



SAN MATEO COUNTY  
**COMMUNITY**  
COLLEGE DISTRICT

*Cañada College • College of San Mateo • Skyline College*

# Combined Report of the District Chancellor and College Presidents



*San Mateo County Community College District launches massive  
professional development program to prepare professors for online instruction*

## San Mateo County Community College District Launches Massive Professional Development Program to Prepare Professors for Online Instruction



The San Mateo County Community College District is providing summer professional development to 1,000 instructors, counselors, and student support staff at Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College. The 25-hour training program involves technical training, mentoring and peer support to enhance online education across the community college district.

With the COVID-19 pandemic forcing most Bay Area colleges to remain in online, distance education, or hybrid formats, the training will help to enhance the quality of the learning experience this fall.

The scope of the training program is massive, providing professional development for 650 college faculty and hundreds of counselors, staff, and administrators. The training program is supported by more than \$1.4 million in Federal CARES Act Funding, as well as District funds.

"This is a sweeping program to support our faculty in providing the very best online education possible," said Michael Claire, Chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District. "I am so proud of the way our faculty, staff, and students made the sudden adjustment to online learning when the virus struck this winter. We are committed to working with our faculty to offer best-practice online courses and keep our students on track throughout this pandemic."

The new training program, called Quality Online Teaching & Learning (QOTL), provides foundational instruction in five key areas:

1. Use of technology for teaching online
2. Digital literacy
3. Best practices for online communication
4. Educational equity in online courses
5. Student readiness through support resources

The 25-hour training program is led by highly experienced online teachers from the District's own rank of faculty. These facilitators guide class cohorts through a set of standards that have been established by the state Online Education Initiative and a rubric for online courses developed by the Peralta Community College District.

The District is also involved in a large professional development program for San Mateo County schoolteachers. SMCCCD's Community, Continuing, and Corporate Education division partnered with the San Mateo County Office of Education to design a summer series of two-week workshops designed to help teachers teach online. The program will prepare about 350 teachers this summer. See more at the [Office of Education website](#).

## SMCCCD "Here For You" Marketing Campaign Launches Throughout San Mateo County



The District, in collaboration with the three college marketing offices, launched a comprehensive marketing campaign this week that is blanketing San Mateo County mailboxes, phones, and computer screens over the next three months.

With the COVID-19 pandemic causing catastrophic economic damage and the resulting disruptions to education and employment, focused efforts are needed to reach out to our community on an unprecedented scale. The core of the campaign message is a reminder of who we are, what we do, and how long we've been doing it. In essence, that SMCCCD and its colleges are "Here for You."

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The campaign will deliver millions of “impressions” to San Mateo County residents throughout the summer. The campaign communication channels include:

- **Direct Mail:** A series of three different postcards mailed to 280,000 residential households each month through July.
- **Food Box Inserts:** Additional postcards inserted into food boxes for weekly Second Harvest food drives at CSM.
- **Digital:** Coordinated delivery of key messages each month that align with postcards using Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, YouTube, Spotify, and Google AdWords. (Pictured right)
- **Web Landing Page:** All channels will direct viewers to [smccd.edu/hereforyou](http://smccd.edu/hereforyou), a custom landing page that features an “Apply Now,” “Request for Information,” and Connect to College RSVP or video for each college.

The objectives of the campaign consist of the following:

- Build community by reminding San Mateo County we are here and we are with them through the current crisis.
- Remain top of mind (TOM) among San Mateo County residents as higher education plans and job situations change for many.
- Manage the district’s reputation and the reputation of the three colleges by demonstrating community partnership.
- Increase enrollment among the three colleges in the San Mateo County Community College District including Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College.

Learn more at [smccd.edu/hereforyou](http://smccd.edu/hereforyou)

### District Welcomes Two New Executive Leaders

#### *Michael Claire Becomes Chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District*



The Board of Trustees announced on April 24 that Michael Claire will be the new chancellor of the San Mateo County Community College District.

