



**Basic Needs Committee (BNC)
Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2020**

Committee Members							
X	Koji Uesugi, Co-Chair	X	Bill Lambert (in Marisa's place)		Paul Miller		Community Rep.
X	Pauline Swartz, Co-Chair	X	Renu Katoch	X	Romelia Salinas		Faculty (sabbatical)
	Christina Cammayo	X	Shelly Laddusaw	X	Julia Walker		
X	Barbara Carrillo	X	Jeze Lopez		Kaitlyn Yrimeo		
X	Rigo Estrada	X	Irene Martinez	X	Maricela Vazquez Aviles (Stu)		
	Patricia Montoya	X	Ken McAlpin (by phone)	X	Michael Myers (Stu)		

I. Call to Order

II. Review and Approval of Minutes for April 20, 2020

Minutes from April 20, 2020 approved.

III. Updates

- Basic Needs Resources (Rigo): Working with housing insecure students. Many students need places to charge their electronic devices.
 - CalFresh Outreach (regular updates – Rigo/Brenda): Trying to figure out ways to make applying for CalFresh easier. Got ASPIRE program accepted for eligibility to exempt students from having to work to qualify. Brenda has continued to do pre-screening with students. P-EBT (pandemic EBT) families with children in school that would get reduced lunch so families can apply, can get up to \$365 per child, this is separate from regular EBT. Brenda is advertising this on Social Media. If you already received CalFresh benefits you do not have to do anything. What is the best way to get this information out? Renu, asked if Brenda can share this information with her students. This will be added to the Basic Needs website. Irene shared that on May 20th, Student Health will have their De-Stress Fest with a series of workshops and links for students. Koji asked that we report out CalFresh numbers to BNC.
 - April 23 Mountie Fresh Food Pantry (Rigo/Brenda): 400 bags were distributed within 2.5 hours; it went smoothly considering how hot it was. Did not get too many walk ups. Next pantry will be on May 14 and May 28. Maricela shared on the additional food distribution (Mountie Meals) from VPSS office, she volunteered at the event. They will hold another event this Friday and is being promoted on social media.

- Donation Campaign for Basic Needs Fund by Foundation: Bill Lambert provided updates on the campaign. They have raised over \$34k, including corporate gifts from Hollywood Foreign Press, Kaiser Permanente of Baldwin Park and the Gas Company. Rigo will provide information and numbers to Bill so he can report out.
- Hope Center student survey (Koji): Survey on hold because they joined forces with the Chancellors Office and combined survey which should come out from the Chancellors Office. The RP group will be managing the survey. Sometime in May the survey should come out.
- Fresh Success (Shelly): Provides transportation, testing fees, utility payments, childcare payments and other many services. Must be CalFresh eligible, open to credit and non-credit students. Rigo provided some information about this program and the resources they can provide our students.

IV. Discussion

- Debrief on “Conversation with Sara” (refer to Pauline’s notes): Irene suggested that we create a unique fund for Basic Needs, let's not duplicate what other departments have. Koji shared how some of the guidelines and limits have been placed after our discussion with Sara. Bill asked how we will identify students in need for HOPE funds and funds through Foundations office. We will need to find a balance. Romelia asked, who will be involved in the decision making and distribution of CARE funds.
- Shelly shared information on a movie she saw from Soledad O’Brien about four homeless students. It was a good movie worth watching but it would be too long to have at a college event, it is 1.5 hours long. May be good for the committee to view this film.
- Basic Needs support by students and faculty – What are you all hearing? The Basic Needs Funds, what are the parameters? Create something unique that is not currently being offered. Bill reported that during some meeting and discussions with other schools, it seems we are providing similar resources and events, except some are providing gift cards along with their food pantry distribution.
- What support can BNC advise the College to provide students?
- Community Representative Recommendations (refer to spreadsheet and add additional suggestion from Rigo: Will send out the list of names. BNC members, please review before the next meeting.

V. Good of the Order (All): Should BNC meetings be an hour or 90 minutes? Committee agreed that we only need to meet for one hour.

VI. Next Meeting

- May 18, 2020

VII. Adjourn