

Grant Progress Update

Reporting Period: 01/15/21-05/15/21

PR Award #: P031S200132

Institution Name: Sonoma County Junior College District

Project Title: The SRJC *Lanzamiento* Initiative

Project Director (PD): Dr. Robert Holcomb

PD Phone: (707) 527-4615

PD Email: rholcomb@santarosa.edu

Program Management

1. Are there any changes to key personnel positions? If so, explain.

No.

2. Are you on track to spend funds in accordance with the timeline of proposed activities/expenditures? If not, explain.

Yes.

3. Have you draw down funds in G5 to pay for bills or invoices in a timely manner?

Yes.

Program Performance

1. Describe activities and corresponding objectives and tasks completed for the reporting period

Activity Description:

- a) Develop a comprehensive dual enrollment strategic plan, designed to increase participation and completion among Hispanic and low-income students
- b) Design a recruitment plan to increase Hispanic and low-income student participation.
- c) Create comprehensive financial wellness presentations including 5 Minute Financial Aid, 15 to 30-minute overview, to 60-minute comprehensive Financial Wellness.
- d) Develop and implement Financial Aid Awareness Week (October) - a District-wide event focusing on increasing awareness and completion of FAFSA applications and promoting institutional scholarship opportunities.
- e) Implement 10 HSI-designated course sections designed to serve the target population.
- f) Implement two Communities of Practice (CoPs) including 30 faculty members. Coordinate with other academic disciplines to begin designing Communities of Practice CoPs.
- g) Redesign PALS training activities to include new culturally relevant practices geared toward serving the target population.

- h) Redesign Success Coach training activities to include new culturally relevant practices geared toward serving the target population.
- i) Provide Course-integrated instruction for 10 HSI-designated course sections.
- j) Develop a comprehensive mental health plan, inclusive of both individual therapy as well as workshops, all designed to increase participation and completion among Hispanic and low-income students.
- k) Transfer Center: Spring Semester, Offer “Create Your College List” workshop so students can research options and narrow down schools they are considering for transfer.

Activity Objective(s) and tasks completed:

- a) Develop a comprehensive dual enrollment strategic plan, designed to increase participation and completion among Hispanic and low-income students
 - Met regularly with the Office of Institutional Research (OIR) to gather baseline dual enrollment data and assess trends by school district
 - Collaborated with the Director of English Learner Services (ELL) at Santa Rosa City Schools, the largest high school district in Sonoma County, to identify district dual enrollment growth challenges and opportunities
 - Engaged County partners to develop dual enrollment opportunities for incarcerated youth at the Sonoma County Juvenile Hall, who are more likely to involve low-income, first-generation students, and are disproportionately Black and Latinx youth relative to the community at large
- b) Design a recruitment plan to increase Hispanic and low-income student participation.
 - SRJCRReady program recruitment will commence on May 23, 2021 and offer prioritized recruitment for first-year Hispanic/Latinx and low-income students.
 - Students will be invited to receive individualized peer coaching and onboarding assistance through SRJCRReady. Students will receive a number of nudges inviting them to attend including email, text, phone call, and postcard mailers.
- c) Create comprehensive financial wellness presentations including 5 Minute Financial Aid, 15 to 30-minute overview, to 60-minute comprehensive Financial Wellness.
 - Began creating a series of informational videos geared toward the target student population about how to apply for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

- Conceptualized a follow-up video about how to assemble and submit information if a student is selected and required to provide verification.
 - Plans to make informational videos available at the HSI webpage for *Lanzamiento* student and faculty access
- d) Develop and implement Financial Aid Awareness Week (October) - a District-wide event focusing on increasing awareness and completion of FAFSA applications and promoting institutional scholarship opportunities.
- Create a series of workshops to be offered during Financial Aid Awareness week. Promote workshops with HSI *Lanzamiento* course sections.
 - Institute a Financial Aid “Zoom Hour”
 - Conduct a Financial Aid Drive-Thru event geared toward supporting the target HSI population in filling out FAFSA/CADAA applications in person.
 - Collaborate with the Scholarship Office and EOPS to inform the target HSI student population about College resources and support them in accessing
- e) Implement 10 HSI-designated course sections designed to serve the target population.
- Forty-seven HSI-designated *Lanzamiento* sections, across various academic disciplines, have been scheduled for fall 2021. Faculty participants were confirmed through an “open call” to faculty, application review process based on set criteria, and selection process. A brief program description, with a link to the HSI webpage, is provided in the schedule of classes for each participating section.
- f) Implement two CoPs including 30 faculty members. Coordinate with other academic disciplines to begin designing CoPs.

