

# Student Affairs Assessment Written Report

Unit Name: XYZ Unit

Date: December 2008

## Intended Outcome (program outcome)

The pre-college program will expose participants to the benefits of a college education and ultimately facilitate an increase in the number of participants enrolling in post-secondary education.

## Experiences, Programs, Services, or Interventions

- “Know how to go” workshop during the summer program
- Peer mentors
- One-on-one meetings with college staff throughout the program
- Individual “future plans” checklist and timeline to be completed by every participant

## Methods

- Pre- & posttest survey of summer program on knowledge of procedures and requirements for applying to college
- Evaluation of completed individualized “future plans” checklists and timelines
- Tracking actual enrollment by program participants in post-secondary education
- General satisfaction surveys

## Results

- Pre- and post-survey results
  - 95% of participants showed gains in 10 of the 15 content areas.
  - Over 90% of participants showed high levels of understanding of college admissions procedures, including standardized admissions test options (ACT/SAT), how to prepare for them, and how to sign up for them. Over 80% demonstrated understanding of the number of high school units needed for college.
  - Less than 15% of participants showed improvements in how to write an entrance essay or complete the FAFSA.
- 90% of participants completed individualized “future plans checklists and timelines”
  - Of those, only 15% included “completing the FAFSA” on their checklist.
- Enrollment in post-secondary education
  - 68 out of 110 participants enrolled in a post-secondary education program or 62%. This is 12% higher than students from similar backgrounds who did not participate in the program, and 3% higher than the previous year’s cohort.
- Satisfaction surveys
  - 98% of participants were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience in the program. Although 85% of participants were satisfied or very satisfied with peer mentors, their comments indicated a desire for more frequent meetings with peer mentors and consistency among the mentors in the content covered in the meetings.

## Implications for Practice

- Changes to the program include more sessions on writing entrance essays for college admissions and information on how to complete the FAFSA. Both of these will be covered more in-depth and participants will practice doing each of these activities and receive feedback from program instructors.
- Our goal is to have 100% of participants complete the individualized future plans checklist and timeline and have a meeting with a staff member prior to the program concluding to discuss their

individual plans.

- The short-term goal is to increase the number of participants enrolling in post-secondary education to 75% and 90% within 5 years. To help with this increase, we will be implementing more follow-up activities when students have returned home, including a social networking element with peer mentors and bi-monthly contacts with staff. We also will implement a family newsletter to help parents/caregivers provide the kinds of support to help their student keep the momentum from the program going.
- As a result of participants' comments, we will require more frequent meetings with the peer mentors during the program. Program staff will provide support for peer mentors and work with them to develop a common agenda for their meetings to ensure greater consistency across meetings.
- We are very pleased with the success of the pre-college program and are confident that continued programmatic improvements will contribute to our larger goals for success. At this time, we feel we are meeting this program outcome while making steady progress in the indicators by which this outcome is measured.

Updated 9/7/08