

GET TO KNOW

ScholarshipsA-Z

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SCHOLARSHIPS
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Intros

Name, pronouns, role/org, and what is one thing you hope to learn about in today's session?





Today, we'll talk about:

Who is ScholarshipsA-Z?

What challenges do immigrant youth face in AZ?

What opportunities exist to support immigrant youth?



Who is ScholarshipsA-Z?



Immigrant youth-led organization in Tucson, Arizona who works to make higher education accessible to all regardless of immigration status.

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What we do

Empower youth to reach their educational dreams - College prep program (ISH) & pathways program (UYEI)

Train educators to create welcoming schools

Offer up-to-date educational resources to students

Provide opportunities for youth to lead our work & become professionals



FUN FACTS

We are the only organization serving Undocumented youth in Southern AZ

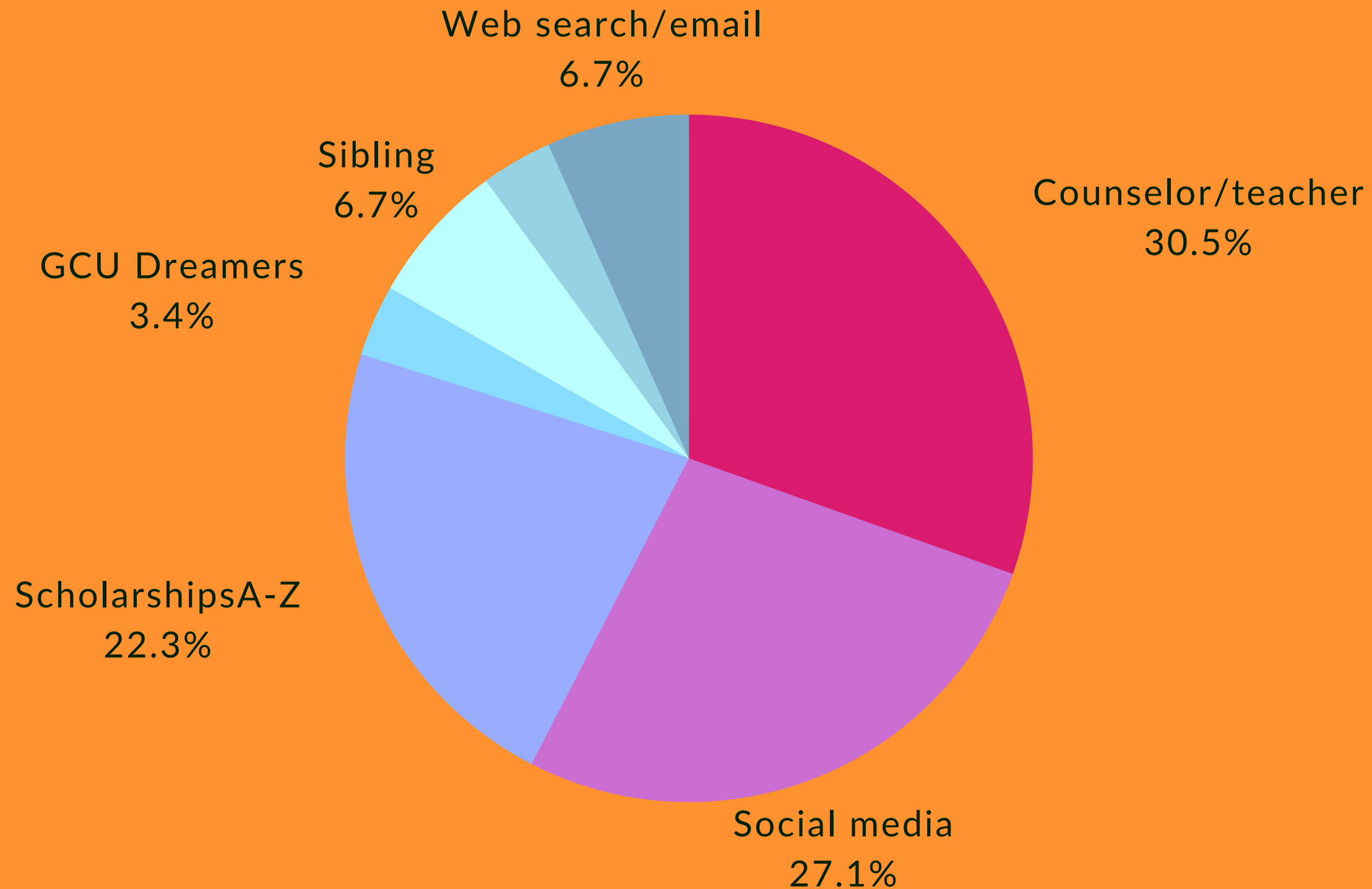
We are immigrant youth-led

We serve 200 students annually through our 2 programs

the Immigrant Scholarship Hustle (ISH) was launched in 2017

the Undocumented Youth Empowerment Initiative (UYEI) was piloted in 2022

How students heard about UYEI





Undocumented Students in Higher Education in AZ



- 9,500 Undocumented students enrolled in higher ed in AZ (2% of all college students)
- 2,000 Undocumented students graduate from high school each year
- 10,000 Undocumented young people live in Pima County

Decrease in Undocumented enrollment nationwide since 2018:

- Strict immigration policies
- Challenging political atmosphere
- Inaccessibility of DACA
- Rising cost of higher education
- New barrier: Financial instability related to the Covid-19 pandemic

Common Challenges

What barriers put limitations on Undocumented and DACA students?



