YOUR HEALTH IS MY HEALTH: SPREADING WELLNESS IN THE PANDEMIC ERA

ELIZABETH HERNANDEZ, Ph.D.(she/her) COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS DREAMERS TOGETHER TASKFORCE May 7, 2021

OVERVIEW

- Grounding Exercise
- Coping with Grief and Uncertainty
- Community-Centric Self-Care
- Wellness-Spreading Tips
- Resources for Community Caretaking
- Seeking Professional Services



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- Staff Psychologist, UCLA Counseling and Psychological Services
- Wellness Advocate, Dream.US and Golden Door Scholars
- Former Co-chair of CA Psychological Association's Immigration Task Force and co-author of clinical recommendations for working with undocumented immigrant clients
- Research and training experience on the mental health of immigrants, first-generation college students, and students of Color
- Integrative approach informed by Liberation, Feminist, and Community psychology

COMMUNITY ROLL CALL



On a scale from 1-5, with 1=Very Unlikely and 5=Very likely, how likely were you to consider seeking mental health support pre-pandemic?

LOVING KINDNESS EXERCISE



IT'S NOT YOUR IMAGINATION



"We feel the world has changed, and it has. We know this is temporary, and we realize things will be different...This is hitting us and we're grieving. Collectively." -David Kessler

5 Stages of COVID-19 and Grief:

Denial: "The virus won't affect us"

Anger: "You're making me stay at home and taking away my activities"

Bargaining: "Okay, if I social distance for two weeks everything will be better, right?

Sadness: "I don't know when this will end."

Acceptance: "This is happening; I have to figure out how to proceed."

https://hbr.org/2020/03/that-discomfort-youre-feeling-is-grief

Racism and the COVID-19 Outbreak





Increased risk of acquiring COVID-19 and manifesting severe COVID-19

Medical	Economic	Legal	Social
 Under or uninsured Limited healthcare access or options Higher prevalence of comorbidities 	 Need to continue to work despite "social distancing" More likely to have a job where risk of COVID-19 exposure is higher Use of mass transit 	 Fear of legal penalties for themselves or their families if healthcare is sought 	 Crowded households Multigenerational households Reduced internet and phone access Limited ability to speak/read English

Potential Socioeconomic Outcomes of COVID-19

Medical	Economic	Legal	Social
 Higher COVID-19 morbidity and mortality Loss of employer- sponsored healthcare→ worsening of comorbid Conditions 	 More days of work Unemployment (job loss or relinquished due to COVID-19) Inability to pay loans/rent 	 Ineligible for unemployment benefits and COVID-19 relief checks Underrepresented in 2020 census results 	 Food insecurity Worsening stigma/neglect

UC UndocuScholars Study

Enriquez, L. E, Burciaga, E. M, Cardenas, T., Cha, B., Delgado, V., Lopez, M., et al. (2019). How Can Universities Foster Educational Equity for Undocumented College Students: Lessons from the University of California. UCLA: Institute for Research on Labor and Employment.

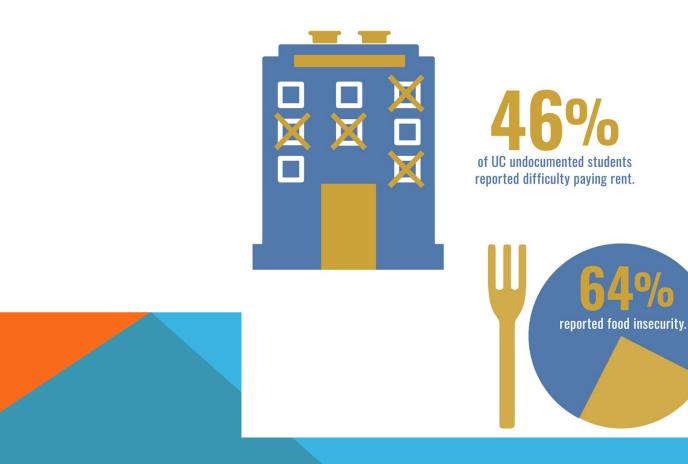
Key Findings:

- Discomfort when disclosing immigration status and frequently encounter staff who are unaware of undocumented student resources
- Students and staff alike depend on undocumented student services staff members to provide resources and social support to undocumented students.



