

Throughout the month of August and the first week of September, the Student Immigration Relief Clinic has been busy focusing on several initiatives: (1) organization development into a campus club and (2) volunteer recruitment.

Grecia Diaz, the recruitment and logistics intern, and I have been focused on the process of completing the documentation for UC Berkeley's student government (ASUC) as well as the LEAD Center to recognize the Student Immigration Relief Clinic as a campus organization. We met to write the constitution, found a club faculty advisor (Mary Crabb), and submitted all pertinent documentation to the parties that oversees clubs and organizations. On September 30th, interns Grecia and Alondra will meet with the Lead Center for the final interview. However, as of a few days ago, the Student Immigration Relief Clinic is officially a recognized student organization on the UC Berkeley campus! The official title of the club is now: The Student Immigration Relief Clinic at Berkeley.

Additionally, Grecia and I were busy facilitating club recruitment. Grecia created a schedule for all interns to table and flyer, to advertise the club. I printed out the flyers and helped to distribute them to the interns. The Facebook page garnered many more "likes" and followers with the flyering efforts.

Tiffany also contributed to the club recruitment effort by creating an introduction graphic including the photos of all interns. I also collected the background information from all the interns before distributing that information onto the Facebook page. She will produce the informational graphic for an upcoming clinic by Saturday, September 16, 2017. Additionally, she will be producing a logo for the clinic. At the conclusion of the clinic, she will produce a newsletter updating people on the ongoing activities of the clinic.

Nicole is continuing her work on the informational workshop. At the end of September, a finalized date will be set and she will begin to reach out and invite different panelists for the event. I will keep you in the loop about this ongoing endeavor.

Lastly, as you may very well know, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) was terminated by President Donald Trump. This was a surprise, since DACA was one of the major focus areas of the Student Immigration Relief Clinic and we did not anticipate the end of this program when the proposal was submitted. As of now, the Immigration Clinic will continue to help those who have DACA renewals, for free. But, no more initials will be accepted after October 5, 2017.

Alondra Martinez, one of the interns, is currently working on a new effort between the Student Immigration Relief Clinic. First, she is recruiting people to conduct a letter writing campaign. This letter writing campaign will reach out to different legislators and lawmakers in Congress, to encourage them to vote in favor of any new legislation to help undocumented immigrant youth have temporary refuge within the United States, or some policy that would have a positive effect on undocumented youth. Second, she is also contacting the ACLU chapter of UC Berkeley to conduct more DACA renewal workshops for those who need the service, again, all for free. This is an exciting endeavor and I will continue to update you on this effort.

Lastly, there will be an immigration workshop on Saturday, September 23rd. This will be an all-day event that helps hundreds of people. Originally, in the proposal, I wrote that the workshops would not be held until second semester. However, given the recent news, we decided to host an immigration clinic sooner, since there appears to be a need for this service. I am taking charge of the immigration clinic logistics, encouraging those who have already been trained to complete the documentation to help out with this event.