



**Homelessness and Basic Resources Committee (HBRC)
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2017**

Attended: Debbie Cavion, Nadine Hernandez, Irene Martinez, Livier Martinez, Paul Miller, Kim (Loni) Nguyen), Giovanni Rodriguez, Logan Snyder, Pauline Swartz, Koji Uesugi, Maricela Vazquez, Jeze Lopez

Absent: Kenneth McAlpin, Susie Chen

Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m.

I. Call to Order & Welcome/Introductions

- Koji Uesugi (HBRC Committee) welcomed committee members.
- Members introduced themselves.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes

- Minutes for the November 6, 2017 meeting were approved with the following revisions:
 - Changed Sgt. Paul Miller to Paul Miller
 - Item III, paragraph 2 was re-written to read more accurately upon the recommendation of Debbie
 - Item VI, paragraph 3 change Sodex to Sodexo

III. Updates

- Homeless Student Survey update
Koji met with Research Department staff and PTK Student Advisor to obtain feedback on the status of the survey instrument. Koji will review it one last time, and will probably not make any changes to the content. However, he may add resource numbers or information for students who may need services.

At this time, the survey will be entered in the Qualtrix System before its release in the Fall. If the survey instrument is not completed by the end of Fall, the survey will go out in Spring 2018.

- Questions about HBRC and College Goals Alignment
Members were asked to review the goals for the committee and make suggestions for any changes in the alignment of goals to college goals. No changes were made.

IV. Discussion Items

- Addressing Food Insecurity Issue
 - Hunger-Free Campus Project
The Hunger-Free Campus Project will be the first priority for MtSAC to address by the end of next term. Koji presented a video of an example of the mobile food pantry at Cal Poly Pomona in partnership with Sowing Seeds for Life. In this partnership, Cal Poly

Pomona provides campus staff to help promote the project and be present on the day of the food distribution. Students are given bags and information on basic needs education. In addition, information on other resources are included. Sowing Seeds for Life provides the food and removes left over items.

Giovanni stated that Cal Poly Pomona supplements the food distribution event with other campus resources available on and off campus. Included as a resource is Laundrylove, a program operating in Pomona, that gives the homeless an opportunity to wash their cloths and get detergent a few days a week. Laundrylove is a partnership initiative that can be replicated for MtSAC's homeless population. www.laundrylove.org for more information.

- Explore partnerships with food banks
Paul Miller suggested that another potential partnership can be established with the Farmer's Market at MtSAC. The committee can pursue asking vendors to accept EBT cards, so that students on CalFresh can purchase food here at MtSAC's Farmer's Market.

Nadine Hernandez mentioned that some Farmer's Markets give incentives so that if you spend \$20, you will receive \$20 more in food products.

Livier Martinez referenced an article on LAUSD taking initiative to donate left-over or thrown away packaged meals from elementary schools to food pantries that feed the homeless. It was discussed that perhaps MtSAC could become a conduit for something like this in our area to occur between schools and food pantries.

Koji Uesugi shared that the Diamond Bar Sprouts owner is an alumni of MtSAC. The store sponsors many events and provides gift cards and donations to the local community. Sprouts can become another potential sponsor.

Giovanni stated interest in the following committee actions:

- 1) That Sodexo be approached as partner and discuss with them lower pricing that is more affordable to the campus population.
- 2) To identify resources for the homeless at MtSAC campus and develop a comprehensive sheet that can be marketed to MtSAC students, addressing housing, hygiene, wellness and transportation.
- 3) To understand what MtSAC is doing for the homeless student population.

A task force was formed consisting of Giovanni, Logan, Jeze and Maricela to begin identifying resources at MtSAC.

- Left over food from MtSAC events
Jeze and other committee members discussed the issue of left over food from events at MtSAC and the possibility of setting up an App to notify students. Nadine mentioned the Ambassadors as being a good group to disseminate information to students. Paul suggested that perhaps a Marquee or central area could be designated for left over food

items for students. It was mentioned that so much food goes to waste when it could serve another purpose. Koji will explore this further.

- **Project Team Development**

A food insecurity Project Team was formed, consisting of Lonni, Livier and Pauline to begin working on plans to address food insecurity. Koji suggested that the committee meet outside of the regular meetings to have more time dedicated to this issue.

- **Homelessness and Basic Needs Education**

- **Reports and Trainings**

Koji stated the need for the committee members to be informed on the issues of homelessness. A handout was distributed on Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America, November 2017, showing national estimates of youth homelessness.

Another handout, Young and Homeless in America, November 2017, from EdSource was shared, highlighting strategies for student success.

Koji is research trainings that may be available to assist in informing committee members. He would also like to invite experts on the topics of homelessness to attend the committee meetings. Jeze made some suggestions of potential speakers from the Los Angeles Housing Authority regarding homelessness in higher education for Service Provider Area 3.

- **Shower Access and Facilities Follow-up**

Debbie was asked as a follow-up to previous discussions to set up shower site visits for committee members.

Jeze shared a hygiene bag he put together with pertinent items. It was shared that perhaps at some point, these items can be refilled with bulk dispensers. Koji stated that other funds besides food initiative funds must be allocated for this effort and needs more research.

V. Good of the Order (member announcements)

- There will be a national conference on homelessness in April, 2018 in Denver, Colorado. This may be a good training to attend. More information to follow.
- A potential source could be a member of the Higher Education Committee of the L.A. Housing Authority for Service Provider Area 3 (SPA3). Jeze will research possible guest speakers so committee members may have more knowledge regarding trauma informed conversations with homeless youth.

VI. Next Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 4 at 1:00 p.m. (9C-5)