

You Are Invited To The  
**Undocumented Student Scholarship Dinner**

Sacramento Friends Meeting  
890 57th Street, Sacramento, CA  
March 23, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

**Menu:** Vegetable Lasagna\*, Salvadoran Green Salad,  
Chocolate Mousse, and to drink, Jamaica

Fellowship, and an Opportunity to Meet Scholarship  
Recipients

Suggested Donation: \$1 to \$1000, tax deductible\*\*

**RSVP** to [pportill@temple.edu](mailto:pportill@temple.edu) by March 18

Donations may be made at the door, online at  
<http://quakerundocumentedstudentscholarship.org/donate.html>

or sent to:

Undocumented Student Scholarship Project  
Sacramento Friends Meeting  
P.O Box 163677, Sacramento, CA, 95816

*\*gluten free advance request    \*\*minus \$20 meal cost*

Dear Friends,

Nine years ago Sacramento Friends Meeting (Quakers) initiated the Undocumented Student Scholarship Project for students at our nearby Sacramento State University. Since that time we have provided scholarships to 28 students in a variety of majors, both undergraduate and graduate. Each scholarship consists of \$1000 per year until graduation.

We have all been aware of the increasing cost of a college education. Fees, books, housing, and transportation are all on the rise; in recent years campuses have even initiated food banks. Undocumented students face those challenges and greater ones too: intense uncertainty about the future—job, home, family—as well as feelings of vulnerability in the current political climate.

As we've become acquainted with our scholarship recipients over the years, we have been moved by their purpose, persistence and courage. It has been a joy to see them graduate and obtain jobs in their field.

Most of the support for the Undocumented Student Scholarship Project has come from donations from individuals and Friends Meetings. Several of our former scholarship recipients have begun to contribute as well.

We hope to see you at the dinner on March 23.

In peace,

*Patricia Portillo*

### **From a student majoring in Communications:**

I was six when I was brought to the US from Mexico. Of my three siblings I am the only one who is currently undocumented.

When I was in middle and in high school some kids would tell me that I was not smart and that I would never graduate. That, and seeing my parents struggling so much made me take school seriously. I wanted to prove those kids wrong and I was also determined to support my parents.

I received my DACA when I was a senior in high school, which allowed me to attend Sac State with financial aid. I am a Communications major currently working at an NGO in Woodland and at the university. After I finish my degree, my goal is to work for a non-profit helping the immigrant community.

The money I got from the Friends scholarship helped me pay for my books, for food, and for transportation (it's cheaper to live with my brother in Woodland). This semester the scholarship helped me a lot more because it is my fifth year at Sac State and Cal grant only pays for four years based on income. All of the scholarship money this semester went to pay for tuition.

I am very appreciative of this scholarship because there are not a lot of people who want to help undocumented students and there are fewer resources for us. I am thankful for all the help that you provide.

### **From a student majoring in Gerontology:**

I started at the community college, and because I had to pay for everything, I took one class at a time. With DACA I was able to enroll at Sac State and receive state financial aid. After my first year at Sac State, I had to pay more money out pocket to complete my tuition.

The scholarship from Sacramento Friends Meeting provides support to those of us who are pursuing our dream and having a “third hand” relieves a burden for us. It was very helpful to get a scholarship because I didn't have to work more hours and end up having to drop classes during the semester. I used the money to pay for books and for part of my tuition.

I live with my parents in Galt and I have an older sibling, also undocumented, and who is currently at Sac State looking to graduate next fall.

When I first started college I wanted to become a nurse, but nursing was very competitive. I chose gerontology because I've always loved helping people, and treating older adults with dignity, respect, and kindness is what I want to continue to do. I am currently doing an internship at Kaiser and volunteering at First Call Hospice. I want to continue studying and obtain a Masters Degree in social work.

Thank you for your interest in supporting undocumented students make their dream of an education come true.