“The Board is enthusiastic and proud to select Mike Claire as our next chancellor, and we know that he will continue to demonstrate

the values and promote the priorities of the District,” said Karen Schwarz, SMCCCD board president. “In this time of uncertainty in our community and across the globe, the Board is confident that Mr. Claire will see the District not only through this unprecedented event and beyond, but will do so with a focus on equity, inclusion, collaboration and engagement.”

Claire has a long and distinguished record as a community college educator and administrator, having served most recently for the past 12 years as president of College of San Mateo. Claire’s affiliation with the San Mateo County Community College District began when he was a student at Cañada College. In 1988, he joined the District as a faculty member and later became a dean and vice president. During his tenure at College of San Mateo, the College was named as an Aspen Institute Top 150 Community College in the nation. [Read the District’s full announcement.](#)

#### *Dr. Melissa Moreno Will Be Next President of Skyline College*



On June 8, 2020, San Mateo County Community College District Chancellor Michael Claire announced that Dr. Melissa Moreno will be the next president at Skyline College. The District’s Board of Trustees will take formal action on Moreno’s appointment at their meeting on June 24, and she will begin her presidency on August 1.

Dr. Moreno comes to Skyline College from Santa Barbara City College where she has served as Vice President for the School of Extended Learning since 2017.

“I am excited and proud to present Dr. Moreno as Skyline College’s next president and I am confident that she will continue the great traditions of Skyline College and foster the innovation, equity-minded, student-focused work for which the college is known and on which it rightfully prides itself,” said Claire. “I believe Dr. Moreno will be a great leader and partner in the important work of providing quality teaching and learning and supporting students inside and outside of the classroom.”

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Moreno has an extensive background in both the private and educational sectors. For more than 20 years, she owned and operated a property management, investment, hotel ownership/management, legal and business consulting business. Her higher education credentials and experiences include serving as an adjunct faculty member for nearly 25 years, teaching courses in paralegal studies, entrepreneurship, and business at UC Santa Barbara, Antioch University and Santa Barbara City College. Prior to her current role as vice president, Moreno served as dean of educational programs and as founding director of the Scheinfeld Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Santa Barbara City College, and as director of the paralegal studies program at UC Santa Barbara. Moreno is a licensed attorney and earned a juris doctorate from Santa Barbara College of Law. She holds a bachelor's degree from UC Santa Barbara. [Read the District's full announcement.](#)

### SMCCCD Colleges Host "Virtual" Connect to College Nights for Students



With shelter-in-place orders preventing the colleges from holding their usual student recruitment fairs, the recruiters at Cañada College, College of San Mateo (CSM) and Skyline College teamed up to organize three "Virtual" Connect to College nights in May.

The events, held via Zoom, gave high school students and their parents the opportunity to virtually meet current students, faculty, and staff at the three colleges and learn about programs and services available to them. Dozens of student services programs and instructional divisions participated in the Virtual

Connect to College and gave mini-presentations about their plans. Following the presentations, student panels answered questions about their experience at the District's colleges and the impact their time here made on their lives.

CSM's event was held the evening of May 7, Cañada College on May 14, and Skyline College was on May 21. In total, the recruitment nights drew about 200 logged-in attendees (many of whom were "attending" with friends or family members).

You can watch recordings of all three events on the District's ["Here for You" marketing campaign landing page.](#)

### San Mateo County Community College District Food Insecurity Program Reaches More Than 10,000 Families



When San Mateo County sheltered in place in March, faculty and staff at the San Mateo County Community College District knew it would hurt its most vulnerable community college students. The District had already established a \$1 million program to get healthy food to hundreds of students with food insecurity at Cañada College, College of San Mateo, and Skyline College. With students losing jobs and campus food pantries forced to close, the food insecurity problem was about to get worse.

The District mobilized to start emergency food distribution on the College of San Mateo campus. Cañada College SparkPoint Director Adolfo Leiva and District Vice Chancellor Tom Bauer formed a partnership with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley. By April 3, the San Mateo County Community College District Emergency Food Distribution was up and running.

Every Friday from 11 am to 1 pm at CSM, District employees and community volunteers distribute fresh food supplied by Second

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Harvest of Silicon Valley. Each family receives a 39-pound box of food worth about \$60. The food distribution is open to the public and serves a large number of college students as well as community members.