PERSISTING FINANCIAL NEED

Undocumented students face high financial insecurity.



ACADEMIC DISTRACTION

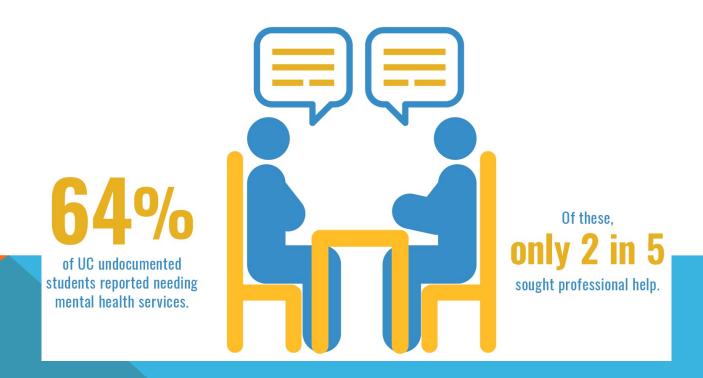
Undocumented students experience immigration-related distractions that hurt their academic performance.





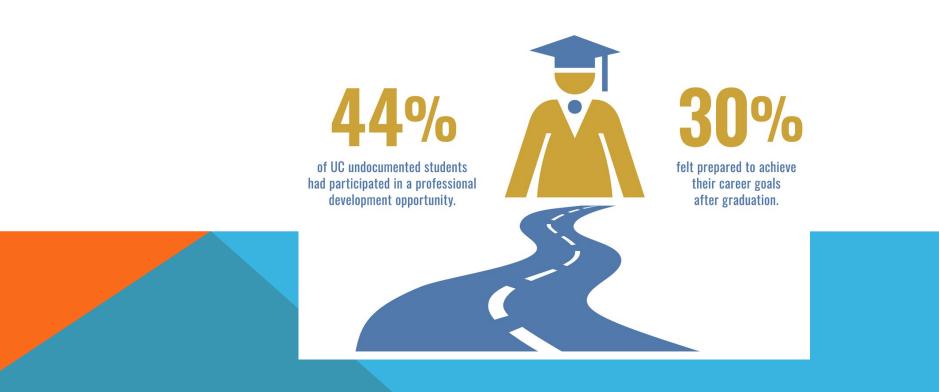
NEED FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Undocumented students report high levels of stress and need inclusive mental health services.



LIMITED POSTGRADUATE PREPARATION

Undocumented students have limited access to post-graduate preparation.



COMMUNITY CHECK-IN



If you were to list your top 5 current worries/concerns/fears/preoccupations: How many of them include loved ones or community members?

CONTROL CHECK



F: Focus on what's in your control
A: Acknowledge your thoughts and feelings
C: Come back into your body
E: Engage in what you're doing

C: Committed action
O: Opening up
V: Values
I: Identify resources

D: Disinfect and distance

Source: F.A.C.E. C.O.V.I.D.: How to Respond Effectively to the Corona Crisis by Dr. Russ Harris, author of *The Happiness Trap*

BEYOND SELF-CARE



COMMUNITY SHOUT-OUT



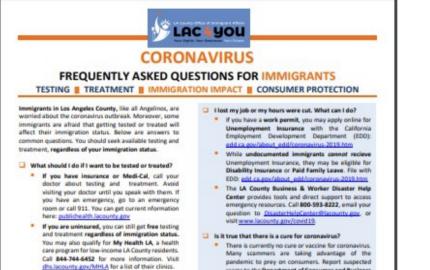
COMMUNITY SHOUT-OUTS



What are some ways that folks have spread wellness in your communities in response to the health crisis?

COMMUNITY SHOUT-OUT





- Will getting tested or treated for coronavirus affect my immigration status?
- No. Your medical information is confidential. Your doctor may not share it with immigration officials. Also, the federal government has announced they will not consider coronavirus testing or treatment in the public charge test.

Need other public benefits such as Food Stamps?

