

# Building Sanctuary, Building Power

in  
UCSC Oakes College  
Santa Cruz

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# Research Focus

To analyze potential avenues and barriers for developing a more effective and meaningful sanctuary movement in Santa Cruz in connection with Oakes, UCSC students and people in the Santa Cruz community.



# Context:

## A Divided Country, A Divided Community

### *Divisive Pressures:*

History of colonialism and genocide

Trump Presidency

Increased wealth disparity

Muslim Ban

Polarized political climate

Heightened xenophobia

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### *Recent protest actions in Santa Cruz:*

#J20 Strike

Women's March

Protests Against Travel Ban

A Day Without Immigrants



The community of Santa Cruz, much like the population of the United States, is divided on these issues and both sides are very vocal in their views.



# Findings

- Defining Sanctuary
- Barriers
- History
- Sanctuary Organization in Santa Cruz
- Avenues for Advancement
- Asset Map
- Community Perspectives

# What is Sanctuary?

Some definitions of sanctuary overlap and contradict each other

1. Resource Centers for community/students
2. A place to be informed of your rights, find legal advice and emotional counsel
3. State or city or campus legislation especially regarding noncompliance with federal immigration enforcement
4. Safe spaces - opening up trauma in supportive discussion groups
5. Decolonization of spaces, focus on structural racism instead of individual experiences of trauma, free tuition, ethnic/gender studies
6. A place to break bread, comfort and organize, a place to keep families together

*“Sanctuary does not mean one secure community sheltering another threatened community, but ONE community - fragmented, unequal, divided but struggling to be more unified - sheltering itself.”*

*Sanctuary Central Santa Cruz*



# Barriers in the Way of Advancement

Problems that require institutional change



Problems with feasible solutions

<p>Why do we need this movement? (Racism, Criminalizing immigration, etc.)</p>	<p>Political Scapegoating ("It's the immigrants taking all the jobs")</p>	<p>Political Climate (Right wing agenda// trumpocracy)</p>	<p>Can we trust the SCPD? (ICE Raids in a 'Sanctuary City')</p>
<p>Commotion and Disorganization of Trying to Organize Sanctuary (Miscommunications within sanctuary organizers)</p>	<p>Uneven race Dynamic of the university and the sanctuary movement</p>	<p>Communication Between On-Campus Organizations &amp; Organizations in Sanctuary Movement</p>	<p>Cultural Literacies (Allyship should not be a badge or something you expect credit for)</p>
<p>Transportation/ Accessibility of Meeting Locations (students &amp; community)</p>	<p>Language Barriers</p>	<p>Availability of Information (students &amp; community)</p>	<p>Communication between students and community members</p>

# Sanctuary Race Dynamics in History

## - 80's Sanctuary Movement

- Religious and community organizations worked together to build safer places for Central American refugees
  - Much of the success in the 80's sanctuary movement was credited to religious institutions when in reality it was successful because of the radical community organizers from Central American countries who were guiding the direction of the movement

## - Santa Cruz Sanctuary Movement Latinx organizing base

- Latinx organizers make up part of the driving force in the Santa Cruz Sanctuary Movement,
- Community groups like Senderos is organized by Latino immigrant communities and Barrios Unidos is comprised of Latino/ Chicano organizers both which have white supporters
- Part of the sanctuary movement are initiated by non-latinx organizers



# A Slice of Sanctuary Organization in Santa Cruz

Local Institutions	City Council member support (Sanctuary City Ordinance passed on March 14, 2017)	UCSC funding for Undocumented Student Services (Provides free legal help to undocumented students)	Support from local churches	KZSC and local media (Helpful to get projects the sanctuary movement works on be accessible to the rest of the community)
Community Associations	Sanctuary Central Santa Cruz	Undocumented Alliance (UCSC students can bridge connections between on campus and off campus)	Know Your Rights (Workshops to inform people who are undocumented of their rights)	Proyecto Tutela (Guardianship Project - in case of emergency guardianship forms for families with undocumented parents)
Grassroot Group Contributions	Passionate and dedicated individuals that care about the community	Organizers familiar with political lobbying	Demonstrations of resistance (Protests, speaking out at city council meetings, political posters)	Community Action (neighborhood organizing, advocacy and coalition building)

# Avenues for Advancement

- Oakes Faculty/Staff/Community: supportive of student initiatives to create projects that bridge communities
  - Student Life office and Neighborhood Assistants
  - Advising office and Advisors
  - Professors and Oakes Core Course
  - Oakes Provost
- On Campus Resources/Services
  - Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)
  - Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP)
  - Undocumented Student Services
  - Faculty Organizing Group
  - Undocumented Alliance
  - Student Clubs/Organizations
  - Resource Centers
- Important to make connections between organizations rather than people; longer lasting connections



- YARR
- Dígame
- Barrios Unidos
- Sanctuary Central
- Watsonville Rapid Response
- Know-Your-Rights
- Senderos
- Proyecto Tutela





