1. Assessment Plan - Four Column

PIE - Student Services: REACH Unit

Where We Are Now: Analysis and Summary

2018-19

Contact Person: Jeze Lopez
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External Conditions, Trends, or Impacts (Student Services): 1. In 2016 an additional $3 million was allocated by the state legislature to supplement funding for the Chafee Education and Training Voucher program. This is the only source of Financial Aid for college dedicated solely for Foster Youth. This increase will means more Foster Youth will receive the Chafee Grant and will seek services from the REACH program.

2. AB 595 requires all students who are otherwise eligible for priority enrollment (including foster youth) to complete orientation, assessment and an educational plan in order to gain access to priority enrollment. Priority registration for Foster Youth documentation is primarily done through the REACH program.

3. AB 669 allows colleges and universities to grant resident status to foster youth under the age of 19 who were residing out of state as a dependent or ward under California's child welfare system. The issue of non-residency has been a common one amongst first-time college Foster Youth students at Mt. SAC.

4. AB 801 (2016) expanded priority registration and various other benefits received by foster youth to homeless youth as well and mandated the designation of a foster and homeless youth liaison at public college and university campuses. REACH program has served as the unofficial homeless liaison for the college.

5. SB 906 (2016) removed the sunset clause from priority registration for foster youth (original bill was scheduled to sunset on Jan 1, 2017) and expanded eligibility to include all foster youth who were in foster care after their 16th birthday under the age of 26.

6. AB 1393 requires UCs and CSUs to give foster youth priority for on-campus housing. California community colleges are requested to give priority to foster youth. In addition, CSUs that have student housing open during school breaks are required to give first priority to current and former foster youth. UCs are only required to do so for foster youth who are otherwise eligible for a particular campus housing facility. REACH program has collaborated with Cal Poly Pomona to provide priority housing to Mt. SAC Foster Youth at Cal Poly Pomona Village.

7. SB 12 (2017) Expands access to financial aid for foster youth by requiring county child welfare agency to identify a person to assist foster youth with applications for postsecondary education and financial aid; streamlining the financial aid verification process for foster youth who apply through FAFSA; and expanding CAFYES from the current level of 10 community college districts to up to 20 districts.

8. AB 1567 (2017) Requires community colleges and CSU campuses to provide information to foster youth regarding resources available on campus such as EOPS, CAFYES and EOP.

9. SB 568: Reducing Homelessness Among California's College Students.This bill, co-authored by Senator Anthony Portantino and Senator Richard Roth, will reduce homelessness among college students in California by establishing housing resources within the Community College and CSU Chancellor's Offices and UC Office of the President and by requiring campuses that receive funding to implement measures to maximize the financial aid received by homeless students and ensure linkage to community-based housing resources.

10. SB150: Improving Access to the Chafee Grant.This bill will speed up the distribution of Chafee awards by authorizing the California Student Aid Commission to "overaward" the grant at the beginning of the year, enabling more students to receive funds at the beginning of the year when funds are needed most. The bill would also replace the Chafee grant's existing Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement with one that is more flexible and takes into account the unique circumstances of foster youth. The webinar provided background information that explains the impetus for the legislation, outlined specifically what the bill will do, and walked through the necessary steps required to turn the bill into law.

Internal Conditions, Trends, or Impacts (Student Services): 1. Increase in Foster Youth students, therefore increase in demand for assistance and services.

2. Increase in Foster Youth students usage of the REACH office; increase engagement.

4. Increase in our Foster Youth population by providing outreach/inreach; provide year-round activities.

5. Increase in outside referrals of Foster Youth Students from DCFS and High School Districts.

6. Collaboration with Career and transfer services in order to provide a smooth transition to transferring Foster Youth students.

7. Collaboration is being done with several Housing programs to offer local housing options to Foster Youth students attending Mt. SAC.

