ImmSchools

Annual Impact Report

JUNE 2018 - MAY 2020

ImmSchools is an immigrant led nonprofit organization that partners with K-12 educators to transform schools into safe and welcoming spaces for undocumented students and families. Since its launch, ImmSchools has directly impacted over 4,577 lives.

LETTER FROM THE CO-FOUNDERS

ImmSchools was launched in 2018 with the goal to transform schools to safe and welcoming spaces for undocumented students and families and for those efforts to be led by directly impacted individuals-current and former undocumented educators, students and families.

Since then, our programs have grown and our team has witnessed the power and resilience of immigrant students and families across our partner schools and communities. In partnership with school and district leaders, teachers and school staff have taken action to create safe spaces within their schools and districts to support all students regardless of immigration status. Through our school- based programs, immigrant students and families have accessed resources on their rights, college access and how to protect themselves and their families. These programs have been transformational and often the first of their kind to provide concrete supports for our undocumented community within schools.

In the past two years, we have seen the increasing need that exists in our schools and are working urgently to create lasting impact.We are honored to be a building the movement that bridges the gap between immigration and education and are so thankful for your support. Thank you for being a part of our work.

With gratitude,

Viridiana Carrizales
Co-Founder
& Chief Executive Officer

Vanessa Luna
Co-Founder
& Chief Program Officer

Lorena Tule-Romain
Co-Founder
& Chief Strategy Officer

OUR WHY

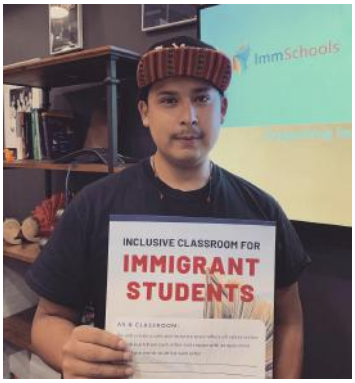
OUR VISION

We envision a just and equitable education system where immigrant and undocumented students and families can thrive.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is centered in three pillars:

- Foster the resilience of our **immigrant students and families** by creating knowledge and power building spaces
- Strengthen the leadership capacity of **educators** in order to address the holistic needs of undocumented students
- Create systemic change with the passage of immigrant-friendly **policies** in school districts



THE OPPORTUNITY

88% of K-12 educators noted not feeling prepared to support undocumented students and families in their classroom

Less than 1% of school districts nationwide have concrete policies and practices in place to support undocumented students and families

Every year, **140,000 children** experienced the deportation of a parent, negatively impacting their wellbeing, safety and academic success

It is our theory that by activating the resources so deeply ingrained in immigrant families to become school leaders, equipping educators with tools, trainings and resources to better support immigrant students, and enabling school districts to proactively change and create policies to better protect the families whom they serve, we can create a liberated world for all.

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

OUR APPROACH

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Strengthen the leadership capacity of educators in order to address the holistic needs of undocumented students

Professional development and leadership capacity for educators to implement safe and inclusive practices through their curriculum and school culture. Training includes:

- ✔ Trauma-informed methods to address a child's fear over a parent's potential deportation
- ✔ Concrete practices for educators to connect families with local resources and legal support

Create systemic change with the passage and implementation of pro-immigrant policies in school districts

Districts and schools adopt ***ImmSchools Safe and Inclusive Schools*** model to ensure students have access to a safe, inclusive and welcoming learning environment. Pro-immigrant policies in our model include:

- ✔ Safe Zone Resolution
- ✔ Open ID policy
- ✔ ICE Student Inquiry Protocol

Foster the resilience of our immigrant students and families by creating knowledge and power building spaces

ImmSchools offers workshops for immigrant parents and students to engage in peer-led conversations regarding their rights in an outside of schools. Workshop topics include:

- ✔ Know Your Rights
- ✔ College access for undocumented students
- ✔ Family preparedness plans
- ✔ Workers' rights

= **an intersectional approach**

where schools and the immigrant community are working together to effectively support and positively impact undocumented students and families

"During an ImmSchools workshop, I learned for the first time ever that being undocumented, you can still attend a university."