# Asset Map

## Santa Cruz Community Resource Cen...

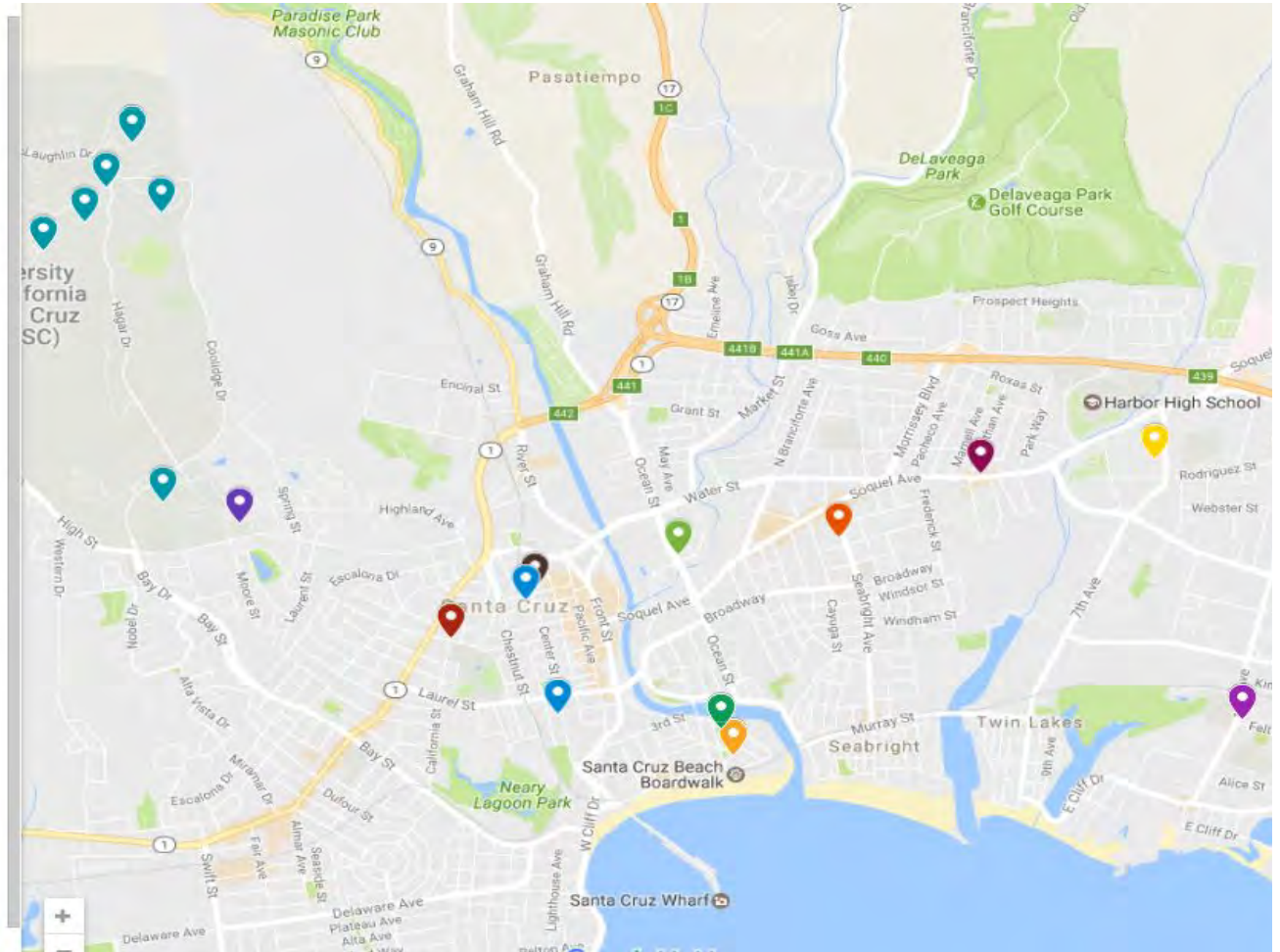
-  Nueva Vista Community Resources
-  Beach Flats Community Garden
-  Santa Cruz Barrios Unidos Inc
-  Resource Center For Nonviolence
-  Day Worker Center of Santa Cruz County
-  Monarch Services
-  Walnut Avenue
-  Santa Cruz Women's Health Center
-  Islamic Center of Santa Cruz
-  Peace United Church of Christ

## Institutional Actors

-  Santa Cruz Police Department
-  Santa Cruz: City Hall

## UCSC Resource Centers

-  Cultural Arts & Diversity
-  Women's Center
-  UCSC Disability Resource Center (DRC)
-  UCSC Cantú Queer Center
-  University of California Santa Cruz - Edu...
-  Ethnic Resource Centers



# Community Perspectives

“Students don’t know where faculty stand on certain issues and it’s important for faculty to show students they care.”



“Making Oakes a sanctuary would be powerful and encouraging for those communities since at the end of the day they are here and they are not going anywhere you are showing them the support and letting them know they are not alone.”

“Sanctuary does not mean one secure community sheltering another threatened community, but ONE community - fragmented, unequal, divided but struggling to be more unified - sheltering itself. “



# Next Steps



# Starting From The Roots

- Incorporate the sanctuary movement into Oakes Core class curriculum
- Host events that include discussion about social issues such as mass deportations and criminalization of immigration without spotlighting undocumented students
- A conference at Oakes that addresses different social issues and includes a variety of speakers that represent each community
- Emergency Fund for Undocumented Students (Optional \$5 quarterly fee automatically added to student's' tuitions)
- West Side Resource Center



# Image Citations

Image Representing Sanctuary: <https://sanctuarycounseling.com/>

No Human Being is Illegal:

[https://www.google.com/search?q=sanctuary+movement+protests&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiQsrXd2eHSAhUCw2MKHWY6CNoQ\\_AUICSgC&biw=1006&bih=704#imgrc=d\\_IsSSQV0bavGM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=sanctuary+movement+protests&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiQsrXd2eHSAhUCw2MKHWY6CNoQ_AUICSgC&biw=1006&bih=704#imgrc=d_IsSSQV0bavGM:)

Image Representing Community: <http://kingofwallpapers.com/community.html>