8. Increase collaboration with other Mt. SAC special programs such as ACES, Aspire, DREAM and Bridge.

9. Increase retention and persistence with REACH students by providing incentives and additional life skills support.

10. Increase workshops designed specifically for incoming Foster Youth students.

Critical Decisions Made by Unit: 1. REACH program applied and successfully obtained a $30,000 grant from the Pritzker foundation for a second year.

2. REACH Program Coordinator was converted into a full-time Director position.

3. REACH was assigned counseling hours from Jesse Lopez, full-time counseling faculty starting Fall 2018. Previously to this assignment, REACH only had Adjunct Counselors assigned to the program.

4. REACH program was chosen as a host site for the TAY AmeriCorps and will have 2 AmeriCorps volunteers placed at the REACH program in 2019. In addition, REACH will host AmeriCorps training for 2019.

Notable Achievements for Theme A: To Advance Academic Excellence and Student Achievement: 1. The REACH Program had 10 students graduating/transferring this academic year. 5 student were accepted into the UC system, and 2 students were accepted into UCLA and USC.

2. Two REACH students were awarded the 2019 Student of Distinction award at Mt. SAC.

Notable Achievements for Theme B: To Support Student Access and Success: 1. The REACH program served 212 non-duplicated students in the 17/18 school year.

2. REACH was featured in a report done by NPR on Foster Youth support programs in higher education. REACH was highlighted as a program that offers "a lot" of services to Foster Youth.

3. The REACH program rehired 2 students and hired 4 new students to be REACH Ambassadors and be peer mentors to Foster Youth students. Each Ambassador had a case load assigned to them.

4. The REACH program organized Mt. SAC's fourth Foster Youth Awareness Week with a total of 4 events.

5. The REACH program organized the third annual Foster Youth conference "REACH for College" for High School foster youth with a total attendance of 120 high school students from 8 different school districts.

Notable Achievements for Theme C: Secure Human, Technological, & Financial Resources: 1. REACH program applied and successfully obtained a $30,000 grant from the Pritzker foundation for a second year.

2. REACH program was chosen as a host site for the TAY AmeriCorps and will have 2 AmeriCorps volunteers placed at the REACH program in 2019. In addition, REACH will host AmeriCorps training for 2019.

Notable Achievements for Theme D: To Foster an Atmosphere of Cooperation and Collaboration: 1. The REACH program has established collaborations with Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, Local Transitional Housing Programs, Local School District Foster Youth Liaisons and other Foster Youth agencies in the area.

2. The REACH program has collaborated with the Los Angeles Housing and Services Authority and Hathaway Sycamores in Pasadena to find various pathways to housing for students. Through the efforts done by these agencies, including REACH, a total of 7 students were able to secure housing.

3. The REACH program started a collaboration with the iFoster program to host yearly job training curriculum for foster youth students and find them job placements upon completion of the program.

4. REACH program was chosen as a host site for the TAY AmeriCorps and will have 2 AmeriCorps volunteers placed at the REACH program in 2019. In addition, REACH will host AmeriCorps training for 2019.

Contributors to the Report: Jeze Lopez, REACH/Student Success and Equity

Unit Goals	Resources Needed	Where We Make an Impact: Closing the Loop on Goals and Plans
REACH Program Growth - Increase number of Foster Youth Students that are part of the REACH program by 10% **Status:** Active **Goal Year(s):** 2015-16, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 **Goal Entered:** 03/21/2018	**Report directly on Goal**	**Reporting Year:** 2018-19 **% Completed:** 75 Reach has increased the number of Foster Youth students that participate in the REACH program by implementing various referral avenues within the campus and the community. (03/29/2019)
	Request - Full Funding Requested - Administrative Assistant II **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** REACH will increase outreach efforts year round, but specific emphasis will be placed in the summer. These outreach efforts will include promotional items, activities, programing and workshops. As the program increases its participants and the services provided to them, REACH will need a full-time administrative assistant to assist REACH Director with duties such as orders, requisitions, scheduling, to name a few. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez, REACH Program Director **What would success look like and how would you measure it?:** REACH program will grow active members by 10% each academic year. **Type of Request:** STAFFING: Requests for permanent employee positions or temporary/hourly employees. **Planning Unit Priority:** High **On-Going Funding Requested (if applicable):** 60000	**Reporting Year:** 2017-18 **% Completed:** 100 In the 2017-2018 academic year the REACH program served a total of 143 unduplicated students. Tier A served 93 and Tier B served 51. (06/18/2018) **Reporting Year:** 2017-18 **% Completed:** 0 In the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semester the REACH program continues to not have sufficient office space for staff. The REACH program currently only has 2 offices to share with 2 full time staff and a counselor. During this same period the REACH program has increased its active members to 82. (03/22/2018)

