

# One Voice Minnesota

## Network Newsletter



ONE  
VOICE  
MINNESOTA

### Hot Topic: Help Pass the DREAM Act for Undocumented Students

Hopes are high that Congress will vote on the DREAM Act during the lame-duck session. In the week before Thanksgiving, President Obama pledged to members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus that he would urge passage of the DREAM Act, and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid tweeted that he will “move the DREAM Act as a standalone bill in the lame duck.” Even Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has come out in support of the DREAM Act, saying in

a letter to Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), “since the Revolutionary War, non-citizens have enlisted in the armed forces for service during periods of national emergency. Today, about 35,000 non-citizens serve, and about 8,000 permanent resident aliens enlist every year. The DREAM Act represents an opportunity to expand this pool, to the advantage of military recruiting and readiness.”

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Network Spotlight: Interpreter Workshops in Windom

#### Intercultural Communities Uniting (ICU) Hosts Interpreter Series Workshops

By Cathy Peterson

The Intercultural Communities Uniting (ICU) of Southwest MN along with the Windom Education & Collaborative Center (WECC) co-sponsored workshops this fall for area interpreters. The three-day series of workshops, held over two weekends, included “Interpreter Ethics,” a one-day seminar, and “Interpreter Skills,” a two-day program.

The immediate response to the series was overwhelming, with more than 50 people registering for the first set of classes. Since the classes had a maximum capacity of 24, an additional three-day series was set up later in October and into November. More than 45 attended the two sets of trainings.

Presenters for the Interpreter Series were coordinated through the University of MN Continuing Education Translation and Interpreting Department, and included Silvia McCalip, Abdulrashid Salad, and Dr. Scott Homler.



The first course introduced participants to the National Council on Interpreting Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, along with strategies for dealing with a variety of situations in which interpreter ethics may be challenged.

The second workshop helped define the interpreter’s role and equipped participants with techniques for improving their interpreting skills. It covered principles of consecutive interpreting and how to design a professional development plan. The workshop also covered techniques for improving memory skills, note-taking skills, and specialized vocabulary.

The ICU includes members from six towns in SW MN including Mountain Lake, Marshall, Springfield, St. James/Watonwan Co., Walnut Grove, and Windom. ICU had received a “Healthy Together” Grant from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of MN to help create more welcoming communities for new immigrants in Minnesota. With grant funds, ICU was able to offset some of the workshop costs for area residents who attended. ICU hopes to offer more interpreting classes in the future. For more information, please contact Cathy Peterson or Greg Warner at (507) 831-2375. ■



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## Upcoming Events

**December 2 & 9, 1:00-5:30 pm**  
**Spanish Home Stretch**  
**Workshop**  
 Willmar

Home Stretch is a pre-purchase home buyer education program designed to educate potential homeowners about all the steps and responsibilities involved in being a successful homeowner. Attendance at this workshop will meet the requirement of classroom education that some loans require. The fee for the workshop will be \$10.

People can register for the Spanish workshop by calling the Willmar office at 320-235-0850.

Location: Heartland Community Action Agency, 200 4th St SW, Willmar.

**December 5, 2:30-3:00 pm**  
**Monthly Faith Action for**  
**Immigrant Detainees**  
 St. Paul

Join community members of faith and conscience who advocate for immigrants and immigration reform as we gather to show support to those detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at the Ramsey County Detention Center. Help call attention to our nation's broken immigration system and the need for immigration reform now.

Location: Ramsey County Adult Detention Center, 425 Grove Street, St. Paul.

For more information, contact [interfaithcoalitionimmigration@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithcoalitionimmigration@gmail.com).

**December 9, 4:00-6:00 pm**  
**NAVIGATE Summit**  
 Minneapolis

Join NAVIGATE to discuss the challenges Minnesota's undocumented students face to getting a college education. In this summit, speakers will share their legal, professional, and personal experiences to give allies the tools to become more effective supporters and advocates for undocumented students.

After the summit, there will be a brief reception. Refreshments will be provided.

Location: Augsburg College, Kennedy Center 303-305, 2211 Riverside Avenue, Minneapolis.

For more information, visit <http://www.navigatemn.org/summit.html>.



