

Primary Author: Katie Robb; Co-Authors: Isabella Dias, Mia Vu, Dianna Lopez

Faculty: Christina Ayala and Sarah Jung, Texas Christian University

Introduction

Frogs Aiding Immigrants and Refugees (FAIR) is a TCU organization that assists immigrant and refugee communities, especially through partnerships with the International Newcomer Academy (INA). INA is a school specifically for helping 6th-9th grade immigrant and refugee students learn English. This grant was created after 9th grade INA students came to TCU's campus for a Thanksgiving Feast where they learned about the American cultural tradition of Thanksgiving, as well as about college in the U.S. After students showed extreme interest in learning more about college, the Frogs Aiding Dragons College Initiative was created to support that interest.

Abstract

The first goal of the Frogs Aiding Dragons College Initiative is to continue and enhance an annual Thanksgiving Feast for INA 9th grade students, where they get a tour of campus, listen to a panel of TCU students who are immigrants or refugees, and conclude with a Thanksgiving feast. The second goal of the grant is to start an Ambassador Program at INA, where ambassadors from various TCU departments give presentations and hands-on demonstrations to 9th grade students about college, with funding going towards items for the various demonstrations. The goal of these events is to motivate students to continue in their studies and pursue higher education.

Qualitative Data

“Students aren’t just participating more—they’re asking deeper questions and thinking about college and science in new ways since the Texas Christian University program began.” – INA Teacher

“The hands-on element and mentorship of TCU students has been life changing to our students.” – INA Teacher

Community Impact

- Introduce 62 9th graders to a college campus and the experiences of immigrant and refugee college students
- Give 62 9th graders an in-depth look at Chemistry, Pre-Health, and Fine Arts pathways at TCU
- Introduce 62 9th graders to rainbow test tube chemistry, suturing, and studio art techniques
- Collaborate with TCU Chem Club, TCOM SiMS Club, and TCU College of Fine Arts
- Engagement of 20+ TCU and TCOM volunteers

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- TCU College of Fine Arts

