

How North Carolinian Nonprofit Organizations Foster Public Education Equity for Hispanic/Latinx Youth

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How do nonprofit organizations promote education equity for Hispanic/Latinx youth by providing services to meet educational needs that are left unmet by federal and state policy? I explore ESL and DACA, which are both programs where Hispanic/Latinx students comprise the vast majority of recipients in North Carolina, to see where ESL programs are underfunded, what ESL-related state policies enforce the denial of federal education equity laws, and how underfunded DACA and ESL programs impacts the livelihoods of Hispanic/Latinx youth in North Carolina. These factors set the context of my research on the activism work of North Carolinian nonprofit organizations within an environment of rising national anti-immigrant sentiment and exceptionally limited state-based ESL funding. I analyze the programs offered at 12 different nonprofit organizations that are in direct dialogue with the shortcomings of state and federal policy related to DACA and ESL. Services considered include DACA counseling, DACA renewal financial support, political advocacy for the reinstatement of DACA, scholarships for any immigration states, ESL courses and tutoring, dual language preschools, and youth mentorship. The analysis of these services sheds light upon how nonprofit organizations are reshaping education equity in North Carolina by providing services to underserved Hispanic/Latinx non-native ESL students in primary school and non-citizen youth who are pursuing higher education.