

CLASS 156: Fresno, Long Beach & Mendocino, CA CAMP

Experience in Democracy Leadership Program

Training Week: July 16—July 22, 2006

August 9, 2006

CAMP Participants Voice Their Concerns to Their Congressional Leaders & Become True Leaders

WASHINGTON, DC - On July 21, 2006, three students from Fresno, Long Beach, & Mendocino, CA successfully accomplished a leadership training week that included meeting with Congressional leaders, learning financial responsibility and becoming true testaments of being a leader.

The week started off with two educational workshops; leadership and public speaking. By the end of the week, these students were much more confident in their ability to voice their concerns. They also had the opportunity to visit the monuments and museums of Washington, D.C.

The main objective of the Experience In Democracy Leadership Program is to provide a sense of empowerment and become effective leaders. The training encompasses teaching the values of democracy, building and refining leadership skills, and entrusting them with the duty

of civic engagement.

CAMP students had the opportunity to create an issues agenda. This agenda allowed them to meet with their Congressional leaders to voice their major concerns in their communities. These issues affect not only their local communities but many other communities across the nation.

During their Congressional meetings, they met staff members from Congressman Bill Thomas' office, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer. Each meeting gave CAMP participants the opportunity to present their agendas and ask questions about internship opportunities and were provided detailed responses to their agenda.

These college students showed much resolve in their newfound dedication to make a difference. They recognize civic responsibility as a call that they must answer.

Student participation in this institute was made possible by the following chaperone:

Vivian Barrera



Walter Ramirez discusses his issues with Natalie Price, a legislative aid to Senator Dianne Feinstein.



CAMP students pose in front of the office of Dianne Feinstein with aid Natalie Price.

Congratulations Graduating Class 156 — Fresno, Long Beach & Mendocino, CA

Roman Rangel

Silvia Garcia

Walter Ramirez

Class 150 also participated with the Texas Interstate and Bakersfield Migrant Students.

July 16– July 22, 2006

Issues Agenda: Class 156 - Fresno, Long Beach & Mendocino, California

These issues, concerns and proposed solutions were developed by EIDLDP Class 156. Their purpose is to make a difference in their communities and make their communities a better place.

We are students representing the College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP) from the state of California. We are here today to discuss issues that are affecting our community, and we propose the following:

Education

We propose to Congress to support the Development, Relief, and Education Alien Minors (S2075) also known as the Dream Act. This will give the undocumented students the opportunity to obtain a higher education and it will allow them to contribute to society.

In order to make higher education more accessible, the government should increase the funding for students support programs such as CAMP, the Upward Bound Program, and the Student Support Services Program as well as other programs. These programs will prepare them for college; at the same time, the program will assist them while they are in college.



CAMP delegates ready to present their agenda at Senator Dianne Feinstein's office.

Immigration

We propose to Congress to facilitate legalization to undocumented immigrants who do not have any criminal background and are contributing to the United States.

In addition, we propose to Congress to support the Dream Act, which would give an opportunity to undocumented students to gain their legal status by obtaining a higher education that will further the contribution to the United States economy by obtaining a better carrier.

Environment

We propose to Congress to invest in programs that will develop alternative energy sources and technology such as solar energy, ethanol, and the production of hybrid cars.



CAMP delegates outside of the White House.



CAMP delegate at the Vietnam Memorial.