- The Department of Public Social Services provides a number of services. Contact them here: yourbenefits.ladrs.org/ybn/index.html. If you don't qualify for benefits due to your immigration status, other people in your home might. USCIS will not consider benefits received by household members in the public charge test.
- Free food is also available at pantries throughout Los Angeles County: lafoodbank.org/findfood/pantry-locator/. Many school districts also offer free meals for students. Check with your school district office.



scams to the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA): 800-593-8222, dcba.lacounty.gov.

Sellers are charging high prices for things like hand sanituer and medical supplies. Is this legal?

It is illegal for sellers to raise prices for basic necessities by more than 10% after authorities declare an emergency. All consumers, including undocumented immigrants, are protected against price gouging. Report violations to DCBA: 800-593-8222, dcba.lacounty.gov.

My landlord is trying to evict me because I can't pay the rent. What should I do

Los Angeles County passed a temporary ban on all residential and commercial evictions, effective March 4 to May 31, 2020, for the unincorporated areas of the County. The City of Los Angeles and other cities have passed similar measures. These protections apply to all tenants, regardless of their immigration status. Contact DCBA for help: (800) 593-8222, dcba.lacounty.gov.

Contact your Office of Immigrant Affairs for help: 800-593-8222, oia.lacounty.gov

CORONAVIRUS

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RESPUESTAS A PREGUNTAS FRECUENTES DE INMIGRANTES EXAMENES TRATAMIENTO IMPACTO MIGRATORIO PROTECCIÓN AL CONSUMIDOR

Como todos los Angelinos, los inmigrantes en el Condado de Los Angeles estan preocupados por el brote del coronavirus. Además, algunos inmigrantes temen que el ser examinados o atendidos afectará su estado migratorio. Estas son las requestas a algunas preguntas comunes. Busque pruebas y tratamientos disponibles sin importar su estado migratorio.

¿Que debo hacer si guiero ser examinado o tratado ?

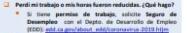
- Si tiene seguro médico o Medi-Cal, pregunte a su doctor sobre pruebas y tratamiento. Evite ir al doctor hasta que hable con ellos. Si tiene una emergencia, vaya a la sala de emergenias o llame al 911. Puede obtener información actualizada aquí: publichealth lacounty.eov.
- Si no tiene seguro médico, puede obtener pruebes y tratamientos gratis sin importar su estado migratorio. Tambien puede calificar para My Health LA, un programa de salud del Condado de Los Angeles para residentes de baios recursos. Llame al (844) 744-6452 para más información. Visite dhs.lacounty.gov/MHLA para una lista de cínicas.

2El ser examindo o tratado por el coronavirus afectará mi estado migratorio?

No. Su información médica es confidencial. Su doctor no quede compartirla con oficiales de inmieración. El apbierno federal también no considerará pruebas o tratamiento del coronavirus en la prueba de carga pública.

A lessita beneficios públicos?

- El Departamento de Servicios Publicos Sociales proporciona varios servicios. Contáctelos aquí: yourbenefits, lecirs, org/ybn/Index.html, Si no califica debido a su estado migratorio, otras personas en su hosar nuclesen calificar. El denertamento de USCIS no considerará beneficios recibidos por miembros del hogar como carga pública.
- Comida gratuita esta disponible en despensas en el Condado de Los Angeles: lafoodbank.org/findfood/pantry-locator/. Muchos distritos escolares sen ofrecen comidas para estudiantes. Consulte con la oficina local de su distrito escolar.



- Inmigrantes indocumentados no pueden recibir seguro de desempleo, pero pueden ser elegibles para Seguro de Discapacidad o Ausencia Familiar Pagada, Solicite con el EDD: edd.ca.gov/about_edd/corpnavirus-2019.htm,
- El Centro de Ayuda por Desastre para Trabajadores y Empresas del Condado de Los Angeles proporciona herramientas y apoyo para acceso a recursos de emergencia: (800) 592-8222, lecounty.cov/covid19, is antion Halo Camber All accounty, any

¿Es verdad que hay una cura para el coronavirus?

