



INFLUENCER & MEDIA KIT

The Dream Project



Educational equity, opportunity, and inclusion create a world where all students can pursue their dreams and achieve their full potential.

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About US

Mission

The Dream Project empowers students from Virginia's immigrant community to succeed in college or vocational training through scholarships, mentoring, family engagement, and holistic support throughout their education.

Purpose

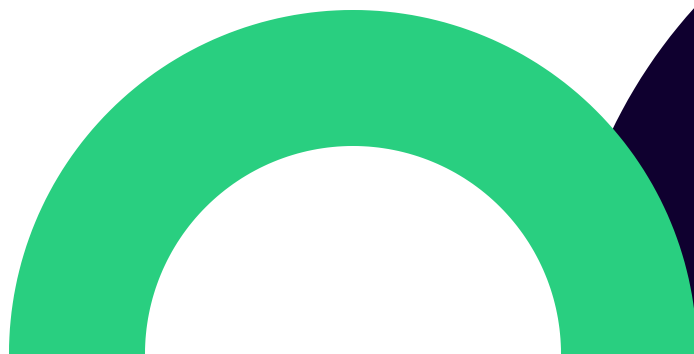
Educational equity, opportunity, and inclusion create a world where all students can pursue their dreams and achieve their full potential.

Services Offered

Scholarships [Link here](#)

Mentoring [Link here](#)

Scholar and Alumni Resources [Link here](#)





Experts

Dr. Emma Violand-Sanchez

Founder and Board Chair

Dr. Emma Violand-Sánchez is the founder and chair of the Dream Project. She immigrated from Bolivia to Virginia unaccompanied when she was 16 to attend high school. She could not afford college, but received a scholarship to attend Radford University, where she graduated with B.S. and M.S. degrees, and later received her doctorate from George Washington University. Education is Emma's passion, and it changed her life: She has been a university professor and was the first Latina elected to the Arlington School Board (where she served a term as Chair). She earlier served as Supervisor of Programs and Services for the English Language Learners Office (PK-12) of Arlington Public Schools. Emma was founder of the non-profit Escuela Bolivia, now Edu-Futuro. For eight years, she served as a Northern Virginia Community College Board member representing Arlington County. Emma has expertise in education policy, curriculum development, family involvement, multicultural education and learning styles.

Zuraya Tapia-Hadley

CEO

Zuraya Tapia-Hadley joins is a lifelong advocate for equity, opportunity, and community empowerment. An attorney and dedicated public servant, she was elected to the Arlington School Board in 2024 and brings more than two decades of experience in grassroots advocacy, public service, and policy leadership. A proud product of public schools in the DMV region and a longtime Arlington resident, Zuraya has spent over 15 years supporting local organizations focused on education, workforce development, and immigrant communities. Her leadership includes serving as Board Chair of the Shirlington Employment and Education Center and as a board member for organizations including Kitchen of Purpose (La Cocina VA) and the Virginia Public Access Project. Zuraya has worked closely with elected officials and community leaders on immigration, labor rights, and education equity. She also served on the Virginia Latino Advisory Board under two Virginia governors. Her career spans nonprofit leadership and the private sector, including senior government and public affairs roles at Meta, TelevisaUnivision, and TikTok, where she led policy initiatives and partnerships supporting education and communities nationwide. She holds an LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Marie Price

Scholarship Committee Chair

Marie Price is a Professor of Geography and International Affairs at the George Washington University. She is a migration scholar interested in integration policies and transnational linkages who has worked extensively in Latin America. In 2016 she became the President of the American Geographical Society, the oldest geographical society in the U.S. In 2012, she joined the Board of the Dream Project. She is also a non-resident fellow of the Migration Policy Institute, a think tank that focuses on immigration. Her publications include the following books: *Migrants to the Metropolis: The Rise of Immigrant Gateway Cities* (2008), *Migrants' Inclusion in Cities* (2013), *Diversity Amid Globalization: World Regions, Environment and Development*, 7th ed. (2017), and *Globalization and Diversity: Geography of a Changing World*, 6th ed. (2020).





Experts

Robert Remes

Treasurer

Bob has been an immigration lawyer for over 40 years and has helped thousands of people receive immigration status through family relationships, employment, asylum, DACA, special immigrant juvenile status, and cancellation of removal. He has represented clients from a wide range of countries, including Pakistan, Iran, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, and has appeared before immigration courts and CIS offices throughout the United States. Bob graduated from Cornell University and received his law degree from Boston University. He is a former president of the Washington, DC, chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. Bob has served the Dream Project Board since 2017. Bob provides pro bono immigration advice to members of the Dream Project community and has explained immigration law and policy at many Dream Project events

Dream Project Students

Scholar and Alumni Leadership Council

Dream Project students and alumni are available for interviews upon request. All Dream Project students have firsthand immigrant experience, and most have immigration statuses that present barriers to higher education.

Key Issues

The following are just a few of the challenges faced by students with undocumented status, the key population served by the Dream Project:

- Students without documentation are blocked from accessing federal funding and grants, including FAFSA
[\[Read more from the Department of Education\]](#)
- Unfamiliarity with US college admission processes.
[\[Read more from the Urban Institute\]](#)
- More likely to be vulnerable to unprecedented emergencies, including Covid 19.
[\[Read more from the World Health Organization\]](#)
Current college-aged students are ineligible for for DACA and other forms of relief, in growing numbers.
- [\[Read more from US Citizenship & Immigration Services\]](#)
Feelings of fear, hopelessness, and discouragement in response to myriad barriers to achievement.
- [\[Read more from the American Psychiatric Association\]](#)





Student Quotes

"When I received the Dream Project Scholarship... I sat in silence for a good 20 minutes. I couldn't believe it—I was overcome with happiness! I felt as if it was a sign from the universe telling me that I was headed in the right direction."

