Leveraging Federal Funding for Food Insecure Students through Fresh Success

California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance 2020 Summit
February 6-7, 2020
Responding with Poll Everywhere

Web voting

Text voting
What type of educational institution or organization do you represent?

- Community college
- UC
- CSU
- Community-based organization
- Other
Where is your organization located?
Today’s presenters

• Tanya Garbolino, Fresh Success Manager, Foundation for California Community Colleges
• Annette Gutierrez, CalWORKs/Fresh Success/Food Pantry Supervisor, Gavilan College
• Kimberly Barnes, Special Projects Manager, Rubicon Programs
• Lindsay Kong, Program Manager for EOPS/CARE, CalWORKs, and Foster Youth, Diablo Valley College
What is Fresh Success?

- Helps colleges and community-based organizations access CalFresh Employment & Training funding
- Funding helps partners expand services for low-income participants to improve their employability
How students spend an average $1,991 per month in non-tuition expenses

- **Rent and Utilities**: $895 (45%)
- **Food**: $530 (26.6%)
- **Personal Expenses**: $353 (17.7%)
- **Books and Supplies**: $120 (6%)
- **Transportation**: $93 (4.7%)

*Source: California Student Aid Commission 2018-19 Student Expenses and Resources Survey. Chart by Yuxuan Xie*
How ready is your college to help support the basic needs of your students?

Very ready! We're already doing a lot to support our students.

Somewhat ready. We're already offering some support and are taking steps to do more.

Not ready yet. We're still figuring out what to do and where to start.
How can CalFresh E&T help colleges?

• Leverages federal reimbursement to expand existing student services
• Increases supports for food insecure students
• Helps fill gaps in existing services
• Can motivate qualified students to apply for CalFresh
Supporting you at every step.

**Fresh Success** focuses on helping you meet your educational goals by understanding your needs and offering a wide range of support.

- **Academic and Career Counseling**
- **Textbook and Supply Assistance**
- **Monthly Transportation Stipend**
  - **UP TO $100**
- **Free Parking Permit**

**Eligibility**
- Reside in Contra Costa County
- Enrolled in at least one CTE, ESL, GED, or basic skills course
- Enrolled in or eligible for CalFresh
- NOT enrolled in CalWORKS

**How to Apply**

www.examplecollege.com/freshsuccess
or visit 123 Example Hall, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

HUNGRY? CALFRESH CAN HELP.

1234 5678 9123 2019

Get an average of $150/month for groceries.
Apply @ students.getcalfresh.org/s/ccc
How does the reimbursement work?

Provider spends $1.80 on allowable program costs and invoices Foundation

Provider receives $0.80 in federal reimbursement funds
How much funding do colleges receive?

Sample Community College Provider  
Annual Federal Reimbursements

Average reimbursement is $1,300 per student annually.
What qualifies for reimbursement?

- Non-federal funds that
  - are spent on allowable services to qualifying participants
  - are not used as match for another federal program

- Possible sources include
  - EOPS
  - California College Promise Grants (BOG Fee Waiver) and California Promise
  - Student Equity and Achievement
  - Strong Workforce
  - Adult Education
  - District funds
  - Philanthropic funds
Who is a qualifying participant?

To qualify for Fresh Success, a potential participant must:

- be a CalFresh recipient
- not be in CalWORKs
- be taking at least one Career Education, ESL, GED, or basic skills class
What services are eligible for reimbursement?

- Academic and career counseling
- Academic monitoring
- Job search, placement, and retention services
- Career and job readiness workshops
- Tutoring
- Case management
What services are eligible for reimbursement?

• Financial help to reduce barriers to participation, such as support for
  • transportation
  • textbooks
  • course supplies
  • testing fees
  • emergency rent and one-time utility payments to avoid shut-off
  • eye exams/glasses and minor dental work
  • dependent care
Fresh Success at Gavilan College
• Program launched as a pilot June 2016 serving only Santa Clara County
• District allocated $60,000 from General Fund & $30,000 from Equity dollars as seed money the first year
• Focused on equity groups, timed out CalWORKs, and part time students who were not part of any other program such as EOPS
• Heavy outreach efforts on and off campus
• Holistic Case Management Model
• Basic supportive services included textbook vouchers, parking permits, gas cards & bus tokens
• Program became permanent in 2018
• 2017-2018 secured MOU to serve San Benito County in addition to Santa Clara
• 2018-2019 FY program became self-sufficient
• Eligible match funding increased (i.e. Promise Grants)
• 2018-2019 FY included serving EOPS students
• Program grew from 11 students in 2015-16 to 163 students in 2018-2019
• Program has become a campus staple
• Services have expanded to include rental, PG&E, vehicle repair assistance in addition to supporting ancillary items
• Direct referrals from on campus departments
Gavilan College
Food Pantry
Serving the entire community

Gilroy Campus
LI135
- Daily Snacks
- Weekly Bags
- Hygiene Bags
- CalFresh Application Assistance
getcalfresh.org

Fresh Produce Tuesday
1st Tuesday of the month
Fresh Produce available between 10:30am-4:30pm

Just in Time Mobile Food Distribution
3rd Thursday of the month
Parking Lot H
12:30pm-2:30pm

Please bring your own bags.