As of Friday, June 19, the District has distributed nearly 400,000 pounds of food, worth nearly \$600,000, to more than 10,000 families.

In addition, the District purchases and mails Safeway food cards to its list of food-insecure students once a month. Since March, the District has sent more than 3,400 Safeway cards worth \$331,000 to students who need food.

"I want our students and our community to know that we are here for you," said Michael Claire, chancellor, San Mateo Community College District. "As we continue to work to flatten the curve against COVID-19, as we will continue to work to help them through this very difficult time."

The San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation has set up an emergency fund to support these efforts as well as emergency scholarships and other student needs. Please visit [foundation.smccd.edu](http://foundation.smccd.edu) to support our local students.



### Guided Pathways Update



The Guided Pathways Steering Committee held its final meeting for the 2019-2020 Academic Year on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. The committee reviewed its collective progress in addressing the 2019 - 2020 Guided Pathways strategic priority projects. This progress was then shared as part of the Annual Plan report

at the [May 6 Planning & Budgeting Council](#). Some key updates included the announcement of virtual Priority Engagement Programs with designated Interest Area counselors, a defined framework to launch Guided Pathways Success Teams and a summer launch for all Program Maps.

In moving through the summer, Guided Pathways will continue to expand on the work of this year's Steering Committee. Specifically, the committee will build out the first few steps of the on-boarding process and Success Team structure for new students with the support of Counselors and Welcome Center staff. Starting July 1, Cañada students, faculty, and staff will have access to the program maps for the various Interest Area academic pathways. For a fuller list of meeting notes and accomplishments, please visit the [Guided Pathways landing page](#).

### Cañada College Named Recipient of National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant



Cañada College is the recipient of \$1,619,224 awarded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant period of performance is from April 15, 2020 to March 31, 2025. This grant is within the NSF program 19-540 Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions. The official project title is Improving

Career Readiness of STEM Students Through Worksite Visits, Job Shadowing, and Internships during Their Early College Years. Internally, the College is calling it TRABAJO - Training and Research Activities for Better Access to Job Opportunities. Activities of the grant focus on building student awareness, self-confidence, and motivation related to STEM careers.

Three activities constitute a stepwise progression for students: class visits to work sites, job shadowing, and internships within industry. Equally important is the development of closer relationships with local businesses that can employ our students after they complete their bachelor degrees. This set of activities enables progressively bigger commitments by businesses, as they experience the competency of our students.

## Dontario Beverly Recognized with President's Student Leadership Award



Congratulations to Dontario Beverly who has been recognized as the 2020 President's Student Leadership Award Recipient! Dontario is an Oakland, Calif. native and has commuted to Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College daily since 2015. He is a Mechanical Engineer major and is transferring to San Jose State University, focusing on Mechatronics. In the future, he plans on obtaining his BS in Mechanical Engineering and entering the workforce in either the private sector or for the government in the defense and aerospace industries.

During his time within the San Mateo County Community College District (SMCCCD), Dontario has been involved in a number of organizations, programs, and learning communities. He is one of the few students that was a part of the SMCCCD Rise Up group which organized a district-wide walkout in solidarity with all students of marginalized communities. He wrote one of the demands and helped draft the list of demands that was presented to and approved by the Board of Trustees and the District. He is very passionate about social justice, equity and creating inclusive, culturally diverse spaces for all people regardless of their backgrounds or identities.

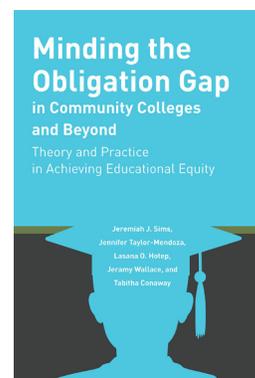
Dontario served on the Associated Students of Cañada College (ASCC) for three semesters. He has worked with and alongside the Academic Committee for Equity and Success (ACES) while serving as Senator at Large for STEM in ASCC. He has been the President of Cañada's Black Student Union (BSU) since the 2017/2018 academic school year and also was the President of the Umoja club at College of San Mateo for the 2016/2017 academic school year. During that time, he presented on stereotype threat and identity contingencies at the national Umoja conference in fall 2016.