Communities of Practice have been scheduled and some have begun meeting. They involve fifteen faculty facilitators and fifty-six total faculty participants. Communities of Practice are organized around the following topics:

- Validation Theory, Dr. Laura Rendón
- *Lanzamiento* Across Disciplines
- Transformative Syllabus
- Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Pedagogies

- *Finding Latinx: In Search of the Voice Redefining Latino Identity*, Paola Ramos
- Maya and Inca Mathematics

g) Redesign PALS training activities to include new culturally relevant practices geared toward serving the target population.

- Joint meetings have been held with faculty leads from the Math Center, English Writing Center, and Tutorial Center to devise equitable strategies toward PALS recruitment, tutor training, and tutor placement into PALS assignments across all three instructional support areas.

h) Redesign Success Coach training activities to include new culturally relevant practices geared toward serving the target population.

- The teams are currently in the process of recruiting new Success Coaches and the training will occur during Summer 2021. The Coordinators are currently redesigning content to include culturally relevant and responsive best practices.

i) Provide Course-integrated instruction for 10 HSI-designated course sections.

Began preliminary curriculum mapping for fall 2021 *Lanzamiento* sections

Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators Best Practices Conference 2021

- Use this theme for a session of the summer 2021 *Lanzamiento* Community of Practice for integration into online digital tools and for face-to-face or hybrid *Lanzamiento* sections.
- Abolitionist pedagogy and resources: Integrate into online digital tools and Library collection development
- Student panels: A common theme expressed was the desire for more student leadership development opportunities. (Attended other conferences/student panels where the same theme was expressed.)

Library collection development (ongoing)

- Order additional e-book and print books to support both HSI students and faculty Digital Learning Objects
 - Set up a Canvas shell for course content development
 - Start an online Library Research Guide with resources for HSI faculty & students
- SRJC Distance Education Equity Workshop: Peralta Equity Rubric Workshop
- Note key points for integration into information literacy components.
 - Download to share with faculty teaching fall 2021 *Lanzamiento* sections.
- SRJC Distance Education (DE) Workshop: Ally Tool in Canvas

- Continue discussion with DE for the creation of quick start faculty/student guides and targeted workshops for fall 2021 *Lanzamiento* sections.

Latinx Faculty & Staff Association: Workgroup for Latinx Welcome Day

- Help to plan event including when to discuss the *Lanzamiento* program with incoming students.

j) Develop a comprehensive mental health plan, inclusive of both individual therapy as well as workshops, all designed to increase participation and completion among Hispanic and low-income students.

- Maximized funding by hiring a bicultural, bilingual therapist who already works at SRJC this semester at .25FTE, with plans to continue into Fall 2020. Current therapist is providing individual therapy, meeting with clubs and organizations, presenting workshops, and appearing on Zoom mental health panels for students.

- Also, plan to combine this funding with local County Measure O funding and hire a full-time Spanish-speaking therapist to start Spring 2022.

k) Transfer Center: Spring Semester, Offer “Create Your College List” workshop so students can research options and narrow down schools they are considering for transfer.

Class presentation about – College Choices

- Puente Class
- HUMAN 23
- ESL 10
- San Marin HS - senior AVID class

Hosted Workshop – Creating Your College List

Held individual appointments in the Transfer Center with possible *Lanzamiento* students

Conducted presentations to the following groups about HSI *Lanzamiento*:

- Counseling
- Outreach
- MESA
- ESL
- EOPS
- Welcome and Connect Center
- 10,000 Degrees

2. Is the activity concluded? If so, what was the impact or outcome?

None of the year 1 grant activities are fully completed, but as outlined above, they are all well into advanced stages of development and implementation. Preliminary impacts and outcomes were captured in the 6-month interim report, indicating that the majority of performance indicators are already on track, or exceeding, year 1 benchmarks.

3. What task or objective is the priority for the next reporting period?

The next reporting period will carry through grant year 1. As such, the tasks and objectives for the next reporting period will involve full implementation of all year 1 activities.

4. Please discuss any challenges you are experiencing

All has gone smoothly within this reporting period and no challenges have surfaced.