(408) 852-2855
5055 Santa Teresa Boulevard | Gilroy, CA 95020
Visit us for more information at www.gavilan.edu/foodpantry
RESOURCES

GAVILAN COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

FOOD PANTRIES & CALFRESH APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

Gavilan College Food Pantry:

WEBSITE: www.gavilan.edu/hop
E-MAIL: foodpantry@gavilan.edu
PHONE: (408) 855-2855

CalFresh Application Assistance available by appointment
CalFresh Applications can be completed online in 10 minutes.
Please use this link:
https://www.netafresh.org/

Gavilan College Hollister Site food pantry:
Every 4th Thursday of the month
9am to 1pm

Morgan Hill Community Center food pantry:
Every 2nd Tuesday of the month
11am to 1pm

Resources available to currently enrolled students. Learn more at: www.gavilan.edu/resources
Fresh Success at Diablo Valley College
Program Overview & Core Services

• Launched Spring Semester!
• Projected to serve 50 students first year
• 1 Full Time Rubicon Fresh Success Impact Coach
• Ongoing coaching and connections to both campus and community resources and supports
• Support Services include parking permits, gas cards/Clipper Cards, textbooks and/or other required course supplies
• Minimum Participation is 3 sessions per semester
Why Partnership? (Strengths & Gaps)

DVC:
• Builds on current Basic Needs Resources and CARE Team
• Student need (Hope Survey 2019)
  • 68% experienced at least one form of basic needs insecurity in past year
• Initial process with District
• Gaps in current DVC human resources (development, administration, and expertise)

Rubicon:
• Experienced in Fresh Success
• Reach across county, parallel to campus locations
• Existing program model is not targeted to current students
• Expands pathways to economic mobility
What’s Making it Work? (Frameworks)

The DVC Community

Rubicon’s Theory of Change
What’s Making it Work? (Structures & People)

DVC:

• Growing focus on Basic Needs:
  • Food Pantry
  • CalFresh/Food Bank Hours
  • Hiring of CARE Team Case Manager
  • Creation of Basic Needs Advisory
• Existing structure of the HUB and alignment with students it serves (EOPS/CARE, CalWORKs, START (foster youth), Adult Transitions, Scholarships)

Rubicon:

• Model of interdisciplinary teams— the HUB gave the program a familiar home
• Fresh Success Advisory Board
• LaReese
• The Foundation’s role in partnership development and ongoing technical support
What Are We Learning? (Looking Back)

**DVC:**
- Hosting an outside agency (insider/outsider privileges)
- Rethinking success and retention strategies – connection to Maslow’s hierarchy
- Program highlighted need for CalFresh intake assistance on site and effective CalFresh messaging

**Rubicon:**
- Aligning organizational cultures
- Targeted referral pilot
- Timing for expanded communication and outreach
What Are We Learning? (From Each Other)

DVC from Rubicon:
• Institutional knowledge from experts already navigating community resources
• Motivational Interviewing and other Rubicon core techniques

Rubicon from DVC:
• Supporting participants within the context of academic demands/schedule
• Understanding the unique barriers faced by student population and best practices that support student success
Partnering with Fresh Success

Enhancing Support Services for Low-Income Community College Students

Fresh Success helps community colleges and community-based organizations start and manage CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T) programs in partnership with their counties. This non-competitive federal funding allows colleges to expand their supportive services and help students succeed in their CTE programs or basic skills, ESL, and GED courses.

**Community Colleges**

- Non-Competitive Federal Funding
- Allow Colleges to Receive Partial Federal Reimbursement for Services Provided to CalFresh Recipients

**Why do Community Colleges Participate in Fresh Success?**

- To enhance services for low-income students to better support persistence and completion in alignment with the Student-Centered Funding Formula.
- To improve student food security by increasing student enrollment in CalFresh.

*44% of participants enrolled in CalFresh because of the opportunity to participate in Fresh Success in FY 2019.

**CCC Students**

- Waive CalFresh Student Work Requirement
- Provide Academic Counseling and Personalized Case Management Services
- Financial Assistance to Help Cover Student Costs
- Textbook and Supply Assistance
- Monthly Transportation Allowance

**Participant Survey Results**

- 93% Strongly agree that Fresh Success helps them stay in college.
- 79% Strongly agree that Fresh Success enables them to take more classes per term.
- 72% Strongly agree that Fresh Success improves the skills needed to get a job.

**Who are Fresh Success participants?**

- 72% Female
- 33% Single Parents
- 31% Speak English as a Second Language
Which colleges currently partner with Fresh Success?

- Fresno City College
- Reedley College
- Diablo Valley College

Coming Soon: Palomar College
Fresh Success County Partners
FFY 2020

- Fresh Success Partner
- E&T County not currently partnering with Fresh Success
- County does not currently offer E&T
- Community College Partner(s)
- Counties in discussion to partner
Is Fresh Success a good fit for my college?

• Interest in expanding services and/or participants
• Sustainable non-federal dollars
• Able to administer program with support from Foundation
• Commitment from county CalFresh agency
Audience Discussion

1. What are the resources available on your campus that support students’ basic needs?

2. What gaps do you see?

3. Do you see Fresh Success as a potential program for your campus?
   - Who would be involved?
   - What state and local funding sources could you access?
   - What challenges do you anticipate?
What is the top supportive service need your students have that you are currently unable to fully meet?
What's one take-away you had from your discussion?
I’m interested. What’s next?

Foundation staff will work with you to:

• Introduce Fresh Success to other key decision makers in your organization

• Review your potential non-federal sources and estimate reimbursement

• Confirm commitment from the County

• Discuss timing for becoming a new Fresh Success provider
## How do I get more information?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tanya Garbolino</th>
<th>Courtney Cagle</th>
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<tbody>
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[www.foundationccc.org/freshsuccess](http://www.foundationccc.org/freshsuccess)
Additional Presenter Contact Information

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