The goal of this project is to pilot a Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) for late elementary school students of refugee and immigrant backgrounds.

CSE is defined by the United Nations Population Fund as giving young people access to information “to protect their health, well-being and dignity” and it is part of a human-rights approach to education. That includes giving young people information about consent, gender, sexuality, how their bodies work, and their health, to allow them autonomy to make decisions about their future.

This partnership between the university and a community partner, Sunnyvale Community Center, fulfills the campus-wide goal of engaging the broader community in a dialogue that leads to positive growth for all involved. It also seeks to build a sense of community and belonging on campus and outside its boundaries. Furthermore, it works toward moving knowledge produced on campus into the community and strengthens the relationship between underserved populations and health service providers in the university system.

The success of the pilot will provide the footprint for the development of youth curriculum and guidelines to train educators and health professionals who work in direct contact with these populations.

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