Unit Goals	Resources Needed	Where We Make an Impact: Closing the Loop on Goals and Plans
	Request - Full Funding Requested - High School Foster Youth Conference **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** REACH would seek to expand the conference to include Mckiney-Vento (unaccompanied youth) students and include professional development for staff. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez **What would success look like and how would you measure it?:** The conference will target high school foster youth from our surrounding community. The conference will allow high school foster youth to gain knowledge and understanding about the REACH program and the educational resources provided at Mt. SAC. **Type of Request:** PROFESSIONAL & ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT (POD): Requests that provide professional learning opportunities for Mt. SAC employees. **Planning Unit Priority:** High **Documentation Attached?:** No **One-Time Funding Requested (if applicable):** 10000 **Request - Full Funding Requested -** Marketing and Promotional Items **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** In order to promote the program to prospective students and partners, REACH will purchase marketing materials and promotional items that will allow the program brand to be recognizable. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez, REACH Director	

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	What would success look like and how would you measure it?: REACH will be able to adequately provide materials to serve as outreach and/or recruitment of new REACH students or to create collaborations with other programs/agencies. **Type of Request:** MARKETING: Requests for services in the areas of graphic design, news, and photography, posting information, communication and social media. **Planning Unit Priority:** Medium **One-Time Funding Requested (if applicable):** 5000 **Request - Full Funding Requested -** Foster Youth Awareness Week Fair **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** The REACH program has organized a yearly Foster Youth Awareness week for the past 3 years. However, in an effort to increase awareness campus wide the event would be expanded to include an outdoor fair with food, various games, exhibitions and interactive learning opportunities for those in assistance to learn about the Foster Youth plight. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez, REACH Director **Type of Request:** OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND SERVICES: Requests for contracted, legal/ audit, personal/ consultant, rent/ leases, repairs/ maintenance, and other misc. services. May also include request for travel and conference that does not require the assistance of POD. **Planning Unit Priority:** Medium **One-Time Funding Requested (if**	

	applicable): 10000	
Improve REACH student Transfer/Graduation rates - REACH students will graduate/transfer at a rate of 7% each academic year. **Status:** Active **Goal Year(s):** 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 **Goal Entered:** 05/15/2019	**Request - Full Funding Requested -** Counselor, REACH **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** Foster youth students have many barriers that prevent them from succeeding in their educational goals. One of them is the lack of consistency within their adult mentors. This causes students to struggle in trusting and opening up about their issues and would benefit from having a consistent counselor within the program that allows rapport to be created between the student and the counselor. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez **What would success look like and how would you measure it?:** REACH students will have higher retention and persistence rates when compared with non-REACH foster youth students. **Type of Request:** STAFFING: Requests for permanent employee positions or temporary/hourly employees. **Planning Unit Priority:** High **On-Going Funding Requested (if applicable):** 114000	**Reporting Year:** 2016-17 **% Completed:** 0 REACH currently has 3 adjunct counselors serving the program for a total of 25 hours per week. Beginning December 2016, a total of 69 hours of counseling have been utilized by REACH students. As the program grows and more students become aware that the program now offers counseling the amount of hours used will grow. Minimum counseling contacts are a requirement for REACH students to remain active in the program. (06/29/2017)
REACH Case Management - Implement Case Management system for REACH students **Status:** Active **Goal Year(s):** 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 **Goal Entered:** 05/16/2019	**Request - Full Funding Requested -** REACH Leadership Retreat **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** The REACH program would like to have a 2 day retreat with up to 30 REACH students. This retreat would include specific workshops and	