He is a part of TRIO, MESA and the STEM Center. He is also a member of Cañada's Engineering Club, Math Club, Women in STEM Empowerment Club and Astronomy Club. In addition, he has been a STEM Tutor since the Spring of 2018 and a STEM Peer Mentor since the Summer of 2019. He has taken advantage of the resources available to him through Cañada College such as Sparkpoint, university visits, job shadowing programs and professional and academic development conferences. In regard to his academics, he has completed all of the required prerequisites for his major as well as all of the strongly recommended courses while maintaining higher than a 3.0 grade point average. Lastly, he is also an NSF Scholar and has received other scholarships as well such as: CSM scholarship, Dale & Helen Mesereau Scholarship, Atkinson Foundation Scholarship and the Osher Scholarship.

## College of San Mateo

### Minding the Obligation Gap Book and Webinar Series

Dr. Jeremiah Sims, CSM director of equity recently published a new book titled *Minding the Obligation Gap in Community Colleges and Beyond*. The book was co-written by his fellow CSM and District colleagues, Dr. Tabitha Conaway, Dr. Jennifer Taylor-Mendoza, Lasana Hotep, and Jeramy Wallace.



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The book was designed to illuminate and define the obligation gap with all of its constitutive parts. [The authors](#) are convinced that community colleges can be repositioned as disruptive technologies that work to interrupt the inequitable policies/practices/and pedagogies that disproportionately impact poor ethno-racially minoritized students of color (PERMSC).

Timed with the release of the book, Dr. Sims and his co-authors launched a five-part webinar series highlighting both the exigency of the obligation gap as well as proven ways to begin mitigating its disproportional effects on PERMSCs. Details about each session follows with links to the webinar recording or registration form.

### **Part 1: Defining the Obligation Gap: Intro and the Central Role of Leadership**

As a group, we will provide an overview of the book and define/operationalize key terms. We will identify what we believe to be the most pressing gaps and how they have transmogrified in light of the COVID-19. Then, Jennifer Taylor Mendoza, Vice President of Instruction at Skyline College, will take the lead in discussing the role of executive leadership in creating and curating a campus that is focused on educational equity.

[Watch Part 1 Recording.](#)

### **Part 2: Obligation Gap and Programming**

Lasana O. Hotep, Executive Director for the Equity Institute at Skyline College, will take the lead to illuminate the role of managerial/dean level leadership in creating a campus culture that works to mitigate the equity gaps that disproportionately impact PERMSCs. [Watch Part 2 Recording.](#)

### **Part 3: Discussing the Pedagogy Gap**

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 | 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

For this session Jeremiah J.Sims, Director of Equity for the College of San Mateo, and Tabitha Conway, Interim Dean of Enrollment Services at CSM, will take the lead to discuss the racist origins of the pedagogy gap and how it disproportionately impacts PERMSCs. Additionally, they will speak to the benefits of a equity-centered, ongoing professional development program that was designed to begin addressing and redressing the pedagogy gap.

[Register for Part 3.](#)

### **Part 4: Critical Race Theory and Faculty Governance and Leadership**

Wednesday, July 8, 2020 | 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Jeremy Wallace, Associate Professor of English at CSM and District Academic Senate President for SMCCD, will take the lead on a discussion of the role of faculty governance and leadership in working to call out and address the race based equity gaps that disproportionately impact PERMSCs.

[Register for Part 4.](#)

### **Part 5: Time for Some Action**

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 | 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will close this series by offering our final considerations on both the book and this series. We will endeavor to answer questions from both the book and this Summer Learning Institute.

[Register for Part 5.](#)

## **CSM Photography Students Document Life Under COVID-19**



When the shelter-in-place order came in mid-March, educators scrambled to adapt by providing their courses virtually. Programs that were most significantly affected included hands-on courses like science labs, music, and art. In these cases, instructors were

uniquely challenged to bring their classes into a new modality, including CSM Professor of Photography Richard Lohmann.

Most of his photography courses required students to use the on-campus darkroom to produce a portfolio of 12 final prints, but with the campus closure, this critical lab component became inaccessible. Lohmann decided to throw out the standard portfolio project and directed all of his classes to work on a single new assignment titled, "Living Under COVID-19: A Visual Diary."

