

Menu of Education and Advocacy Tools



Here is a list of some of the education and advocacy tools STF has used in past campaigns to raise awareness for human rights. Consider these activities and share new ideas with your group. Included with each tool is an example of how STFers used it in the past:

- Review binder materials and identify what is useful for your campus. Also identify what additional materials you may need for your events and alert the STF Team.
- Call and write elected officials and ask them to protect DACA recipients (include a strategy for reaching officials in other district/states). We all must watch for and support new and revised legislation to protect beneficiaries of DACA.
 - Ex: During our campaign for the Global Refugee Crisis, we emailed, called and Tweeted our Senators asking them to vote against a bill that would have effectively prevented all Syrian and Iraqi refugees from entering the United States. Both California Senators agreed with us and voted against the bill, which ultimately failed.
- Set up discussions/teach-ins on campus to educate others through a human rights lens. First, find out what your school's policy is for undocumented students and teachers.
 - Ex: When campaigning for Prop 57 last fall, we talked about the human rights of juveniles being sent into the adult system, rather than focusing on the legality of the issue. It helped to remove the stigma of someone having committed a crime and show that the human rights of these juveniles still need to be protected.
- Have a discussion on how to counter anti-DACA statements. Use the “Fact Checking Attorney General Jeff Sessions on DACA” document to help get you started.
 - Ex: An example from the “Yes on Prop 57” advocacy campaign last fall, several chapters pulled up the “No on 57” campaign’s website and walked their chapters through talking points using a human rights lens. It helped prepare members to advocate for the issue off campus.

- Host a guest speaker (Alex Alpharaoh or an immigration attorney focused on DACA) or an assembly to share testimonies and videos. Make sure the content of the assembly won't be hurtful to anyone undocumented in the audience, so make sure you check with teachers and administrators.
 - Ex: Last year, several chapters brought Herminia Galvez and Manuel Barrios to campus to share their experiences as juvenile offenders.
- Organize a vigil or protest day/event or humanity chain on your campus/in your community and get it covered by the press.
 - Ex: For Unity Day events in March, chapters hosted die-ins and human chains to raise awareness about human rights.
- Share information on social media
 - Ex: Several of our schools have campus-wide Facebook groups, or groups for specific grade levels, where we can post our events or share information about our campaign.
- Write an op-ed for your school and/or local newspaper
 - Ex: Two STFers volunteered at one of the HRW film screening events last year. They were so moved by the film that they wrote an article about it for their school newspaper and encouraged their campus community to watch it.
- Create a poster wall of DACA information
 - Ex: After the Women's March in January, the STF Team put together a series of photos from the event. As part of our Unity Day efforts, Sierra Canyon posted these photos, along with information about human rights, their chapter, and Unity Day, in the main stairwell that every student, teacher and staff member has to walk through daily. The whole time they were up, people talked about them during lunch or in class. The posters really drew attention to their chapter and advocacy efforts.
- Sign a petition for support of rights of DACA recipients to send to key officials.
 - Ex: During our Children's Rights Camp a few years ago, STFers signed petitions asking tobacco companies not to hire children to work in their tobacco fields because it was making them sick. We collected more than 2,000 electronic signatures and 850 hard copy petitions for HRW's campaign, and helped get tobacco companies to commit to not hiring anyone under 16.
- Become better informed! Read weekly STF updates, set up Google Alerts for DACA.
 - Ex: The STF team sends out weekly emails with information about what is happening with our current campaign. Harvard-Westlake has used those emails to start weekly meetings and make sure members are up to date on the news.
- Develop a ribbon or t-shirts to support DACA that all STF chapters can purchase.
 - Ex: During the End Military Use of Schools campaign a few years ago, the Carson High School chapter created our "Ask Me About EMUS" shirt that members from most campuses purchased.
- Other options, ideas?