

Kenia Calderon – El Salvador Kenia has committed herself to advocating for the Latinx community and those with DACA status (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals). Kenia fled the brutal violence in El Salvador as an undocumented immigrant in 2005. Along with her parents and younger brother and sister, Kenia survived a harrowing journey through Mexico across the Arizona desert to their new home in Iowa. Today Kenia is an Immigrant Organizer and part-time bilingual administrative assistant at American Friends Service Committee. Kenia is an active member of La Fuerza Latina on Drake's campus, an organization that encourages middle and high school Latinx individuals to pursue higher education. She meets with Dreamers and their families on a regular basis to offer support. She is an Equity and Inclusion Senator-At-Large at Drake, where her goal is to bridge the gap between communities of color. In 2015 she was named one of the "15 People to Watch in 2015" by the *Des Moines Register*.

Alex Duong – Vietnam When Alex moved to Clinton, Iowa from Vietnam at the age of 12, he spoke no English. He started school two grades behind due to the language challenge. However, Alex quickly overcame that challenge, became an honor roll and National Honor Society student and was elected class president all four years of high school. Alex graduated from Drake University as a Finance major with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He is fluent in six languages: Vietnamese, English, Mandarin Chinese, Taiwanese, Cantonese, and Chiu Chow. Alex manages a comprehensive marketing strategy and internal communications for Mediacom's largest regional territory. Giving back to the community is an integral part of who Alex is. He has served on the Des Moines Public Library Foundation Board of Directors, the Greater Des Moines Young Professionals Connection Board, the Marketing Committee for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa, the Iowa Asian Alliance and the 2016 CelebrAsian Leadership Team. Alex is a member of the *Business Record's* Forty Under 40 Class of 2016 and YPC honored him with the 2016 Ashley Oakland Community Service Award.

Lomoro Moses Santino – Sudan Lomoro was born in Sudan and as a very young child he would walk on foot a hundred miles to go to school, returning only briefly to see his family over holidays. The civil war caused his family to flee to a refugee camp in Uganda. Lomoro applied for a scholarship and was selected to attend high school in Costa Rica. In 2009 Lomoro came to Iowa to attend college at Wartburg. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in both Chemistry and Physics. He is now involved with the design and building of windmill structures at TPI Composites in Newton. Throughout his student and adult life, Lomoro has shown a commitment to the needs of others. While at Wartburg, he applied for and received a \$10,000 grant to build latrines in South Sudan. He was particularly concerned about girls who typically dropped out of school at puberty age because there were no accommodations once they began menstruating. He later received a grant to help women buy sewing machines and achieve economic independence. His efforts to give back also extend to Iowa, where he is a volunteer coordinator for his church garden, serving as an Arabic interpreter, and helping others to prepare for their driver's license citizenship exams.

Samra Uzunovic – Yugoslavia In 1992, Samra Uzunovic and her family escaped to Germany from the ethnic wars that disintegrated Yugoslavia. Later, in 2000, unable to return to their home country due to the unstable conditions, Samra and her family moved as refugees to Des Moines with very few financial resources or possessions. Samra was twelve and barely knew any English. She was enrolled in day-long ESL classes and eventually tested into the Gifted and Talented Program. Samra has always been an exceptional student; she bachelor's degree from Grandview University and recently completed her Master's degree in Public Health at Des Moines University. While a student at DMU, Samra's work focused on healthy mental development. Her focus was on rural lowans, who are at a greater risk for mental health disorders due to a lack of services. She provided a screening tool for providers that saves physicians significant time and improves communication with patients and families. Samra's dream is to become a family physician, a goal she is pursuing while at West Virginia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Upon graduation, she hopes to return to Iowa to provide essential services to rural lowans.

Dr. Jane Agyeman – Ghana Dr. Jane Agyeman came to the U.S. over thirty years ago to continue her education at Iowa State University. She was able to bring her five-year-old son with her but had to wait almost ten years for her oldest son to get his visa. Soon after arriving, Jane found herself in an abusive situation. Amazingly, she not only managed to protect herself and her son, but began working part-time at the Sexual Assault Center, helping other women who were victims of domestic violence. As a single mother, she worked five part-time jobs and was able to maintain full-time enrollment at college. Dr. Jane Agyeman earned bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from ISU before being hired at TRIO Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search. She is the Director of TRIO programs and prepares first-generation and income-eligible students for college. She is an advocate for all students who need extra help and support to attain a college degree. She has been a strong voice for Iowa youth and is very active in civic and community activities.