August 22, 2023

Alma Rodriguez, Financial Aid Officer
Basic Needs

Dear Alma Rodriguez,

Thank you for all the work you put into completing your comprehensive program review. It has been reviewed by the College Planning Committee and the Executive Team. The College Planning Committee feedback is attached. Below, you will find comments, commendations, and recommendations from the Executive Team. These are provided for incorporation into your annual program planning processes. Typically, recommendations require planning improvements that will be implemented over time. Thus, in your subsequent annual mini reviews, you will want to provide updates on progress made towards addressing these recommendations.

Comments:

- Ventura College Basic Needs is recognized as an exemplar for supporting student needs in a variety of ways, including drive-thru events and the Food Pantry at our East campus and Ventura campus. The expansion led to 30,542 student visits in the last academic year.
- The demand for basic needs supplies, which include food, personal care products, school supplies, etc. has more than doubled from the previous semester (2021) and keeping our pantry stocked is a challenge.
- Inflation, food shortages, variety of products and increased demand for our services are some of the threats are program faces each day.
- Despite the success of the Basic Needs food pantry and related services during the pandemic, with services being moved to remote only, not all students were able to take advantage of the drive-thru services.

Commendations:

1. The Basic Needs program has had continued growth each year in both student usage and the services we provide to students over the past few years.
2. The Basic Needs program expanded to include a food pantry at VCEC (Ventura College East Campus).
3. Results from a survey of student who use the services, on a 5-point scale, students overall are satisfied with our services (4.8), they feel valued (4.7), and they feel nurtured (4.7) by the

department.
4. The program gained an extra refrigerator and a storage room to adequately store more food and supplies.

Recommendations:

1. Continue to work with community partners and organizations to create additional donations.
2. Seek community partnerships in areas related to housing and mental health services. Housing in our area tends to exceed students' budgets. By seeking partnership with an Area Housing Authority, local apartment buildings, and other agencies, we may be able to serve more of our students' housing needs.
3. Aim to ensure we have adequate space and storage equipment to house food and supplies at both campuses.
4. Hire a replacement for the vacant Basic Needs Specialist position.

CPC's overall recommendation was tied between no action needed and strengthen the program. Given the heightened need for food and other basic needs resources, I support **strengthening the program** for the coming review cycle.

Thank you again for your dedicated work in improving outcomes for our students.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Hoffmans, R.N., Ed.D.
President
Ventura College

cc: Cathy Bojorquez, Vice President of Business and Administrative Services

Default Report

CPC Program Review Feedback Form - Basic Needs

June 14, 2023 3:50 PM PDT

Q2 - What is this program doing well?

What is this program doing well?

Great job of boosting outreach and bringing awareness to the community of students. The program is doing great at supporting students with all possible needs and I have noticed the drive through they have been doing has been a huge success.

Great job with Basic needs students

A great service to our students.

The program/team is able to identify, target, and communicate in order to serve large population of students.

Incredible service to our students. Thank you to Alma and the entire team!

The program does an exceptional job providing essential services to our students. It is also commendable that the program is seeking out community partnerships

The basic needs program is doing well at providing resources meeting the needs of vc students.

Lots- taking care of the "basic needs" especially food that our students are in need of. I constantly see students carrying food bags that they obtained thru the pantry and events.

Providing extensive supportive services, foods, and supplies for our students on both campuses.

Q3 - What could this program improve upon?

What could this program improve upon?

Even though the program has been doing a great job on boosting awareness there is always room for additional outreach and marketing to reach a wider audience.

Not sure

Please keep IT in the loop when setting up new basic needs office.

Increase tracking capabilities (beyond Starfish?) for reporting.

Instead of classroom presentations, it might be a better idea to reach out to individual departments with flyers they can post to Canvas. It is hard for me to give up 10-15 minutes of class time, but I can post a flyer to Canvas and direct students to check it out.

Love the idea of a garden on campus! More donations from community groups.

Q6 - How well do the program's objectives align with the VC Educational Master Plan?

How well do the program's objectives align with the VC Educational Master P...

The program does a good job or supporting all students on our campus so they can achieve their goals and for that reason it aligns with the master plan.

They align well with the program's objectives

Good

Mange resources to students.

Goal 1: Increase the success of our students while closing equity gaps, Goal 5: Effectively manage campus resources to meet student and community needs
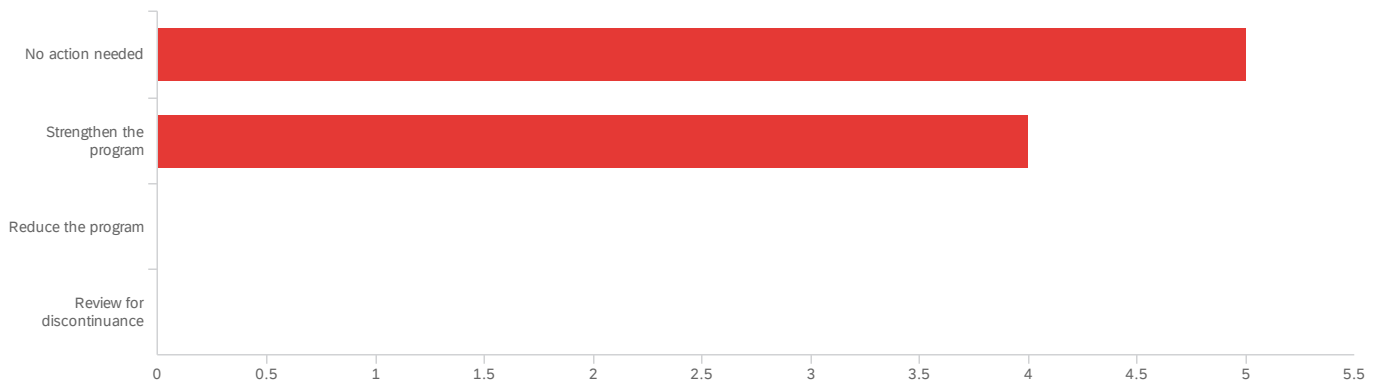
Yes. Providing food and housing assistance is critical to helping student be successful in the classroom.

Basic Needs supports and improves student success by providing students with resources and nutrition needs.

They align

Aligns with increasing success while closing equity gaps and also with managing resources.

Q8 - I recommend the following course of action for this program:

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	I recommend the following course of action for this program:	1.00	2.00	1.44	0.50	0.25	9

#	Field		Choice Count
1	No action needed	55.56%	5
2	Strengthen the program	44.44%	4
3	Reduce the program	0.00%	0
4	Review for discontinuance	0.00%	0
			9

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

End of Report