



# Lassen Community College District

## Human Services Instructional Program Review - 2013 Update

### Progress Report

A newly constituted Human Services Advisory Group (HSAG) met: **Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013 @ 5:30pm**. (Minutes are included as an attachment). This is the first meeting of a Human Services Advisory Board since 2005. A Human Services Program Review and list of recommended Human Services Advisory Committee members was submitted and accepted by the Board of Trustees in 2012. The Board of Trustees accepted the Program Review and asked for an update with more information; this document constitutes the requested update.

At the HSAG meeting the recommendations included in the Executive Summary were outlined and presented as an informational item (further details are in the minutes).

Summaries of the items are as follows:

1. Working Well Together Certification Planning Group (WWT)
  - a. Mr. Vento continues to participate in the WWT group. In discussion, HSAG was informed of the on-going work in developing certification guidelines. A proposal was made to consider bringing Nate Rocketeer back to Susanville to provide peer training. Funded possibly by a public and community agency partnership. Mr. Vento spoke with Nate who is willing to work with us. Feedback from previous participants in the training indicates a very positive outcome.
  - b. Mr. Vento will work with Lassen Aurora Network in the following months to further explore the potential of bringing Nate to Susanville and possibly including Lassen College students in the training at a low or subsidized cost.
2. Respond to Superior Region Workforce Education and Training RFP
  - a. HSAG was informed that LCC did not respond to the Request for Proposal.
  - b. A brief discussion of the importance of growing the Human Services Program ensued. Participation in local job fairs and other events was one no or low cost idea. The need to recruit students with aspirations for a Bachelors Degree in Social Services of Behavioral Health was also mentioned.



# Lassen Community College District

### **3. Human Services Faculty research elements necessary to articulate HUS-10 Introduction to Human Services with SWRK-170 Social Welfare Institutions (CSU-Chico).**

- a. Lisa Gardiner identified Alison Somerville as the Articulation Officer. Kam Vento expressed he would work on completing this articulation. Melody Brawley and Tiffany Armstrong emphasized the importance of including common employment limitations faced by HUS job applicants, including issues pertaining to misdemeanor and felony convictions. They will provide related information to Lisa Gardiner to include in HUS 10 course.

### **4. District identifies an articulation officer to help Human Services Faculty**

- a. Lisa Gardiner identified Alison Somerville as the Articulation Officer. Kam Vento will contact Alison Somerville during current semester.

### **5. Write new courses or update current courses as needed for currency with state and employer standards.**

- a. On June 27, 2013 Mr. Vento attended a DSM5 Transitions Workshop in Oroville presented by Dr. Stan Taubman. HSAG, after discussion, motioned and accepted the following:  
Discussion: Kam Vento identified a course currency concern: ICD-10 and DSM-5 on Oct 1, 2014 ICD-10 replaces ICD-9 the transition is required by HIPAA.
- b. Recommend that a one-time budget item be approved, this semester, for Mr. Vento to purchase a DSMV manual and supporting materials (\$ 300.00).

### **6. Provide funds for travel and training as needed.**

- a. The DSM5 Workshop attended by Kam Vento was at his own expense.
- b. Attendance at the DSM5 Workshop was Mr. Vento's own decision and beneficial for his development. While this item was not an action item at the meeting it's recommended that a supportive travel budget item consistent with established standards for other programs be considered.
- c. While not an action item at the meeting; discussion of the establishment of a clearinghouse of resources (DVD's/Video's, etc.) was briefly touched upon. This will be an agenda item for a future meeting.



# Lassen Community College District

## **HSAG ACTION ITEMS (See Meeting Minutes for details)**

- 1. Accept the Human Services IPR Progress Report (Jost/Brawley MSCU)**
- 2. Investigate offering Nate Rockitter's "Train the Trainer" program as a community workshop (Musick/Thorn MSCU).**
- 3. Establish LCC as a site for a recurring Far-North yearly conference on Substance Abuse Disorder and Behavioral Health Issues (Thorn/Brawley MSCU)**

This is a proposal to expand on the Lassen Aurora Network's Stigma Reduction Community Dialog Outreach effort. Dr. Hall provided an initial letter of support and Kam Vento is the Education Coordinator for the Grant. One of the Community Dialog Outreach events will occur at Lassen College with pending approval from the office of the president as the planning takes place over the next three months.