- 9TH GRADE STUDENT

"I really liked how applicable the information was from ImmSchools. It's one thing to tell us about a problem, it's another to tell us exactly how we can help."

- EDUCATOR

OUR IMPACT

AT-A-GLANCE

See following pages for detailed reports.

27
SCHOOLS & DISTRICTS

13
LOCAL & NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

1,550+
STUDENTS & FAMILIES

WHY TEXAS AND NEW YORK?

ImmSchools currently operates in the states of New York and Texas, beginning our work in New York City, San Antonio and Dallas. We have chosen these locations for a simple reason: nearly 25% of our country's undocumented families and 10% of K-12 students in mixed-status families reside in these two states alone. Because of the diversity of unmet needs present in these states, we are learning about the overall effectiveness of our programs and how the potency of our work is impacted by the pre-existing conditions of a region.

CLOSER LOOK:

SCHOOLS & DISTRICTS

DEMOGRAPHICS

100%

100% of our partners serve **primarily Latinx/Hispanic and Black students** with the majority being **economically disadvantaged**

IMPACT

27 schools and districts engaged ImmSchools for programming for their staff and communities

100% stated that partnering with ImmSchools **increased their knowledge** on the needs of immigrant and undocumented students and families

100% have **implemented an immigrant friendly policy** in their school or district

"ImmSchools has been a valuable source at our school for parents, families, and the school community. We look forward to continuing working with your organization and hopefully expand it to our network. Thank you for sharing such great knowledge in this important topic especially in this age."

- PRINCIPAL

PARTNERS

NYC Department of Education

EXPLORE CHARTER SCHOOL

ascend PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

yes prep PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INTERNATIONALS NETWORK *Transforming education for multilingual learners*

DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

KIPP ACADEMY CHICAGO

HARLANDALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Southwest Independent School District

EDGEWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT San Antonio

SAISD

FLACS Family Life Academy Charter Schools Whole Child Focused

Multicultural High School

Houston Independent School District

Port Chester High School 1898

Bard Early Colleges

East Central Independent School District ECISD Est. 1949 A Tradition of Quality Education

Dallas County Promise ESTD 2017

CLOSER LOOK:
EDUCATORS

PARTNERS

In addition to working with educators through schools and districts (previous page), ImmSchools also collaborates with educators and other community advocates with these partner organizations.

TEACH PLUS · ESC 20 · CITY YEAR · UnLocal · Communities In Schools San Antonio · TEACH FOR AMERICA · children at Risk · Family Service SUPPORT. STRENGTHEN. SERVE. · NYC Special Education COLLABORATIVE www.NYCsped.org

IMPACT

2,332 educators (teachers, admin, staff) participated in ImmSchools trainings

95% of educators agreed or strongly agreed that training from ImmSchools **increased their knowledge and felt could better support undocumented students**

"As a teacher, it can be really hard to know what our students and families go through. This session helped me know how to support and protect our students." - TEACHER

"I was taken back by the laws and policies that I had never heard about even though I have worked in schools for many years. This has increased my awareness for how I can better assist my undocumented families."

- EDUCATOR

*"I will have an explicit conversation with **all** of my students about undocumented students and families being welcome and safe in school. I will introduce texts to my students that incorporate many possible facets of the undocumented experience."*

- TEACHER

CLOSER LOOK:
STUDENTS & FAMILIES

PARTNERS

Students and families can participate directly in ImmSchools programming that we provide to the community, as well as through workshops made available by our partners and schools (see previous pages). In addition, organizations such as these give us another opportunity to work with students and families.

RAICES · SA RISE · NYIC · IMMIGRANTS RISING · Immigration Advocates NETWORK · Mixteca Organization, Inc.