No hay cura o vacuna para el coronavirus. Muchos estafadores se están aprovechando de la pandemia para defraudar a los consumidores. Reporte estafas al Departmento de Asuntos de Consumidores y Negocios (DCBA): (800) 593-8222, dcba.lacounty.epv

Vendedores están cobrandos precios altos por cosas como desinfectantes y suministros médicos, ¿Es legal?

Es ilegal subir los precios más de 10% en necesidades. básicas y suministros médicos después de que se declare una emergencia. Todos los consumidores, incluyendo inmigrantes indocumentados, son protegidos contra la manipulación de precios. Reporte abusos a DCBA: (800) 593-8222, dcba.lacounty.gov.

No puedo pagar la renta y me quieren desalojar. ¿Que hago?

- El Condado de Los Aneeles pasó una prohibición temporal de desalojos residenciales y comerciales, effectiva de Marzo 4 a Mayo 31, 2020, en las áreas no incorporadas del Condado. La Ciudad de Los Angeles y otras ciudades han pasado medidas similares. Estas protecciones aplican a todos los inguilinos, sin importar su estado migratorio. Contacte DCBA por eyuda:
- (800) 593-8222, <u>dcba.lacounty.acy</u>
- Contacte su Oficina de Asuntos de Inmigrantes Por Ayuda: (800) 593-8222, oia.lacounty.eov

CONSUMER & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

	🕓 weallgrowlatina	
Fever	Fiebre	
Chills	Escalofrios	
General malaise		
General malaise	Malestar general	
Difficulty breathing	Malestar general Dificultad para respirar	

Vulnerable Populations - Poblaciones vulnerables

- Adults over 65 years old Adultos mayores de 65 años
- Babies Bebés
- People that smoke/smokers -- Personas que fuman / fumadores
- People with other chronic diseases Personas con otras enfermedades crónicas

Prevention – Prevención

Currently there is no vaccine for Coronavirus - no hay vacuna para el coronavirus

To prevent infection, you can follow these recommendations - para prevenir el contagion, usted puede seguir estas recomendaciones

Spanish
Lávese las manos frecuentemente
Evite tocarse la cara (ojos, nariz, boca)
Evite el contacto directo con otras personas
Salude sin contacto físico
Cúbrase la boca al toser y estornudar
Evite contacto con personas infectadas
Si está enfermo(a) quédese en casa
Trabajadores de la salud deben usar mascarilla
Limpie todo los días todas las superficies de contacto frecuente

weallgrowlatina

How to talk about Coronavirus in Spanish

Coronavirus is a virus just like the flu. This outbreak of coronavirus is similar to (similar to) the SARS virus breakout of 2002 and MERS breakout of 2012. A new study on COVID-19 estimates that the incubation period is 5-7 days.

El Coronavirus es un virus como la gripe. Este brote de coronavirus es parecido (similar) a los brotes del virus SRAS de 2002 y MERS de 2012. Un estudio reciente del virus estimó que el period de incubación es de 5-7 días.

General Vocabulary

English	Spanish	
Infection of the lungs	Infección en los pulmones	
Respiratory virus	Virus respiratorio	
Is there a vaccine?	¿Existe alguna vacuna?	
Mask	Mascarilla	
Flu-like symptoms	Síntomas similares a los de la gripe	
Possible exposure	Posible exposición	

Transmission - Transmisión

English	Spanish
It is transmitted by respiratory airways	Se transmite por vía respiratoria.
When somebody coughs, sneezes or speaks, the respiratory little drops pass from one to the other.	Cuando uno tose, estornuda o habla, las gotitas respiratorias pasan de uno a otro.
It can be transmitted from animals to humans.	Puede ser transmitido de animales a humanos.
It can be transmitted from human to human.	Puede ser transmitido de humanos a humanos.

Symptoms - Síntomas

English	Spanish	
Runny nose	Secreción y goteo nasal	
Cough	Tos	
Fatigue	Fatiga	
Sore throat	Dolor de garganta	

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Mask-Match.com

Send masks to frontline medical workers in need.



Made with Construction SQUARESPACE

Give-A-Sheet.com

Buy toilet paper art for COVID relief.



Made with Co SQUARESPACE

LoveForTheElderly.org Send personal letters to isolated seniors.