The hope is to use the grant to leverage the start of a Far North yearly conference related to behavioral health issues. The belief is this will benefit local community service agencies and increase the visibility of the Human Services Program and Lassen College.

A short presentation to the Board of Trustees could be provided, in the near future, about the purpose of the Stigma Reduction and Community Dialogue effort as the planning shapes up. Another presentation could also be planned after the event takes place to talk about sustainability of the effort.

- 4. Human Services Program Promotion (Discussion/Recommendations)**

Discussion included:

It was identified that many students come to the Human Services program based on their life experience with their own recovery process. Concern was expressed that students are not "work ready" as they enter the workforce; the issue being that they are not far enough in their own recovery process when they begin pursuing employment in assisting clients with recovery. (Parenthetical Note: This may be a reflection of the need for more soft skill emphasis, emotional intelligence, facilitation, introspection, etc.).

Lisa Gardiner offered that Work Experience Curriculum has been enhanced to provide a basic job skills component, and that while this would not address all issues students' face, it will hopefully assist with further skill development. It was acknowledged that sometimes when students are interning supervisors shy away from providing any critical feedback of student performance. William Jost suggested meeting with supervisors in a group setting for intern evaluations in order to receive more comprehensive feedback. Kam Vento suggested developing additional program curriculum to address emotional intelligence.



# Lassen Community College District

Melody Brawly suggested emphasizing the benefits of public service, including employment/career options would attract students. In addition she validated the importance of students participating in career assessment/self- knowledge activities early in the HUS program, which currently occurs in the HUS10 course.

Melody Brawley and William Jost emphasized their concern regarding students who face problems when they transfer with the HUS AA degree. Lisa Gardiner explained that HUS courses are transferable. However students may arrive at the university and still have additional requirements to fulfill such as general education requirements, and that some vocational programs are now offering transfer degrees. Kam Vento expressed articulation of HUS10 and addressing issues with Econ 11 (next two agenda items) will help address concerns. Melody Brawley expressed a strong desire for students to continue towards their BA degrees. Many expressed concern regarding the low percentage of Bachelor Degree applicants for Human Service positions in Lassen County and the need to increase this percentage.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

Note emerging needs based on assessment of student learning outcomes. Note any planning or budget changes based on assessment of student learning outcomes.

As expressed earlier students often come to the Human Services field as part of their own recovery or a desire to understand how they can help a significant other with a substance abuse disorder. These are laudable reasons and the current program does an effective job in training the student in theory and best practices.

What the employers in the field are also concerned about is our students ability to work well with others and reflect desirably outcomes for a practicing Human Services professional such as: compassion, understanding, connectedness, self-introspection, core beliefs about humanity and the ability to interact with empathy and objectivity.

Since there hasn't been a Human Services Committee since 2005 it's suggested that a Weave report detailing all the Human Student Learning Outcomes be generated. This report will be used to share with HSAG for comments and suggestions. Other Human Service Program Student Learning Outcomes, if available, will be reviewed. This will give our faculty and community agencies an opportunity to discuss desired outcomes and provide recommendations consistent with current field requirements.

## **Curriculum**

Review curriculum status of previous IPR. Note any curricular changes made within the instructional program since the last review. In 2012 a curriculum review was accomplished and submitted with the program review.



# Lassen Community College District

## **Program Needs Assessment**

The following needs have been identified:

- Instructor resources for DSM5 (\$300 est.)
- A facilitation class or workshop to support Social Services/Behavioral Health (Experimental class to determine program efficacy and/or contact to serve local agencies)
- Peer training for lived experience staff (Community supported initiative)
- Clearinghouse of resources to support evidence based behavioral treatment (need to identify a holding facility)
- DVDs/Videos & resources to support Substance Abuse Disorder training (\$1,500 est.)
- Currency training for Human Services faculty (\$ 3, 500 yr.)

## **Progress and Reprioritization of Recommendations**

Review the prioritized recommendations in the previous program review. An interim update after the next HSAG meeting can be provided to the Board of Trustees. Next HSAG meeting will occur sometime after the end of the current semester.

## **Additional Information**

The Mental Health Services Act and Affordable Health Care Act are providing a foundation for services in the Health and Human Services sector. Job growth in this area is projected at over twenty percent per year.

Human Services is a greatly needed resource, and with the support of the College and local agencies Lassen Community Colleges Human Services Program can enhance the College's mission by providing an outstanding program to support current and future needs.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Kam Vento