

#REALCOLLEGE CALIFORNIA

Coalition Report

2022



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Y3

Celebrating Growth

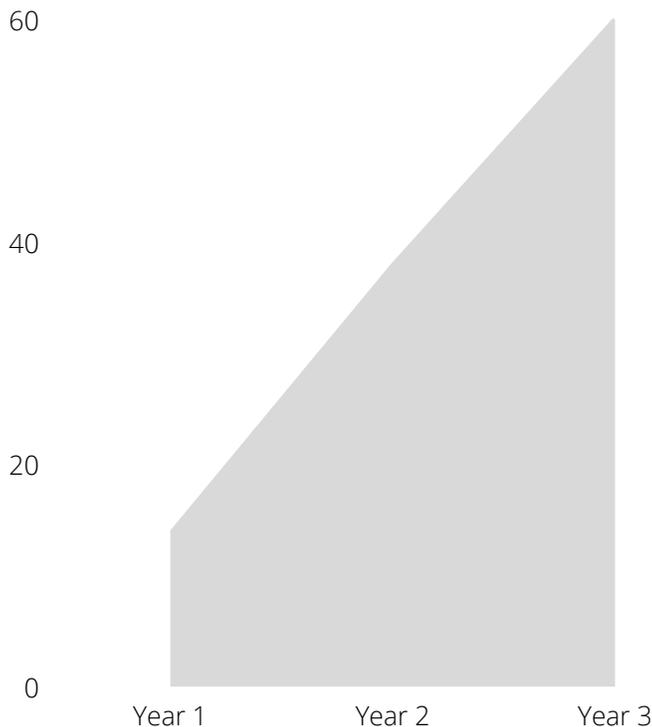


CHART 1. NUMBER OF COLLEGES PARTICIPATING IN THE COALITION PER YEAR



"BEING PART OF THIS COMMUNITY OF PRACTITIONERS IS REALLY HELPING US ENHANCE THE DELIVERY OF SUPPORTS WE OFFER TO STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC."

Justin Mendez,
Basic Needs Program Manager
Long Beach City College

Envisioned by the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges Affordability, Food & Housing Access Taskforce, the #RealCollege™ California Coalition was created in 2019 to provide the latest evidence, integrated with hands-on guidance to inform implementation and help members develop a cutting-edge mindset to increase their institutional effectiveness towards implementing basic needs approaches. The Hope Center has worked with a growing number of participating institutions to provide technical assistance, learning, and training services, as well as coaching to engage in the latest state of the arts practices.

This report outlines the outcomes and evolution of services offered through the Coalition over three years of partnership with California community colleges, the League, members of the Affordability, Food & Housing Access Taskforce, and The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice.

#REALCOLLEGE™ CALIFORNIA



COSUMNES RIVER COLLEGE



Cypress College



Fullerton College



LONG BEACH CITY COLLEGE

LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE



MOORPARK COLLEGE



SAN DIEGO COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION



SIERRA COLLEGE



SOLANO COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Capacity Building

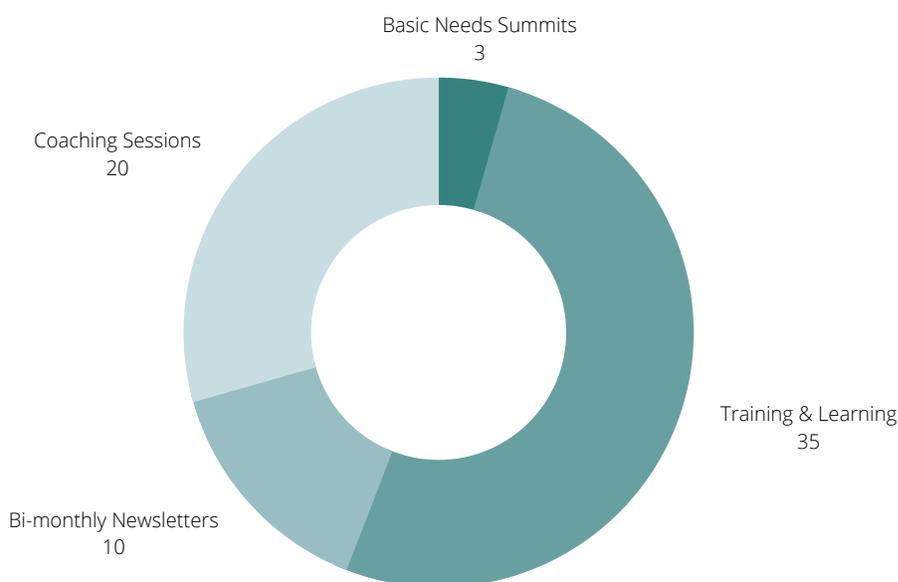


CHART 2. THREE YEARS OF COALITION ACTIVITIES

In its third year, fifty-seven colleges joined the #RealCollegeCalifornia Coalition, including Los Angeles Community College District, thanks to the support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Through professional development (for administrators, faculty, and front-line staff), webinars, learning sessions, office hours with Hope Center staff and leadership, and access to the latest Hope Center tools and resources, participating California colleges increased knowledge and skills in over 35 different topics related to increasing institutional effectiveness to help students secure their basic needs.