Made with Constrained SQUARESPACE



COMMUNITY-CENTRIC COMMITMENT



What is one thing you can begin to do for your loved ones and/or community?

THINGS TO SUPPORT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

1) Take breaks from media. Limit news consumption to reliable sources.

2) Maintain a routine, including making time to unwind. Increase positive experiences.

3) Tend to your basic needs: get adequate sleep, exercise regularly, practice mindfulness, spend time in nature, and employ relaxation techniques when stressed.

4) Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling. Social distancing does not mean social isolation! Reach out to others and offer support, empathy, information, and, if possible, tangible support

5) Treat everyone with dignity and respect. COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted BIPOC, in the forms of compounded xenophobia, housing, food, and medical insecurity.

SIGNS OF DISTRSS

Cognitive

Behavioral

Stress, Self-harm, or Suicide

Inappropriate, bizarre, or Decline in personal hygiene Overt references to suicide strange behavior (written or oral) Consistent disheveled or fatigued appearance Expressions of helplessness or Extreme emotionality hopelessness Lethargy, lack of energy, falling Agitation, intense restlessness, asleep in public Isolation from loved ones hyperactivity **Disruptive behavior** Impairment of attention and Pessimism about the future memory Aggressive, angry, or Giving away valuables threatening behavior Impaired speech or disjointed, Preparations for death (wills, confused thoughts memorial preferences) Dramatic weight loss or gain Paranoia or suspiciousness **Obvious use of mood-altering** substances

REFERRING TO APPROPRIATE RESOURCES

Early intervention can prevent more serious issues from developing.

Consider:

- **Counseling Services** (individual, group, couples, or family therapy, psychiatry, substance abuse treatment, inpatient v. outpatient, private practice, insurance, inperson or teletherapy)
- **Social Services** (for housing, financial, domestic violence, and other non-mental health-related concerns)

Religious Leaders or Indigenous Healing Practitioners

Community Organizations (ALANON, legal services, social services, etc) National hotlines (suicide prevention, domestic violence, etc)

REASONS TO SEEK COUNSELING

- career concerns
- depression
- anxiety academic stress
- stress associated with deportation/family legal status
- coming out as "undocumented"
- migration trauma
- procrastination/decreased motivation
- questioning or exploring sexual orientation or gender
- adjusting to college/homesickness

- concerns about family or community
- procrastination/decreased motivation
- burnout from political/social action
- questioning or exploring sexual orientation or gender
- relationship conflicts
- anger management
- food or body image concerns
- discrimination
- coping with physical illness or being differently abled
 - ... & many more

HOW CAN I TELL IF MY SERVICE PROVIDER IS AN ALLY?

- You feel HEARD
- You were not forced to disclose your status
- You were acknowledged for the courage it took to ask for support
- Your experiences of oppression, education inequity, etc. were acknowledged and validated.
- You were encouraged to connect with other Undocu-friendly support services to get the specialized care you deserve.
- You were referred to appropriate support systems.
- You feel they make an effort to stay informed and continue to seek training

COMMUNITY CHECK IN



On a scale from 1-5, with 1=Very Unlikely and 5=Very likely, how likely are you to consider seeking mental health support after this presentation?

RESOURCES

Immigrants Rising

https://docs.google.com/document/u/0/d/1PxLuuH0hwHXftUXuEi52Q1qWUDegN8_I1L4ulIFwzk/mobilebasic

Taking Care of Your Mental Health in the Face of Uncertainty

https://afsp.org/taking-care-of-your-mental-health-in-the-face-ofuncertainty/

Mental Health Wellness Tips for Quarantine

http://www.sfu.ca/olc/blog/my-ssp/mental-health-wellness-tipsquarantine?quicktabs_1=3

FACE COVID video and E-book

Video: https://youtu.be/BmvNCdpHUYM

E-book:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MZJybtT9KmiE9Dw9EKvPJsd9Ow7g XaMe/view?usp=drive_open

Undocumented and COVID-19

https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp2005953?query=feat ured_home

https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/undocumentedcoronavirus/



LET'S PAUSE TOGETHER





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