



**Basic Needs Committee (BNC)
Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2021**

Committee Members							
x	Koji Uesugi, Co-Chair	x	Marisa Fierro	x	Sgt. Brian Owen	x	Kaitlyn Yrineo
x	Pauline Swartz, Co-Chair		Renu Katoch	x	Romelia Salinas	x	Rita Page
	Christina Cammayo	x	Shelly Laddusaw	x	Julia Walker	x	Jeze Lopez (guest)
		x	Rosie Esparza	x	Diana Giannone (Community)		Bill Lambert (guest)
x	Rigo Estrada		Irene Martinez	x	Courtney Darcy (Student)	x	Amelia Simek (guest)
x	Barbara Carrillo	x	Ken McAlpin		Shawal Bhalli (Student)	x	Brenda Ricarte (guest)

I. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

We will begin this meeting with a Land Acknowledgement.

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 December 7, 2020

III. Updates (20 minutes)

- Basic Needs Resources (Rigo)
 - CalFresh Outreach (regular updates – Rigo/Brenda): working on increasing numbers of applications. Brenda reported they are working with other departments on campus and have ongoing projects with REACH and Aspire to promote CalFresh. She is continuing to promote CF on Instagram. Rigo reported numbers have increased, the programs the Brenda mentioned are exempt. Aspire just acquired a fulltime specialist, Rigo will be working closely with them in promoting CalFresh and Ilene is working with the program specialist in REACH. New partnership with DHH, Julie Bradley has been active in helping her students with CF. Prior to pandemic a LACO worker was going to be on our campus assisting students, so now Julie is assisting her students.
 - Mountie Fresh Food Pantry (Rigo): have been consistent in serving about 200 students.
 - Next Drive-Thru Pantry @ Lot A on 2/3/21 from 10:00-12:00, will provide a small Valentine’s gift.
 - Feminine product distributions. Donations are coming from a parent club referred by Walnut Elementary.
 - Sowing Seeds for Life – LA Food Bank Food Kits
 - Spring Schedule for the food pantry will remain the same, a flyer will be created.
 - Tzu Chi Foundation – Together We Rise. Tzu Chi has assisted us at our food pantries in the past. We have been working with them in launching a program geared towards assisting college students in need, the sub-program is called, Together We Rise. This will be a subsidized program and will be referral based. Jeze mentioned there is another organization called, Together We Rise, so hopefully there is no confusion with the name.

- JBAY Grant Awarded – \$20,000. We have received a grant from this organization to provide support to our students, we are currently finalizing the MOU. They will provide us with technical support, networking opportunities and providing us with outcome data from an evaluator.
- Flex presentations:
 - Pauline & Romelia: Bridging Digital Divide: Partnering with the Mt. SAC Library to Promote Tech Equity and Information Access. They will be talking about how digital divide impacts students; it is more than just giving student's the technology, equitable access and showcase what the library has been doing since the pandemic.
 - Rigo and Koji: Utilizing a Trauma Informed Approach to Serving Students with Basic Needs at Mt. SAC. With the help of Research, they will provide information on Basic Needs and share data on Flex day and will highlight Trauma Informed Care.

IV. Presentations (30 minutes)

- Leah's Pantry Recognition Ceremony of Mountie Fresh Food Pantry. Discussed 6 focus areas: Nutrition education, environment, Inventory & Purchasing, Community Connection, Cultural & Dietary Accommodations. Leah presented the group with a gold status certificate for supporting their mission.

V. Discussion (30 minutes)

- Basic Needs Resources referral process explanation for various needs (Rigo): Pauline asked for an update on how faculty can address and how to handle referrals during this pandemic. Rigo shared a presentation on how to refer students.

VI. Good of the Order (All): Rita suggested that maybe the college can donate space in our empty buildings to help homeless people. Kaitlyn shared EOPS is currently accepting applications, refer students to the EOPS website.

VII. Next Meeting

- March 1, 2021 (Zoom)

VIII. Adjourn