



## Homelessness and Basic Resources Committee (HBRC) Meeting Minutes October 1, 2018

**Attendees:** Barbara Carrillo, Debbie Cavion, Susie Chen, Yolanda Haro, Renu Katoch, Shelly Laddusaw, Loni Nguyen, Giovanni Rodriguez, Pauline Swartz, Koji Uesugi

**Guests:** Gabriel Alfaro (Student Trustee), Yasir Chaudhry and Courtney Darcy (PTK), Bill Lambert and Marisa Fierro (Foundations)

### I. Call to Order

- **Guest Introductions**

### II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes (9/17/18) – tabled due to revision of agenda

### III. Updates

- **PTK President (Yasir Chaudhry):** PTK shared and presented their survey on ways to help homeless students on campus. They are planning to host a toiletry drive. They plan to create bags filled with toiletries and they would also like to collect towels, washcloth, comb, toothbrush and toothpaste, body wash and soap. PTK will collect items up to Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. They passed out a flyer they created and HBRC gave feedback. PTK's office is in Building 17 and this is where people can drop off donated goods. The plan is to make at least 150 bags to pass out at the November 13 food pantry. They will advertise to ICC, clubs, members, and faculty. They hope faculty will give extra credit for students who participate. They found plastic bags on Amazon that will get stuffed. This is the only thing they would have to purchase. Shelly shared that she has boxes of donated soaps in her office, she can donate to PTK's drive or bring to our food pantry. She knows a counselor who has a contact at a hotel chain who can donate. Bill Lambert shared foundations can provide the bags this time around.
  - Koji thanked PTK for their support. Koji asked about distribution of these baggies. Would like to talk further on distribution.
  - Q: Any thoughts on feminine hygiene products? A: PTK answered, not sure what was going to be collected and who will show up. They wanted to keep it to general items. It was suggested that they collect those items and place them on the side for those who need them.
  - Q: If someone wanted to donate money because they don't have the time, is PTK set up for that? A: Yes, they are.
  - Q: Is the only location for drop off in building 17? A: Building 17 is where their office is, but people can drop off during their club meetings in Building 26. Pauline

offered to collect at the Library. Koji asked PTK to get in contact with Pauline to coordinate.

- **Student Trustee (Gabriel Alfaro):** Has been appointed to a state-wide Intersegmental Basic Needs Committee. Gabriel commented that biggest problem is at the community colleges because they do not have housing on campus. For Mt. SAC, this would be difficult due to space and residence. Vouchers for hotels, temporary housing on campus (rooms with cots) could be beneficial or very bad based on how campus uses the allocation of funds. Koji shared the basic needs initiative and how we got money. When will the funding allocation be rolled out? That was not discussed, but it should be within this year. Every student organization and Chancellors Office want to revamp how Cal Grant works. Want to make it more holistic. Also, expand and revamp the CalFresh system. How often will this group will be meeting? Not sure but Gabriel will let Koji know when they plan on meeting. Q: do we know how many students here are homeless? A: Koji shared that PTK had a survey on this last year and 18% responded as homeless. Gabriel stated that the lens for basic needs is to be viewed as educational services opportunity not a social services.
- **Mt. SAC Foundations (Bill Lambert and Marisa Fierro):** Bill shared that last year, Foundations received a \$50,000 matching gift for an endowment for food vouchers. They raised about \$85,000 so far for the **Sustain Our Students** fund. Koji reported that the food voucher program has expanded with additional Student Equity funding. Bill stated that faculty have become empowered, they want to help our students, some of them bring their own food to give to their students and toiletries. A faculty has her own mini food pantry in her office. Foundations job is to build relationships and leverage in our community. Shelly offered to share her contact with Foundations. Renu shared how Lesley in her department has been giving bags of food to students the past two years.
  - Q: Has protocol been discussed if you suspect a student is homeless or living on campus? A: Koji stated we would need to work with off-campus resources. Outreach person from LAHSA agency from Pomona office can come and help. We need to get a publication with all this information and share it with the campus. There is also our webpage that we have created. Marisa asked is there a way to approach a homeless student or any protocol. There is no standard or person now to refer people to, or that has been trained. Koji mentioned that you can send students to Student Life and direct them to see him. We need to get people trained for this and to be able to assist. The committee cannot be the answer for everything.
- **#Real College Survey:** National study by HOPE Lab. Koji thanked everyone who has helped push this. Big thanks to Pauline. PTK will share this at their club meeting and push their officers to take the survey.
- **HBRC Webpage:** Reviewed the HBRC webpage. Gio received lots of feedback. It was recommended that transportation be added. The webpage is live but not linked to the committee page. Gio will follow up with IT and advised to contact Eric Turner.

It was asked how should this website be marketed? QR code was mentioned. Should the Farmers Market be on the website? We will consider it for the future.

- **Higher Educations & Homelessness Work Group Convening:** Kaitlyn attended the meeting, but was absent for this meeting.

#### IV. Discussion

- **2018-19 Objectives:** Members are fine with the addition of the Goal 6 (Recommend outcomes-based strategies to institutionalize basic needs support for students in need). However, there was a concern about Goal 3 (Identify existing services and resources and evaluate their effectiveness). HBRC does not have the expertise to “evaluate the effectiveness” of basic needs services and resources off campus. Recommendation is to remove the evaluation component. This will be revisited at future meeting.
- **Mountie Fresh Food Pantry Prep:** Reviewed status for October 9 food pantry preparation so far. There will be a meeting on 10/4 for the planning team in Ragan Room at 3:30 p.m. 600 food bags will be created for two distributions.
- **National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week (Nov 10-18):** Tabled for next meeting (time constraint).

#### V. Good of the Order

VI. **Next Meeting:** Monday, October 17, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. @ 9C-5

VII. **Meeting adjourned** at 2:30 p.m.