IMPACT

1000+ students participated in ImmSchools trainings

550+ families participated in ImmSchools trainings

100% felt significantly better **prepared** and **informed about their rights**

100% planned to **utilize services and organizations** shared by ImmSchools

"I had a lot of fear, but it helped me a lot to receive information from ImmSchools. The most important piece was knowing the school should be a safe space for my children." - **PARENT**

"ImmSchools helped me understand that it doesn't matter if you have DACA or legal status, that you can achieve your goals by arming yourself with the right support and information." - **STUDENT**

OUR GROWTH

Fall 2017 — Creation of ImmSchools

Spring 2018 — ImmSchools Pilot launched

Summer 2018 — ImmSchools is launched in San Antonio and New York City

Fall 2019 — ImmSchools launched third location in Dallas

May 2020 — Impacted over 4,500 participants in the K-12 system

LESSONS LEARNED

1. Schools and Educators as a Main Conduct to Build a Safe Space

- Educators are yearning to receive tools that support immigrant and undocumented families
- School based programs send a message of safety and build community
- Schools must be proactive rather than reactive in their supports of undocumented students and families

2. Resiliency & Power Within Immigrant Students & Families

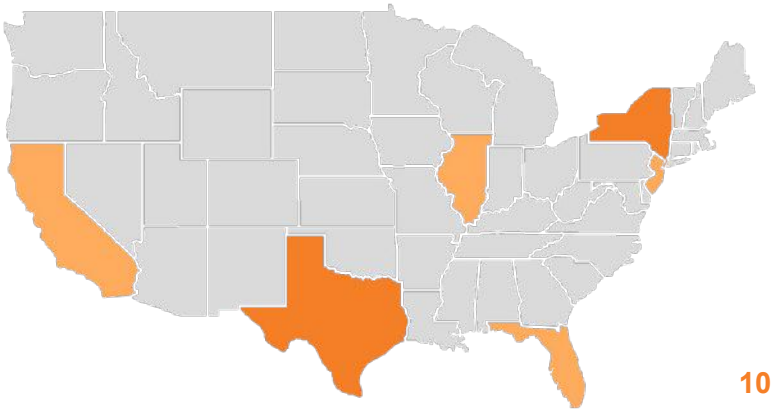
- Immigrant families are seeking connections with one another, building community and providing safety
- Immigrant Students and families lack access to trustworthy resources, they experience a lack of trust to institutions and are unaware of what resources are available
- There is an urgent need for families to protect themselves in the face of fear and to live with dignity

3. Immigrant-led Programs are Transformational

- Our immigrant-led programs are unique experiences for all participants as program facilitators root programs in our shared experiences and humanity
- Immigrant students and parents feel a sense of comfort and safety from our immigrant led program team

LOOKING FORWARD

ImmSchools aims to be the leading national partner in creating safe and welcoming space for immigrant students and families in our schools. We will expand our school based programs to schools and districts in the top states with the most undocumented immigrants which include: California, New Jersey, Illinois and Florida.



THANK YOU!

Supporters

Anonymous
Camelback Ventures
Leadership for Educational Equity
Roddenberry Foundation
Lush Charity Pot
Community Connectors Grant
Generation Titan
Emergent Fund
TFA Social Innovation Award
JM Kaplan Innovation Prize
San Antonio Area Foundation
Texas Women's Foundation

Partner Organizations

CARA
Children at Risk
City Year - San Antonio & Queens
The Collaborative for Special Education
Communities in Schools
Education Service Center - Region 20
Family Service Organization
Mixteca
New York Immigration Coalition
Teach For America - National, San Antonio, New York
Teach Plus Fellows
Unlocal

District & School Partners

San Antonio Independent School District
Harlandale Independent School District
Southwest Independent School District
East Central Independent School District
Edgewood Independent School District
Houston Independent School District
Dallas Promise
Dallas Independent School District
New York City Department of Education
Bard High School Early College Prep
Multicultural High School
Internationals Network
Explore Charter Network
Explore Charter Lower School
Ascend Cypress Hills Lower School
FLACS III Charter School
P.S. 137 Pioneer Academy
P.S. 155
P.S. 57
P.S. 69Q
P.S. 092
Port Chester Rye School District
KIPP Charter Network- Chicago

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