complete your scenario before being called back to the main session, pick another scenario to discuss with the group.

Reflection Questions:

- What do you believe is going on?
- What is at the surface?
- Beyond the description, what other factors might be influencing the situation?
- What is at stake in your response?
- And what do you think is the best course of action?

Developing an Immigrant Ally Support Network

Benefits of support networks in allyship:

- Improved confidence
- Greater resilience to stress
- More meaningful outcomes

TIES: Developing an Immigrant Ally Support Network

Types of support needed to be a strong ally:

Tangible

Informational

Emotional

Social

TIES

Tangible Support

for dealing with practical problems—such as financial assistance, transportation, travel, childcare, or other coordination/organizing logistics. This is another area of support where allies not possessing an immigration affected identity can step up!

Informational Support

for exchanging information that helps solve a problem or overcome a challenge. This might include advice or information about helpful resources, updates to policies, or relevant current events. Allies should work together with or following the lead of immigration affected individuals and communities in exploring resources, solutions, or strategies.

TIES

Emotional Support

for help managing emotions—such as stress, anger, or depression. This support might include listening to problems and showing empathy. Allies should not lean on those affected by immigration to be their emotional support when doing the immigrant ally work. Allies should be prepared to step up as an emotional support if needed for other allies or for those affected by immigration, but you should have information on mental health resources that you can share with your network in case the needs exceed your what you can or should handle.

Social Needs

for the fulfillment of basic social needs, such as love, belonging, and connectedness. This helps provide a feeling of security and contentment.

Want to have strong TIES? TUNE in!

To build and strengthen your immigrant ally support network:

Take part in related groups and community organizations...

Use professional support...

Nurture your existing relationships...

Engage with other immigrant allies and the immigrant community...

TUNE-in

Take part in related groups and community organizations...

- Participate in and create social justice groups
- Volunteer for causes that are led by and/or for immigrant justice in the community
- Celebrate and respect diversity by engaging in intercultural community events and organizations

Use professional support...

- Keep up with your mental, physical, and emotional well being
- Use medical & mental health practitioners as well as other qualified professionals and spiritual guides to help you solve problems that are more complicated or too difficult to tackle alone.

TUNE-in

Nurture your existing healthy relationships...

- Make a list of those you know who might be able to walk and work with you on your ally path
- Keep reaching out to friends and family, even the ones you don't think are open to or ready for immigrant allyship.
- Make it a priority to maintain your most important relationships, even when other areas of your life are busy. This will keep you mentally and emotionally ready to be there in support of others

Engage with the immigrant allies and immigrant community...

- Connect with others from these trainings
- Find ways to "recruit" new allies in the Mountaineer community to grow the network of support
- Learn about local immigrant justice communities you can be a part of

Questions?

Thank you for joining us today!

Important Contacts:

Immigrant Mountaineers Movement immigrantallies@appstate.edu

Immigrant Justice Coalition ijcboonenc@gmail.com

Students Supporting Immigrants and Refugees ssirappstate@gmail.com

Upcoming Training (Level 3: ACTION)

- Wednesday March 17, 10:30am -12:00 (Open to All)
- Wednesday, April 7th 12-1:30pm (Students)

Future dates to be announced!

