

UNIDO: 5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR K-12 SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT IMMIGRANT STUDENTS

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UNITE A COMMUNITY NETWORK TO SERVE FAMILIES

- Establish community social service partners that will provide emergency food, resources, or shelter to families in need.
- Identify immigration advocate organizations and pro-bono attorneys that can offer legal aid to immigrant families.
- Provide community resource listings in multiple languages.

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NAVIGATE PRIVACY POLICIES

- **Don't ask** or search out immigration status of students and their families. Instead offer all services to multilingual families or new arrivals.
- Ensure emergency cards are up-to-date with at least three trusted adult contacts.
- **NEVER** reveal personal information about students/families to any authorities without a signed warrant and clearance from district lawyers.
- Utilize only safe social media and communication systems with families.

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INCREASE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Provide professional interpreters for meetings and translators for written communication.
- Partner with community organizations to host "Know Your Rights" workshops ("*placticas*") and help families develop emergency plans and create Powers of Attorney.

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DEVELOP TRAUMA-INFORMED PROTOCOLS

- **Enforce** zero tolerance for bullying.
- Train teachers and staff to recognize trauma symptoms and appropriate intervention strategies.
- Connect students and families to mental health professionals.

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ORGANIZE A CRISIS TEAM

- Identify a team of mental health professionals, bilingual staff, and legal liaisons to build a safety plan with students and families.
- Establish a system to report any requests for information or access to school grounds or records by federal immigration authorities.
- Communicate plans to families in the languages that they speak.
- Use safe mechanisms such as messaging sent via WhatsApp, Signal or in print. **Do not use** public social media Apps such as Facebook, X, Tik Tok, etc.