AFFORDABILITY, FOOD & HOUSING ACCESS TASKFORCE
Real Solutions to Real Challenges

Friday, October 7, 2022
7:30AM – 9:00AM

MEETING SUMMARY

In Attendance: Dorothy Battenfeld, Rudy Besikof, Carie Camacho, Rebekah Cearley, Keith Curry, Melanie Dixon, Marilyn Flores, Tammeil Gilkerson, Adrienne Grey, John Hernandez, Elizabeth Hilton, Andra Hoffman, James Preston, David Shook, Tamara Shinar, Matt Wetstein. League Staff: Sadie Brown, Nune Garipian, Ryan McElhinney, Lisa Mealoy.

- **REVIEW 2022-2023 GOALS**
    - The committee reviewed the 2022-2023 goals and indiciated their areas of focus (sub-committees). Co-chairs Matt and Tammeil asked that the taskforce focus on goals that will produce a brief as opposed to advocacy (resources & access, financial aid & cost of attendance, housing 2.0) and will reach out to the below sub-committee members to provide direction.

GOALS	SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Reimagining the #RealCollegeCalifornia Coalition ● Contract system-wide survey	Keith Curry, James Preston, Marilyn Flores
Resources and Access (possible brief) 1. Zero Cost Textbooks a. How will $115M be spent? 2. Broadband Access a. Revisit 2021 CEO Survey for feedback b. Technology focus 3. OER	Melanie Dixon (ZCT), James Preston, Rudy Besikof (broadband) NOTE: Dorothy is working with her county supervisor on meals and broadband in Sonoma and is willing to share information with this group.
Free Meals for Students on Campus ● Legislative goal ● EBT and requirements for campus-based vendors ● Recommendations for contracts and updated board policies ● Report on how campuses do their services (in-house vs. contract out) ○ Survey campuses for data; potential brief next year	Andy Martinez, Colleen Ganley
**Financial Aid	Cost of Attendance (possible brief)** ● #DoubleThePell ● State and Federal Advocacy ● Webinar series for CEOs ● Session at Legislative Conference	Matt Wetstein, Rudy Besikof, John Hernandez, Adrienne Grey, Colleen Ganley (interested to learn more)
Housing 2.0 (possible brief) ● Implementation ● Affordability & Sustainability ● Restate cost of living (regional focus) ○ Chief Financial Aid Officers to be included in conversation; partner on writing and advocacy	Andra Hoffman, Rebekah Cearley, Carie Camacho, Dorothy Battenfeld, Nune Garipian, Lisa Mealoy

- In lieu of more taskforce meetings, the committee will provide progress updates on the work done in their sub-commitees via email (see the below schedule). Sadie will reach out to committees members and solicit their items about two to three weeks ahead of the scheduled progress update. Sadie will collect all the items and send out a combined report on the below dates.
  - Progress Update Schedule
    - Friday, December 16
    - Friday, February 10
    - Friday, April 14
- Matt recommended that committee members use the Friday, 7:30AM time slot to work on their sub-committee work.

- **BASIC NEEDS SUMMIT UPDATE**
  - Sadie provided the below updates on the Basic Needs Summit.
    - Call for Proposals
      - The deadline to submit a proposal for the summit was on Friday, September 30. Many proposals came in at the last minute, with 36 total received. San Bernardino Valley College has the capacity to hold 10 concurrent sessions. The taskforce recommended that there only be 5-6 presentations per concurrent session block so that each room is well attended. The taskforce also recommended that the sessions be categorized by the above goals so that committee members can attend workshops related to their focus areas and bring information back to the sub-committee.
      - The conference planning committee (Martha, Diana, Nohemy, Sadie) is scheduled to meet on Friday, October 7 to select the coaching session proposals and solidify the conference schedule.
      - Response letters for the summit are scheduled to be sent on Friday, October 14 for both proposals that were accepted and proposals that were not accepted.
    - Sponsorships
      - Sadie reported that there are 12 sponsors and $42,000 in sponsorship funds. Keith Curry sent out a request to the CEOs encouraging them to sponsor. The sponsorship deadline is Friday, November 4.
    - Hosting (future years)
      - Mt. San Antonio College inquired about hosting the Basic Needs Summit in future years. The precedent has been that the host college has a CEO who is involved in the taskforce or planning committee. The taskforce discussed cycling the summit between northern and southern colleges (with easy airport access), and preferred to keep the host college a decision to the taskforce.

