Supporting Students in New Ways: Robust College - CBO Partnership Case Study

2011 Strengthening Student Success: Emerging Issues in Assessment and Learning

October 14, 2011
San Francisco Airport Marriott
Introduction and Overview...
CAREER LADDERS PROJECT (CLP)

Fosters Educational and Career Advancement for Californians through:

• Research

• Policy initiatives

• Providing direct assistance to community colleges and their workforce partners
CAREER LADDERS PROJECT
Community College Pathways Initiative (CCP)

- Focuses on linking community colleges across California to strengthen outcomes for former foster youth
  - Achieve postsecondary educational goals
  - Access careers with family sustaining wages and advancement opportunities
WHERE DO YOU STAND?  
Comprehending the Equity Line

- Step forward if you were raised by a two-parent household
- Step back if you are a first generation in your family to attend college
- Step back if you speak another language other than English
- Step back if your native tongue is not English
- Step forward if your household income is above $80k
- Step forward if you have a library at home (any form of library)
b2b PARTNERSHIP

• Beyond Emancipation

• Laney College, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS)

• Community College Pathways for Former Foster Youth
Beyond Emancipation

- Beyond Emancipation (B:E) is a primary provider of services to emancipated foster youth in Alameda County. B:E works with more than 800 youth ages 16-24 each year.
- B:E’s mission is to help current and former foster youth make successful transitions to adulthood and living independently.
- B:E’s services— including comprehensive case management, educational support, employment services and transitional housing— support transition age youth on multiple pathways.
- B:E helps young people meet their basic needs, stabilize their lives, develop healthy connections and enduring relationships and become self-sufficient.
Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS)

- Laney College EOPS is a state-funded program whose primary goal is to encourage the enrollment, retention and transfer of urban students.
- EOPS is committed to serving low-income and educationally disadvantaged students.
- EOPS centralizes institutional discourse on issues of race, equity and social justice.
- EOPS offer students comprehensive student support services (i.e. academic, social, personal, and financial services).
b2b is an evolving partnership between Beyond Emancipation and Laney College, EOPS to Support Emancipated Foster Youth to Enter, Persist and Succeed in Community College.

The collaboration attempts to address our youth comprehensively by merging two institutional areas of expertise: Social Services and Academic Support Services, resulting in the seamless service delivery to the students.
Principles & Philosophy

The convergence between the Student, Community and the College is able to support foster youth above and beyond what a single partner can offer. The student is sustained through a variety of internal and external resources.
Why the b2b Work is Critical?

- Every year, approximately 4,000 youth emancipate from California’s foster care system

- Upon emancipating:
  - 65% of foster youth do not have a place to live
  - 51% of foster youth are unemployed

- Estimates suggest that 7-13% of students from foster care enroll in higher education

- 1-3% emancipated foster youth attain a college degree

Sources:
- Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2003
- Children’s Advocacy Institute, ”Expanding Transitional Services for Emancipated Foster Youth: An Investment in California’s Tomorrow,” 2007
24 Students Received Chafee Grant

28 Chafee Grants Processed and Completed

216 Foster Youth Students Applied for Chafee Grant

432 of the 789 identified Laney College in their FAFSA

789 Students District wide Identified as “Orphan or Ward of Court” in their FAFSA

Foster Youth at Laney College
REALLY?!

Learning Community
Core Elements of the b2b Work...

The b2b Learning Community is a 2-year program at Laney College. The benefits include:

• 2 week Summer Orientation
• 4-Semester Looping Cohort
• Student Internships
• Academic Counseling
• Case Management
• Break Activities
Core Elements of the b2b Work, con’t...

• Financial Literacy
• Food pantry
• Team Building: Ropes Course
• Graduation and transfer assistance
• Leadership Development: Coaches of Color
• Financial Assistance: EOPS, FAFSA, fees paid
Goals and Objectives

Student Outcomes: Semester ONE and TWO

• Institutional Connection: how well are b2b participants connected behaviorally to college? (i.e. class attendance, preparation etc.)

• Interpersonal connection: how well are b2b participants connected affectively to college? (e.g. relationships with staff, instructors, peers; belonging, etc)
Goals and Objectives, continued...

Student Outcomes: Semester THREE and FOUR

• Academic Identity: does student academic identity change and how is it related to academic success? (e.g. importance of college; consider self good student)

• Academic Persistence/Completion: do b2b participants persist and complete? (e.g. course completion, college degree, transfer to 4-year college, employment, etc)
Outcomes to date...

Student Demographics, Fall 2011

Race/Ethnicity
- African American: 68%
- Latino: 12%
- White: 4%
- Multi-Racial: 16%

Gender
- Female: 60%
- Male: 40%

N=25
Outcomes to date...

Spring 2011 Student Retention Data

- Laney College: 72.10%
- EOPS: 72.10%
- b2b: 77%

N=25 (for b2b participants)
Outcomes to date...

RETENTION: Migration Study
b2b Original Cohort

N=13
un-Intended Benefits

• Developing Academic Pipeline
  ➢ BE to Laney college to CSU East Bay

• Tutoring Support Services
  ➢ Alameda Housing and Community Development

• Coaches of Color

• Awareness and Support from the College Community
  ➢ i.e. President’s Office, FA, etc.
un-Intended Benefits, continued...

• b2b Learning Communities
  ➢ Informing FYE Development

• Philosophy and Pedagogy

• Cultural Exchange
  ➢ Demystifying Higher Education
"The greatest humanistic and historical task of the oppressed: to liberate themselves..."

~Paulo Freire
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