**KNOW OF AN  
 UPCOMING EVENT OR  
 ACTIVITY IN YOUR  
 AREA?**

Contact Madeline Lohman at [OneVoiceMinnesota@gmail.com](mailto:OneVoiceMinnesota@gmail.com) or 612-341-3302 x135.

**December 10, 7:00 pm**  
**Welcome to Shelbyville**  
 Austin

Join the Austin Human Rights Commission and The Advocates for Human Rights for a special movie screening! At a time when many U.S. communities are exploding with tension around immigration and religion, grassroots and faith leaders in a southeastern Tennessee community are about to tell a different story. *Welcome to Shelbyville*, a new documentary about how residents in their town have worked to understand, challenge, and accept new immigrants, will be the focus of a community discussion in honor of Human Rights Day.

Location: Riverland Community College Theater, 1900 8th Avenue NW, Austin.

For more information, contact [onevoiceminnesota@gmail.com](mailto:onevoiceminnesota@gmail.com).

**December 10, 3:00-5:00 pm**  
**Human Rights Day**  
**Celebration**  
 St. Paul



Celebrate Human Rights Day with the Regional Tibetan Youth Congress - MN, an organization that promotes the restoration of complete independence for the whole of Tibet.

Location: State Capitol Rotunda, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, St. Paul.

For more information, contact Jigme at 612-812-5846.

**December 16, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
**Rethinking Immigration:**  
**Toward a Just, Humane, and**  
**Viable Policy**  
 Minneapolis

Current debates portray immigration to the U.S. as unprecedented and U.S. immigration policies as broken and in need of fixing. Exploration of the global and historical perspectives of U.S. immigration suggest why our policies often produce some of the problems they are intended to address. This forum will consider needed reforms applicable not only to our own country but to others as well. Free and open to the public.

Location: Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, 511 Groveland Ave, Minneapolis.

For more information, visit <http://mapm.pjep.org/calendar/2010/December/16/Rethinking-Immigration-3rd-Thurs-Forum>.

**FOR MORE  
 INFORMATION  
 ABOUT THESE  
 EVENTS AND MORE,  
 VISIT:**

<http://energyofanation.org/ovm.html>  
 and click on "Events."

## Hot Topic: Help Pass the DREAM Act for Undocumented Students

*(Continued from page 1)*

The DREAM Act would take significant steps to remove the obstacles faced by young people who were brought to the U.S. by their parents and who now, because they lack legal immigration status, cannot pursue higher education, employment, or military service. The DREAM Act would allow immigrant students who entered the U.S. before turning 16, have been present for at least five years before passage of the DREAM Act, and have earned their high school diploma to apply for conditional status and, ultimately, lawful permanent resident status. By providing a pathway to legal status, the DREAM Act will allow immigrant students to pursue their dreams for the future.

Please take a moment to contact your senators and representative right now to let them know you support the DREAM Act.

As part of Minnesota's AFFIRM Coalition, we ask you to CALL Minnesota Congressmen Peterson, Walz, and Paulsen, the North Dakota delegation (Senators Byron Dorgan and Kent Conrad and Representative Earl Pomeroy), and South Dakota delegation (Senators Tim Johnson and John Thune and Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin) - even if you do not live in their districts.

We also ask that you please encourage friends and family who do live in their districts to call and add their voices to those in support of the DREAM Act.

You can reach every member of Congress by dialing the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121 and asking to be connected to the member's office. Ask them to vote for the DREAM Act: S 729 in the Senate or HR 1751 in the House.

Help undocumented students come out from the shadows and achieve their dreams - call your elected officials today! ■

### Hot Topic Resources:

Learn more about the DREAM Act at the National Immigration Law Center:

<http://www.nilc.org/immlawpolicy/dream/index.htm?msource=SW101122&tr=y&auid=7398648>

Read the text of the DREAM Act here:

[http://www.energyofanation.org/dream\\_act\\_2.html](http://www.energyofanation.org/dream_act_2.html)

## Highlighted Resource: Webinar on State and Local Immigration Laws

### Webinar on State and Local Immigration Laws from Immigration Advocates Network

Become a member of the Immigration Advocates Network, and gain access to great free resources like the upcoming webinar on State and Local Immigration Laws.



