



**Basic Needs Committee (BNC)  
Meeting Minutes  
November 21, 2022**

Committee Members							
x	Koji Uesugi, Co-Chair	x	Marisa Fierro	x	Sgt. Brian Owen	x	Carla Tablas
x	Pauline Swartz, Co-Chair (fac)		Renu Katoch	x	Karelyn Hoover		
x	Christina Cammayo (fac)	x	Shelly Laddusaw	x	Julia Walker	x	Jeze Lopez (guest)
	Thuy Pham (fac)	x	Rosie Esparza		Diana Giannone (Community)		Bill Lambert (guest)
x	Rigo Estrada		Daisy Olivas	x	Leonardo Rojas (Student)	x	Vivian Hernandez (guest)
	Barbara Carrillo		Ken McAlpin	x	Sebastian Rock (Student)		

**I. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement (3 min)**

*We will begin this meeting with a Land Acknowledgement to recognize the native peoples whose land upon which Mt. SAC resides.*

*Mt. SAC is geographically situated on the traditional lands of the Tongva peoples. I ask you to join me in acknowledging their community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. May we honor the land and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. Thank you.*

**II. Review and Approval of Minutes for October 17, 2022 (5 min)**

- Minutes approved.

**III. Updates (30 minutes)**

- Basic Needs Resources (Rigo):
  1. CalFresh Outreach (regular updates – Rigo/Vivian):
    - i. The numbers have been steady. The CalFresh Outreach expert (Vivian Hernandez) was able to support the HHAW cooking demo last week. They are exploring continuing live cooking demos. There is a grant related to this effort which currently is only available to CSUs. They have reached out to the granting agency inquiring about being the first community college to participate in the grant (pending).
  2. Mountie Fresh Food Pantry and Snack Rack (Rigo):
    - i. Preparing for the next distribution. The last pantry date for the semester is rescheduled to December 8<sup>th</sup> as the Basis Needs Summit is on Friday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. They have already started promoting this change in hours.
    - ii. BNR submitted proposals for Flex Day to promote the food pantry and CalFresh, separately. The food pantry presentation will be for volunteer training. For CalFresh, they will present on how to normalize CalFresh and demystify it.
    - iii. The food pantry will be remodeled. We will not have access to the food pantry through the Winter Intersession. They will provide food vouchers for Stater Bros. in lieu of food pantry access. Registration will be made through eSARS. Students will have access to receive the food voucher twice a month. Students will be able to start registering for food vouchers on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Distribution of the vouchers will be located at the Basic Needs Resources Center. If students have questions, they should be referred to the Basic Needs Resources Center.

3. Housing (Rigo):
  - i. No major updates. Continuing to work with partners and build relationships.
4. Case management (Rigo):
  - i. No major updates. The case management is continuing. The student navigators link to a particular person on our team.
5. Personnel updates (Rigo):
  - i. They are in the process of hiring permanent staffing, including a program specialist and a coordinator.
- Basic Needs Resources and RISE joint presentation was accepted for NASPA National Conference in Boston. They will present their partnership on the student navigator program with RISE.
- Basic Needs Requests through the COVID-19 Block Grant
  - Moved this to discussion. The committee approved moving this to discussion.
- Welcome the new student member, Sebastian Rock!

#### IV. Discussion (40 min)

- Committee Purpose & Function Statement, and Goals (Koji)
  - Basic Needs Requests through the COVID-19 Block Grant
    - Background: There is a COVID-19 Block Grant from the state. Each community college received a one-time allocation. Mt. SAC received its allocation of approx. \$20 mil. We can use the funds for up to 5 years. Basic Needs and Mental Health are two of the five categories in which the funds can be used. The intention is to help transition through the ending stages of the pandemic.
    - Departments, individuals, etc., have applied for the funding.
    - Our committee has been asked to provide input on Covid Block Grant funding requests that relate to basic needs. The BNC is tasked with developing criteria and reviewing basic needs related requests, then make recommendations. We therefore needed to make slight revisions to the purpose/function and add a related goal.
    - We reviewed the new language proposed in the BNC purpose and function. The committee supported the proposed language change and expressed we are happy to support the campus in this way. Committee approved the change to the purpose and function.
  - Reviewed the goals. Co-chairs created a new goal to reflect this newly added function. Committee recommended adding equity language to the new goal. After adding equity language, the committee approved to move both the Purpose & Function and the Goals forward to PAC.
- Mt. SAC Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week Debrief (Pauline)
  - Planning Ahead for HHAW 2023!
    - Recommendation to start planning in spring to invite faculty participation in programming. This will allow faculty more time to plan participation in the fall activities.
    - BNR Program Specialist could take the lead in facilitating the planning of HHAW in the future.
    - Look at collaborating with other groups hosting activities on campus on the same days.
    - Bring HHAW planning to a spring meeting.
  - Debrief
    - Vivian Hernandez stepped in for the cooking demo. Members who attended remarked that the organizers and presenters did a great job and posted it in Instagram Live during the demo. The event included information about CalFresh for students. About 15-20 participants. Barbara and Julia created a video of soyrizo breakfast burritos. People

commented that the demo was in a good location. This was Vivian's first BNC meeting. Welcome!

- The Basics of Renting workshop was informative. The partnering presenter provided excellent information and was able to provide takeaway resources. The partnership with them may continue and involve intentional programming for specific programs and groups in the future.
- OER and Basic Needs Allyship workshops for Mt. SAC employees.
  - Open Educational Resources (OER) workshop included excellent information. Included data on student success and retention in relation to OER usage. Also included information on how the use of OER promotes equity. The committee would like to invite the campus OER experts to a BNC meeting in spring.
  - Inaugural Basic Needs Allyship training. A good mix of people – staff, faculty, management, student workers. Outstanding workshop with a good turn out. Participants will be given a remote pin to use in their signatures to indicate that they are allies. BNR plans to schedule the Basic Needs Allyship training once a semester through POD.
- As a committee, we should work on being more present in these events moving forward.
- Basic Needs Champion Award(s)
  - If we do celebrate BN champions, it should be more focused than the first time we did it.
  - If they will be the same people, it could be a thank you event.
  - Could be similar to an end of the year event, as a thank you to everyone.
  - Leave out the individual awards and thank everyone.
  - Want to avoid May – June
  - Suggestion to do this in Fall – as a kick-off in fall to avoid the spring crunch all together?
  - We will talk further about it the next time we meet.

**V. Good of the Order (2 min)**

- Friends and family in the LGBTQ community, please know that there is support here on campus for you on campus.

**VI. Next Meeting**

- March 20, 2023

**VII. Adjourn**