

## **Bakersfield College DACA Response Team Efforts**

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Following the September 5 announcement from Washington, DC regarding the rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program, Bakersfield College convened a cross-functional DACA Response Team to educate students, faculty, and staff on the resources available to them.

### **Community Forum with Immigration Attorneys**

Bakersfield College will host a community forum on September 21 to discuss the recent DACA announcement, key dates and deadlines, pending immigration legislation, and offer financial resources for those wishing to renew their DACA benefits. Panelists include four immigration and criminal defense attorneys, and Bakersfield College Financial Aid representatives will staff the event to distribute information related to AB540.

### **Financial Resources**

Bakersfield College's DACA Response Team has partnered with the Kern Federal Credit Union (KFCU) to communicate the details of their emergency loan program to the community. KFCU will automatically approve all current DACA beneficiaries for \$500 emergency loans toward DACA renewal fees, with no credit underwriting required. Additionally, the San Francisco-based non-profit Mission Asset Fund (MAF) is offering \$495 scholarships to cover renewal fees.

### **Communication from the State Educational and Legislative Leadership**

The DACA Response Team has been diligently distributing information to Bakersfield College faculty and staff as received from the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) and state legislators. In particular, the CCCCCO released two memos following the announcement: 1) a field memo from Chancellor Eloy Oakley, 2) a legal update from Jacob Knapp, Acting General Counsel at the CCCCCO. Governor Brown announced an intent to use \$30 million to aid beneficiaries of DACA, allocating \$10 million of those dollars toward financial aid for DACA students attending public colleges.

We at Bakersfield College serve our community as it is, embrace diversity in all its forms, and believe that every person has a right to access quality higher education. We believe that education builds an economically vibrant and healthy community. We will continue to uphold our commitment to a quality higher education to all of the students we serve, including the approximate 800 undocumented Renegades at BC.

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