



**Homelessness and Basic Resources Committee (HBRC)  
Meeting Minutes  
May 14, 2018**

**Attended:** Irene Martinez, Pauline Swartz, Koji Uesugi, Barbara Carrillo, Paul Miller, Jeze Lopez, Giovanni Rodriguez, Kenneth McAlpin, Kim (Loni) Nguyen, Livier Martinez

Meeting called to order at 1:10 p.m.

**I. Call to Order & Welcome/Introductions**

Koji Uesugi welcomed committee members

**II. Minutes**

Minutes from the April 23, 2018 meeting were reviewed and corrections were made. Minutes were approved as corrected. Koji advised that all minutes that have been approved must be converted to pdf files in order to upload onto the HBRC website. He will follow-up with Gio in order to have these documents uploaded once the website is completed.

**III. Updates**

**A. Mountie Fresh Food Pantry**

Mountie Fresh Mobile Food Pantry was held last Tuesday from 11:00 – 2:00 p.m. The event was announced in the student portal and with 500 flyers. Overall the event was very successful, with 350 bags distributed. A portion of these were given to Continued Education and the Reach Program. The bags include non-perishable food products and paper goods. Felix Rigarte did an excellent job at coordinating the event volunteers. Jeze took the lead in registration and Pauline assisted with packing the food bags. Student were very appreciative of the food bags and the food pantry was welcomed by the campus community.

Committee members discussed ways in which to improve the event. It was noted that the location at 9C was very effective. Livier suggested that mental health funds can be used for promotional items, such as food bags, can be used to promote mental health services. Likewise, perhaps other departments may want to sponsor food bags for each event. There was a need identified for a can opener for students who are homeless. Paul Miller will forward information on where to purchase these in large quantities.

The next event will take place in Fall during the month of September. There is a interest, however, in coordinating another event in June. Future events are considered at serving 400 students with 15-20 pallets of food.

B. CalFresh Outreach Grant

Koji announced that Mt.SAC submitted a federal CalFresh Outreach Grant on Friday, May 11,2018. This grant will allow for up to 50% reimbursement for CalFresh outreach efforts, including time and effort spent at committees, and discussions that relate to CalFresh. This grant will help to sustain program by reimbursing for costs. At some point, HBRC may want to consider the funds to pay for a position (at least part time), to coordinate the CalFresh activities.

For the moment, HBRC will be coordinating with Student Health 9E Clinic for space to house weekly eligibility workers to help students with their CalFresh applications.

C. Basic Needs Summit April 26-27, 2018

Several committee members attending the Basic Needs Summit on April 26-27, 2018. Jeze provided feedback on his experience, noting that it feedback was helpful regarding how to manage basic needs programs with limited time and/or budget. He shared how other colleges are using events as a means to remove stigma so that students are not embarrassed in request help or CalFresh. Jeze also shared that some colleges are using their concession stands for food pantry storage.

Pauline enjoyed the de-stigmatization ideas, as well as the link some colleges make between basic needs to academic performance.

Barbara reminded the group that Sodexo is willing to participate with the approval of a VIP Meal Card for \$5.00 meals that is in the process of approval. Sodexo is also interested in collaborating with the food pantry project. HBRC must follow-up on this partnership.

Koji mentioned that the EBT Card approval for Sodexo is projected to be completed by Summer of Fall of this year. This will allow students who have EBT cards, purchase meals at Sodexo. There are plans to have the Farmer's Market at Mt.SAC approved to receive EBT cards as well. For the future, Mt.SAC is currently exploring the idea of a stand alone food pantry as most colleges. However, issues of space and staffing to run the program are still being considered.

**IV. Discussion**

A. Magic Mountie Podcast Opportunity

Pauline reach out to explore the potential of developing a Magic Mountie Podcast for the HBRC directed at staff and faculty. Several short podcasts can be recorded by student voices regarding the need for basic resources and their experience of Mountie Fresh. These podcasts once recorded can be uploaded onto any website to promote Mountie Fresh. There is a deadline of May 28, 31, 2018 to coordinate these. Jeze will take the lead in recruiting students to be interviewed and Pauline will coordinate logistics.

B. Flex Days

The due date to submit a proposal for a presentation at Flex Day is June 1, 2018. Pauline reported that this is a good opportunity to reach faculty to talk about the link between basic needs and academic performance. Kim (Loni) will email Koji the requirements for the proposals. Koji suggests that 3-4 people from the committee be involved in delivering the presentation.

C. New Faculty Seminar 2018-2019

Pauline spoke to the Coordinator of the faculty agenda for the New Faculty Seminar calendar. This is an opportunity to reach out to the Classified Senate.

**IV. Next Meeting**

Monday, June 11, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. (9C-5)

**Meeting adjourned** 2:15 p.m.