"I have learned a lot and developed a lot of skills since moving to college and the Dream Project had a LOT to contribute to it in different ways, so I am extremely grateful for the amazing community I got involved with."

"The Dream Project provided mentorship on a number of things but most importantly provided support to another frazzled first-gen student determined to achieve higher education but unsure how to proceed."

Renewable Dream Project scholarships are granted each year to students in Virginia whose immigrant statuses present barriers to higher education. 100 100+ alumni of the Dream Project have access to programs providing financial support, mental health services, networking opportunities, and more.

"I am eternally grateful for the Dream Project mentors that have encouraged me, fought for my rights, and lifted me up during many battles that are all too familiar within the immigrant community. "

"As a first generation, low income DACA student, college seemed unattainable due to my financial circumstances. Thanks to the generosity of the Dream Project, I have been able to realize my dreams of graduating college. None of this would have been possible without your help. My gratitude for your contribution to my future success is immeasurable."

"I have been a part of the Dream Project for three years now, but every year I am as amazed and overwhelmed as I was the day they first announced I was awarded a scholarship."

"I appreciate the support of The Dream Project and all the donors who in these 12 years have trusted and supported young people with a great desire to improve and continue to grow educationally regardless of our immigration status. I hope one day to be able to give back to the community and be able to return to you this great support you are giving me."





ABOUT THE DREAM PROJECT



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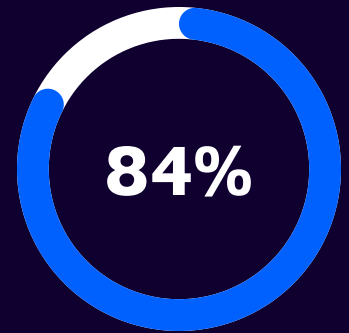
Alumni in total have graduated through the Dream Project scholarship program.



\$2M

In scholarships since 2010.

The Dream Project empowers students from Virginia's immigrant community to succeed in college or vocational training through scholarships, mentoring, family engagement, and holistic support throughout their education



84% of our scholars identify the Dream Project as a crucial factor for succeeding in college

OUR HISTORY

Founded on community solidarity and family determination, the Dream Project is one of the few programs in Virginia that offers scholarships and mentoring to undocumented students. The Dream Project was established in 2010, when a small group of high school students, their parents, and community members came together to discuss how to support undocumented students who faced significant barriers to higher education due to rising anti-immigrant initiatives. Determined to make a difference, the founding parents organized events and fundraisers to provide scholarships for their children and others in similar situations. What began with four \$1,000 scholarships has since grown into a robust, multifaceted organization that supports hundreds of students and families across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"I am honored to be a part of this incredible community, where I've connected with remarkable people who truly feel like family. The positive, profound impact of the Dream Project is clearly reflected in the success and development of its members" - Dream Project Scholar, VT, 2026

OUR PROGRAMS

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Scholarships: We offer renewable scholarships of \$4,500 for students pursuing (CTE) programs.

College Scholarships: We offer renewable \$4,500 scholarships for four-year, undergraduate college programs.

Mentoring Programs: We offer a range of mentoring programs for high school students navigating the higher-education system.

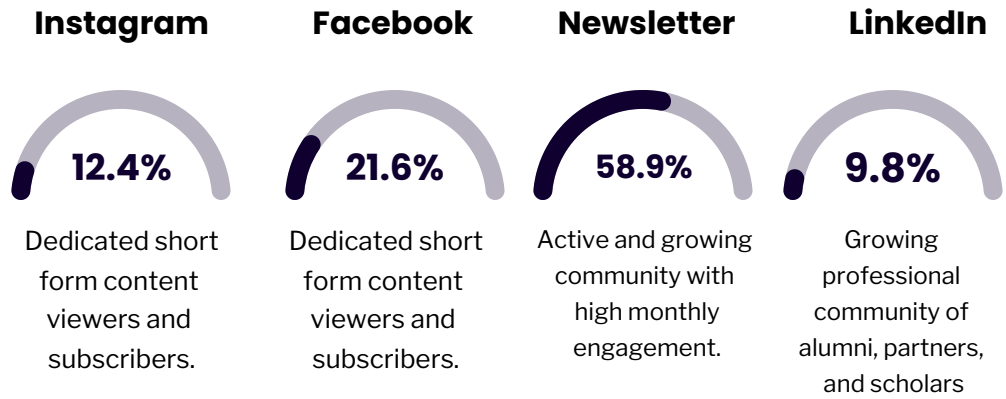
Holistic Support Services: We offer a range of these services for recipients of our scholarships.

Learn more about the Dream Project at: www.Dream-Project.org



Audience & Reach

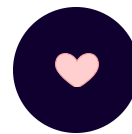
Total Following



Monthly Reach

Across Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn platforms, our content generates over 13.9K monthly impressions. With an average engagement rate of 13%, I ensure your brand message doesn't just get seen—it gets noticed and discussed by a loyal and active audience.

Demographics



The audience is ~**70% Female**, primarily aged 25-34, with a strong interest in education

Top Locations include Arlington, Washington, DC, Alexandria, Richmond





Images



The Dream Project | *Inspiring the next generation of global leaders*

Let's Work Together

Collaboration &
Media Process

We are happy to hear from you. You can easily reach us using the following contact details.

 www.dream-project.org

 703-307-0712

 hello@dream-project.org