The Immigration Advocates Network (IAN) is a collaborative effort of leading national immigration advocacy organizations designed to increase access to justice for low-income immigrants. IAN promotes more effective and efficient communication among immigration organizations by providing free, easily accessible, and comprehensive online resources in a password-protected website for non-profit and public interest advocates. Membership is free to advocates, organizers, or service providers at nonprofit or immigrants' rights organizations that work to protect and promote the rights of immigrants in the United States. Register for IAN here: <http://www.immigrationadvocates.org/nonprofit/register/>.

### Webinar on State and Local Immigration Laws

**December 15, 1:00-2:30 pm**

IAN invites you to join a free webinar addressing post-S.B. 1070 copycat legislation; anti-immigrant legislation on birthright citizenship and access to education; and litigation and advocacy activities against these state and local measures. The webinar will also discuss positive state and local policies and legislation that effectively integrate immigrant workers and residents. To register for this webinar, visit <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/127932288>. ■

**HAVE A RESOURCE TO HIGHLIGHT?**

Send your idea to

[OneVoiceMinnesota@gmail.com](mailto:OneVoiceMinnesota@gmail.com).

# One Voice Minnesota Network Newsletter



## One Voice Minnesota Members

Austin Human Rights Commission  
 BARC, Inc.  
 Blue Earth County Employment Services  
 Catholic Charities  
 CEAP  
 Center for Democracy and Citizenship  
 Center for Families (a program of the  
 Greater Minneapolis Council of  
 Churches)  
 Center for Urban and Regional Affairs  
 Centro Campesino  
 Church of St. John the Evangelist  
 Circles of Support  
 CLUES  
 Coalition of African Community  
 Services  
 Community Action Center of Northfield  
 Community Design Center of Minnesota  
 Diversity Council, Rochester  
 Emergency, Community and Health  
 Outreach (ECHO)  
 Episcopal Community Services  
 Faribault Diversity Coalition  
 Hands Across the World  
 Harmony Works  
 Heartland Community Action Agency  
 Human Rights Center  
 Iftin, Inc.  
 Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota  
 Institute for Agriculture and Trade  
 Policy  
 Intercultural Communities Uniting

Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights  
 Intermedia Arts  
 Iraqi and American Reconciliation  
 Project  
 Jewish Community Action  
 Joint Community Police Partnership  
 Hopkins  
 LA-MANO, Inc.  
 League of Rural Voters  
 Lutheran Social Service  
 Main Street Project  
 Marshall Community Services  
 Marshall Human Rights Commission  
 Marshall Public Schools, Minority  
 Advocate Program  
 Minnesota Council of Churches  
 Minnesota Housing  
 Minnesota Immigrant Freedom Network  
 Minnesota International Center  
 MN Assistance to NonProfits (MAP)  
 Mosaic  
 Mujeres Unidas (Women United)  
 Multicultural Center of Central  
 Minnesota  
 National Conference of State  
 Legislatures  
 Neighborhood House  
 New Sudan American Hope  
 Nobles County Integration  
 Collaborative  
 Park Avenue Youth & Family Services  
 Peace and Hope International

Red Wing Arts Association Diversity  
 Festival  
 Resource Center of the Americas  
 Retired & Senior Volunteer Program  
 Somali Community Services, Inc.  
 Somali-American Self Development  
 Organization  
 Southeast Asian Ministry  
 The Advocates for Human Rights  
 Touchstone Center for Collaborative  
 Inquiry  
 University of Minnesota: Extension  
 Upper Midwest Community Policing  
 Institute  
 Vision for Families and Community  
 Collaborative  
 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance  
 Welcome Center, Austin  
 WellShare International  
 West Central Integration Collaborative  
 World Relief Minnesota  
 Janet Anderson  
 Bianet Castellanos  
 Kandace Creel Falcon  
 Katherine Fennelly  
 Abigail Gadea  
 Jim Hubley  
 Victor Masoliah  
 Sally Peters  
 Kim Seongdok  
 John Wallace  
 Sally White

For more  
 information about  
 each member,  
 please visit  
[www.energyofanation.org/ovm.html](http://www.energyofanation.org/ovm.html).

One Voice  
 Minnesota  
 network  
 members work to  
 combat bias and  
 build healthy  
 communities.

The OVM  
 network is  
 facilitated by The  
 Advocates for  
 Human Rights.