interventions geared towards addressing foster youth issues such as trauma, healthy relationships and identity. The retreat would have an overnight component for which a location would need to be secured.

Lead: Jeze Lopez

What would success look like and how would you measure it?: 50% of REACH students attending the retreat will remain active in the program for the academic year.

Type of Request: OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND SERVICES: Requests for contracted, legal/ audit, personal/ consultant, rent/ leases, repairs/ maintenance, and other misc. services. May also include request for travel and conference that does not require the assistance of POD.

Planning Unit Priority: Medium

One-Time Funding Requested (if applicable): 10000

Request - Full Funding Requested - Full Time Social Worker

Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need): REACH students struggle with the transition into college and often have childhood adverse experiences that have created long lasting consequences that may hinder their college success. A Social Worker will bring the knowledge of public services and the necessary skill set to support and assist our students from a trauma informed perspective.. The Social Worker will support the REACH program by providing targeted emotional and

Unit Goals	Resources Needed	Where We Make an Impact: Closing the Loop on Goals and Plans
	social support to individual students. In addition, the Social Worker will assist the program in developing positive behavioral intervention strategies and develop staff training programs. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez, REACH Director **What would success look like and how would you measure it?:** Dropout rates of REACH students will decrease as retention and persistence rates will be over 75% in active REACH students. **Type of Request:** STAFFING: Requests for permanent employee positions or temporary/hourly employees. **Planning Unit Priority:** High **One-Time Funding Requested (if applicable):** 104000 **Request - Full Funding Requested -** Full time Success Coach **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** Foster Youth students require a higher level of interventions when compared to Non-Foster Youth students due to their lack of family support and basic life skills knowledge. A Success Coach will develop life skills curriculum, coordinate, and teach life skills workshops for REACH students both in a group setting and individually. This employee will also work with external facilitators to facilitate classes and maintain a detailed schedule of workshops. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez, REACH Director **What would success look like and how would you measure it?:** All	

Unit Goals	Resources Needed	Where We Make an Impact: Closing the Loop on Goals and Plans
	REACH students will have their life skills assessed at the beginning and the end of the academic year by the REACH assessment. 50% of REACH students will report improvement in their life skills assessment by the end of the academic year. **Type of Request:** STAFFING: Requests for permanent employee positions or temporary/hourly employees. **Planning Unit Priority:** High **On-Going Funding Requested (if applicable):** 80000	
Inreach/Outreach: Foster Youth Workshops - Increase REACH Workshops available to Foster Youth Students **Status:** Inactive **Goal Year(s):** 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 **Goal Entered:** 09/01/2016 **Date Goal Archived/Inactivated:** 06/05/2019	**Request - Full Funding Requested -** REACH Leadership Retreat **Describe Plans & Activities Supported (Justification of Need):** The REACH program would like to have a 2 day retreat with up to 30 REACH students. This retreat would include specific workshops and interventions geared towards addressing foster youth issues such as trauma, healthy relationships and identity. The retreat would have an overnight component for which a location would need to be secured. **Lead:** Jeze Lopez **What would success look like and how would you measure it?:** 50% of REACH students attending the retreat will remain active in the program for the academic year. **Planning Unit Priority:** Medium **One-Time Funding Requested (if applicable):** 10000	**Reporting Year:** 2017-18 **% Completed:** 0 No data is available as this is a new implementation for the 18-19 academic year. (06/26/2018)