Common Challenges

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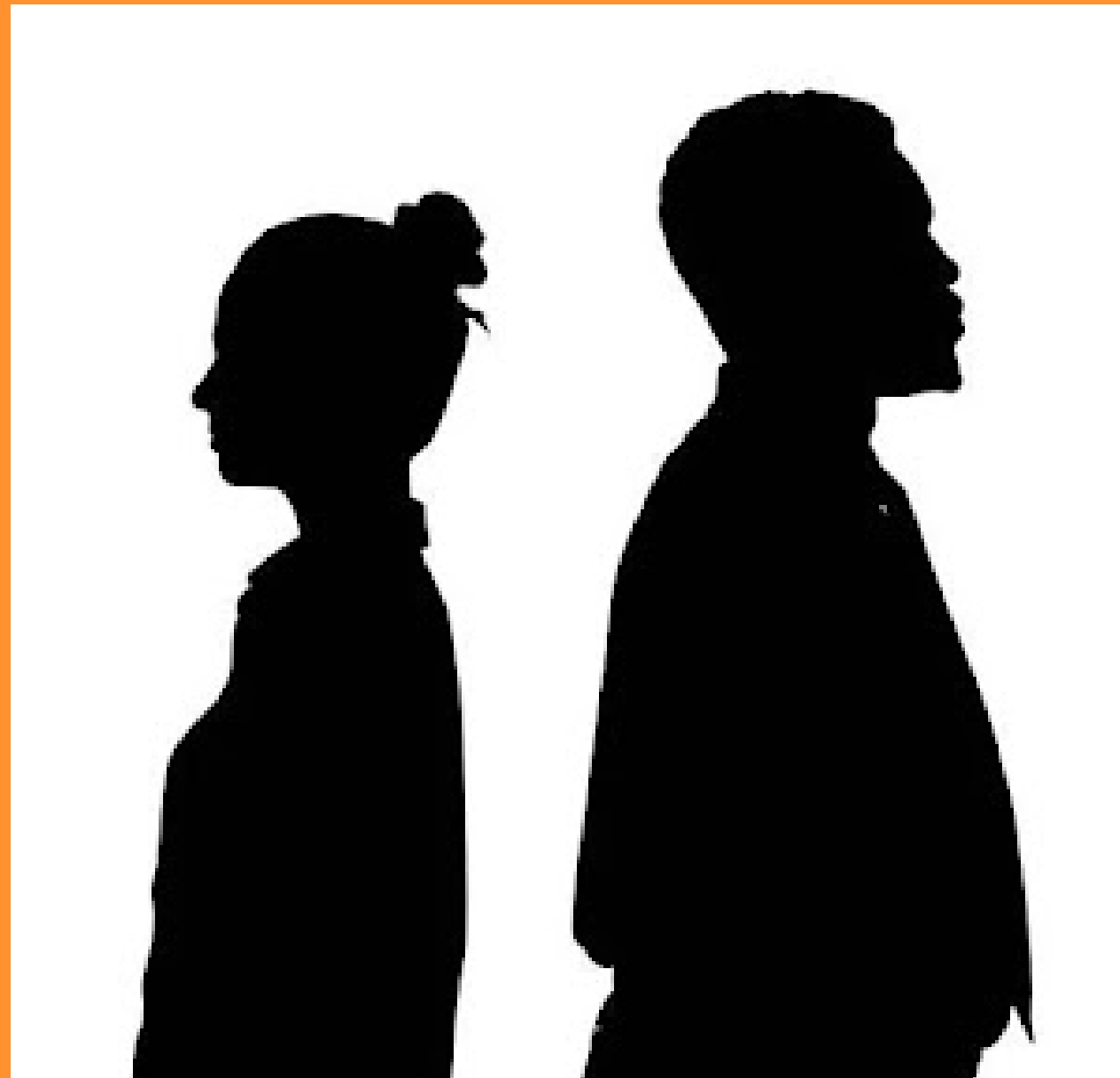
Cannot legally drive

Cannot legally work

Border Patrol presence
on campus

Exams to pass state
accredited programs

No access to post- k-12
programs for students
with special needs



Discrimination

Microaggressions

No health insurance

Limited college
access

Scholarship access

Family separation

Unsure future

Effort to conceal status

Opportunities: Prop 308



Prop 308 Continued

- On November 8, 2022 Arizona citizens voted YES on Prop 308!
- AZ was the 23rd state in the country to provide in-state tuition to Undocumented students.
- This went into effect in early 2023.
- Proposition 308 repealed some provisions of Proposition 300
- Community colleges and State Universities have their own guidelines, students must complete those processes to receive in-state-tuition.
- Undocumented students in Arizona receive **in-state college tuition** when a student
 - a.)attended a school in Arizona for a minimum of two years and
 - (b) graduated from a public school, private school, or homeschool in Arizona
- Undocumented students are able to access in-state and local funded scholarships.
 - They do NOT need to meet the high school requirements
 - **This is currently being implemented**

Opportunities: Creating Access



- Do you use inclusive language? Undocumented vs Dreamer.
- Are your programs, scholarships, stipends accessible?
- Do you offer compensated leadership roles for Undocumented youth?
- Do you work/collaborate with local & national organizations such (SA-Z/the Dream Summer Fellowship)?
- Have you asked philanthropic partners to join you in supporting Undocumented folx?
- Have you shared, supported, and endorsed policies that would expand access for Undocumented folx?
- Do you have networks you could leverage to allocate resources to Undocumented students?



GET INVOLVED



1. Volunteer with us: ISH is looking for reviewers to support Undocumented high school youth edit their scholarship essays. Contact Jose - joseperez@scholarshipsaz.org for more info

2. Join SA-Z's Development Committee: we're a group of youth, alumni, and community members supporting SA-Z donor recruitment and retention. Contact Dario - dario@scholarshipsaz.org for more info



QUESTIONS?

LET'S STAY CONNECTED



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