



**Basic Needs Committee (BNC)
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2020**

Committee Members							
x	Koji Uesugi, Co-Chair	x	Marisa Fiero	x	Sgt. Brian Owen		Faculty (vacant)
x	Pauline Swartz, Co-Chair	x	Renu Katoch	x	Romelia Salinas	x	Daniel Berumen
x	Christina Cammayo	x	Shelly Laddusaw	x	Julia Walker	x	Jeze Lopez (guest)
	Barbara Carrillo	x	Rosie Esparza	x	Diana Giannone (Community)		Bill Lambert (for Marisa)
x	Rigo Estrada		Irene Martinez	x	Courtney Darcy (Student)	x	Amelia Simek (guest)
x	Kaitlyn Yrineo	x	Ken McAlpin		Vacant (Student)	x	Brenda Ricarte
						x	Jaime Rodriguez (guest)

I. Call to Order and Welcome

II. Review and Approval of Minutes for August 3, 2020

No minutes.

III. Updates

- Basic Needs Resources (Rigo)
 - CalFresh Outreach (regular updates – Rigo/Brenda)
 - We've received more applications since we last met.
 - Open office hours and info sessions are being offered through Zoom. Two sessions have been offered so far. First session was a workshop on CalFresh. Planning on having CFO Virtual Office Hours (drop-in). The second workshop will be set up like a talking circle about students' experiences using resources, including community resources. If you have suggestions or ideas, contact CFO. Our MF Basic Needs team was formed in early March. In spite of challenges presented by COVID, they've been continuing to work on building a foundation for helping students.
 - Application for renewal contract (2021-24)
 - a. We are finishing year 2 of 3 of the CFO grant. This grant is on the federal timeline and will end in Sept. 2021. We need to apply for the next round now. They are working with the Grants Office. On the state side, we must demonstrate that we are contributing to the CalFresh efforts. On the federal side,

we get back half of what we put into it in terms of our time and effort. Those funds can be used for resources for CalFresh Outreach efforts.

- b. There will be a training on how to apply for CalFresh. If you want to attend, let them know.
- Mountie Fresh Food Pantry 2.0 (Rigo/Koji)
 - Next Drive-Thru Pantry @ Lot A on 9/23 from 10:00-1:00 (400 food bags)
 - a. Sodexo is helping to support this effort.
 - b. Providing distribution every 1st and 3rd Wednesday until December
 - c. Students learn about the pantry through portal messages and Mountie Fresh Basic Needs Resources (MFBNR) work with the various centers to share via social media.
 - d. Started using eSARS for student appointments for the pantry. Rigo showed the eSARS appointment process. They are no longer using EventBrite.
 - e. Students will also have a chance to register while they are waiting in line for the pantry.
 - f. CARES Act – a portion can be used for basic needs and mental health, etc.
 - g. Hunger Free Campus funding has ended.
 - Leah's Pantry (Rigo)
 - We have been working with Leah's Pantry for about a year to certify our food pantry based on Leah's Pantry model of trauma-informed care.
 - Allows us to add additional components of engagement with students. Example, Leah's Pantry's mini-course on nutrition is free with our Mt. SAC code. You will see more info about this through our website and social media platform.
 - We should be gold certified within the next few months.
 - Commended Rigo and Brenda and the Mountie Fresh Basic Resources Team for the work and care they have been putting into this important effort.
 - Hollywood Foreign Press Gift (Bill)
 - Gift from the Hollywood Foreign Press (HFP) (\$20,000 in addition to the \$10,000 we received in Spring from the HFP). Foundation met with Koji, Rigo, and Audrey to discuss an expanded duffel bag item for students. They are looking into additional sources that can contribute to this effort (e.g., Target gift cards, gifts from other companies).
 - Looking into using \$5,000 of the HFP gift as a discretionary account for MFBNR to use for housing insecurity needs.
 - The Basic Needs fund has more flexibility than the funds we get from the state.
 - Magic Mountie Podcast – Basic Needs (Pauline)

- Sun Ezzell invited us to do a podcast on basic needs. Koji, Rigo, and Pauline participated. General information about basic needs, as well as information about the #RealCollege survey. The podcast is now available.
- Hope Center's 2020 #RealCollege survey (Pauline/Koji)
 - The survey is now out (2 weeks ago) and students are getting reminder emails. Marketing and IT are collaborative partners to promote and track student access to the email. Students can opt in for an opportunity drawing to win a \$100 gift card (up to 10 per campus). The survey is closing in late October.
 - Subject line for the email that students are receiving, "Mt. SAC and you, during a pandemic." The message is signed by Koji so students can confirm it is from Mt. SAC.
 - It's going to credit and noncredit students.

IV. Discussion

- Distribution of Pet Food at Mountie Fresh Food Pantry?
 - General support for providing food for pets, even on a limited basis.
 - Members mentioned that we have distributed pet food in the past.
 - Question about how to identify which students need the pet food. Later, we could incorporate this into our pantry process.
 - If we do this, we would like to do so from a student-centered and trauma-informed mindset. We want to give pet items that the owners can feel confident that they are getting something safe for their pet.
 - Please provide possible cons via email. Example, problems that can occur if we repackage bulk items.
- Spring 2020 Student Survey Infographic Results Presentation (Jaime Rodriguez and Daniel Berumen, Research and Institutional Effectiveness) @2:00 p.m.
 - RIE worked with Instruction, Student Services, Library and Learning Resources, and Faculty Association to stagger 3 surveys to the campus community - faculty, student, and staff – over 3 months.
 - Surveys sent in April and May to credit students. Noncredit did their own survey. Borrowed questions from the Hope Center. Focused on five areas: tech/accessibility, learning experiences, life/health/basic needs (stress, housing, food insecurity), awareness and use of services, and use of Counseling Services.
 - 3-page briefing and info graphic. See the infographic and other resources [for details.](#)
 - Q&A from BNC. Below are some of the answers.
 - Sent to all students enrolled in a credit class.
 - If you were enrolled any time before the census date, you received the survey.

- Survey didn't ask why they didn't use the resource/service.
- Take away: Build more awareness of the resources.
- Committee members agreed to have Daniel and Jaime return for follow-up to discuss some of their findings for a more in-depth conversation. They will be agendaized for one of our meetings in October.

V. Good of the Order (All)

No comments.

VI. Next Meeting

- October 5, 2020 @ 1:00 p.m. (Zoom)

VII. Adjourn