- **UPDATE ON 2022-2023 REALCOLLEGECALIFORNIA COALITION MEMBERSHIP**
    - The League and Tammeil have been in conversation with the Hope Center regarding 1) the membership structure for the #RealCollegeCA coalition and HIP level memberships, 2) the Basic Needs Survey, and 3) the fiscal agent relationship between CCLC and Hope. CCLC and Tammeil sent a letter to Hope on behalf of the taskforce to request that Hope release the 12 instititons who were signed up with HIP level memberships and add them (as well as the 2021-2022 members) to the California-specific membership level. The letter also included a request for information relating to the cost and scope of work for the Basic Needs survey. The response from the Hope Center was that they can no longer have any affiliation with the #RealCollege moniker and will be staying with their HIP level membership structure. They also confirmed that they will not be offering a special

California membership as was offered in the past.

- ■ They provided the following cost estimates for the Basic Needs Summit survey:
  - ● $360,000 for 60 Coalition Member Institutions
  - ● $685,000 for all CA Community Colleges
- ■ The taskforce discussed not charging current member colleges for the 2022-2023 year to give CCLC and the taskforce time to reimagine the coalition and benefits structure. The taskforce, specifically the coalition subcommittee, will discuss options for new colleges to participate in the membership for the 2022-2023 year.
- ■ Matt, Tammeil, and CCLC will draft a letter to Hope that outlines the history of the taskforce and their role in the California coalition and basic needs summit. The letter will also inform Hope of the taskforce's desire to step away from the relationship.

- ● **FINANCIAL AID & COST OF LIVING DISCUSSION WITH CCCSFAAA**
  - ○ David Shook, Elizabeth Hilton, and Tamara Shinar joined the meeting to discuss what they are working on and how the taskforce can help uplift their work as a priority to help students. They shared that budget-related issues are a main concern for CCCSFAAA as financial aid offices are categorically funded for a big chunk of operational funds but did not receive a COLA for categorical funding. They are actively drafting policy papers that advocate for the COLA to be mandated in the budget. Additionally, they are advocating that a portion of that categorical funding (called the "two percent") be restricted for use within the financial aid offices. CCCSFAAA is also focused on CalGrant reform to ensure that the gap between community college awards and 4-year program awards is closed (in addition to the simplification of processing).
  - ○ CCCSFAAA is creating a working document that lists all the new awards, MIS codes, explanation of state regulations, etc. The intent is to share this document so that it can be accessed across the state so that everything is housed in one area and is easily accessible by financial aid staff.
  - ○ CCCSFAAA advocated for the $30M student basic needs funding to be directed through the financial aid office so that they can support the program, however, that did not happen and they are still required to do the work without the support. Funding for the budget has decreased (due to a decrease in enrollment) but the work-load continues to increase as well as the need for student financial aid.
  - ○ Another concern for CCCSFAAA is related to technology funding as it is an annual determination and will be based on headcount starting in 2023, meaning they do not know what the funding will be and multi-year tech contracts will be difficult to secure. The cost and workload of building these tech programs is another concern for financial aid offices. The taskforce discussed the importance of petitioning the tech companies to provide more services - in terms of system build - for the fees that they are charging colleges and districts. CCCSFAAA requested that CEOs be cognizant of this issue and help to hold tech companies accountable for their services. Tamara discussed the importance of CEOs and other executive administrators being involved in communication with their financial aid offices to better understand their scope of work and provide the the level of support and resources that is needed.

  - ○ **RESOURCES**
    - ○ [The ZTC/OER Movement](), article by James Preston
    - ○ [Why do Some Students Fail to Receive Pell Grants (Wheelhouse Report)]()
    - ○ [Money Left on the Table (Wheelhouse Report)]()
    - ○ [Increasing Student Access, Success and Equity: California Community College Student Focused Financial Aid Policies]()