Year 3 HIGHLIGHTS:

- Assessing and analyzing students' basic needs in the context of the new economics of college
- Optimizing their college's HEERF III funds' allocation to maximize student support
- Building and strengthening community alliances to expand the student support ecosystem
- Using evidence-based approaches to increase student utilization of existing basic needs supports

By the Numbers

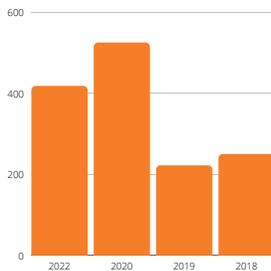


TRAINING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES

35 Learning sessions, webinars, and Charlas over 3 years
256 College staff and leaders participated
47 Colleges represented at sessions

COACHING & CONSULTATIONS

67 Office hours offered
20 Resulting coaching sessions



BASIC NEEDS SUMMIT PARTICIPATION

418 - Feb 2022 at San Diego Mesa College (virtual)
525 - Dec 2020 at Cypress College & Imperial Valley College (virtual)
222 - Dec 2019 at Laney College (in-Person)
250 - Dec 2018 at Compton College (in-Person)

Over the years, approximately 256 staff participated in 35 learning and training sessions created and conducted exclusively for #RealCollegeCA members. Participation in these sessions has not only increased the knowledge and skill base of participating college staff but has also helped build a sense of camaraderie across the state and helped form a community of practitioners in which front line staff, leaders, and faculty have shared best practices and systems to advance basic needs work. This learning culture promises to have a far-reaching impact on higher education practitioners, administrators, and staff throughout California.

"TODAY WAS A GOOD DAY AND A WONDERFUL REMINDER OF WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO. IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, THE AFFORDABILITY, HOUSING AND FOOD TASKFORCE, THE HOPE CENTER, AND THIS SUMMIT HAVE BEEN BEACONS OF LIGHT. GIVEN THE GLACIAL SPEED THAT ACCOMPANIES CHANGE IN OUR INSTITUTIONS, THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST FEW YEARS ARE NOTHING SHORT OF MIRACULOUS."

JoAnna Schilling, Ph.D.,
President
Cypress College

Challenges

ENGAGEMENT

Although our impact has been demonstrated to be strong, we emphasize that institutions will get as much out of the activities as they put into them. We understand that the ongoing demands of the pandemic, along with staff burnout and turnover, have caused barriers to their ability to fully engage and participate in the multiple channels that we have created including attending learning sessions, trainings, and coaching calls. Conscious of this, The Hope Center developed a private site where members of the Coalition can access videos, resources, and materials shared during the webinars, including evidence-based and best practices.

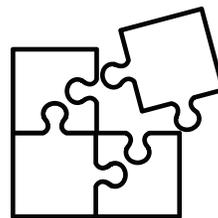
Each of the sessions conducted was designed to address one or more of nine developmental areas identified by The Hope Center experts, including expanding awareness of available basic needs supports among all students by building a culture of care, collecting data on students' basic needs, offering on-campus basic needs supports, engaging in external partnerships to expand access to basic needs supports and building internal capacity to provide support for students' basic needs. However, **college representation** at each session was **less than 50% of all Coalition members**.

FEEDBACK

The Hope Center is committed to being responsive to members' needs. Our attempts to collect feedback include emails, surveys, and the #RealCollegeCalifornia newsletter that since the fall of 2020 is disseminated to Coalition members on a bi-monthly basis. Of our 450+ newsletter subscribers, we have an **average open rate of 20% and less than 1% response rate to our inquiries for feedback**.

COACHING

Institutions that have engaged with coaching and consultations have consistently reported great impact and satisfaction. Unfortunately, only a small number of colleges have participated in coaching calls and consultations.



Moving Forward

Hope Impact Partnerships

As The Hope Center brings back the student basic needs survey, colleges around the nation have access to research and data services combined with learning best practices from peer institutions and other experts in the field. This approach strategically aligns the survey with systems change education and training services to help institutions not only identify their students' basic needs but also address them.

We designed a special level of participation for California and customized additional offerings under the three levels of participation available to the public:



CHART 4. HOPE IMPACT PARTNERSHIP LEVELS FOR #REALCOLLEGE CALIFORNIA COALITION MEMBERS

Hope Impact Partnerships - #RealCollegeCA Level Information

If surveying students and/or action planning is beyond current institutional capacity or goals, The Hope Center will welcome current and future Coalition members to partner to continue to increase institutional effectiveness and advance basic needs work. This will replace the current payment structure of the Coalition membership (regardless of the institutions' student headcount) and allow colleges to engage with other Institutions of Higher Education in the State of California and around the nation.

Each level offers California colleges: Free registration to the #RealCollegeCalifornia Basic Needs Summit, two California-specific practitioner community meetings facilitated by Hope staff focused on #realcollege research, policy, and/or practice, and unlimited access to three modules of The Hope Center's NEW #RealCollege Basic Needs Curriculum.