This new project required students to submit 10 of their best weekly images that documented their thoughts, feelings, and observations under the COVID-19 pandemic. Lohmann would critique and grade the work, then put the best images into a weekly compilation to be shared with his classes. During the first week's grading, he realized there was something different about this assignment—the images coming back were timely, personal, and very good. As time progressed, the images got better and ended up being some of the best he's seen in over 30 years of teaching photography.

Seven weeks and almost 3,000 photo submissions later, Lohmann was amazed. He says, "After seeing the hard work and consistent improvement the class put into this assignment, I decided that something big had to be done. We needed a capstone, and our capstone would be the publication of a hardbound book." He pitched the idea to his students and asked if they would be willing to fund their own books through an on-demand book printer to bring the project to life. Some were able and willing, but many—facing even more extreme financial challenges due to the pandemic—just couldn't.

After contributing some personal funds, Lohmann reached out to the campus community for some additional financial assistance. He soon secured enough funding from the SMCCC Foundation and CSM Student Life & Leadership to cover the remaining printing costs. Thanks to this collaboration, printing is underway.

When asked to sum this project up, Lohmann says, "These students have shown remarkable resilience and collaboration in creating something special that will stay with them as a record of this significant period in history."

### Transfer Student Ariana Davarpanah Heads to Stanford



Ariana Davarpanah felt burned out. A junior at Aragon High School, she was working hard to stay academically competitive by taking four advanced placement classes. When she looked around at what other students were doing in that environment—taking the same AP classes, studying for standardized exams, and participating in extracurricular activities they thought would help their college applications stand out—she still didn't feel like she was doing enough.

Reflecting on that stressful time, Ariana says, "I didn't like it and decided I didn't want to be a part of it." She began exploring other options which brought CSM's Concurrent Enrollment program to her attention. Ariana was aware of the stigma surrounding community colleges but could sense this was an opportunity to pivot away from the competitive environment she was in. She signed up and began taking one CSM course per semester as she progressed toward her high school graduation.

These CSM classes brought her happiness and helped Ariana realize that CSM didn't pressure her or ask anything more from her than to simply do her best. Because of this, she found herself wanting to do more, including becoming a full-time CSM student. But her first semester as a college student brought a wave of new challenges that included feeling isolated,

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struggling to decide on a major, watching her friends move off to four-year universities, and managing her overall well-being.

It was through these challenges though that Ariana become more involved with CSM's support systems. She utilized the Personal Counseling services through the CSM Wellness Center to help her deal with her feelings of isolation. Academic counselors and the Transfer Center helped her plan her college path and find a major. Her professors' office hours and the Learning Center supported her with her studies. As she overcame these initial challenges, Ariana felt herself growing personally and academically. Soon, she began creating her own challenges and became more involved in campus life than she ever imagined.

Ariana joined the Honors Project, The Writer's Project (Labyrinth), Phi Theta Kappa, and the Democrats Club. About these opportunities, she says, "I had not expected to grow so much through the projects I was assigned, the honors seminars I was a part of, and the clubs I joined. In this sense, CSM surprised me." Ariana was also involved in student government as a senator of Associated Students of CSM (ASCSM) and served as the ASCSM Advocacy Board Chair.

It was her time in student government that she found most helpful to her development as a student and a person. She credits her ASCSM roles with helping her feel included at CSM while also pushing her out of her comfort zone to grow and meet more people. She also cites the supportive, engaging, and kind leadership of Aaron Schaefer and Fauzi Hamadeh from Student Life and Leadership as prominent inspirations.

Other supportive figures from Ariana's time at CSM include Film Professor and Honors Project Coordinator David Laderman, Multicultural Center Counselor Sylvia Aguirre-Alberto, English Professor and Club Advisor Sarah Mangin-Hinkley, and Learning Center Manager Ron Andrade. While she names just a few, Ariana does acknowledge, "If I were to list everyone at CSM who motivated or inspired me, I would surely need pages upon pages to do so."

In late 2019, with an eye on political science as her future transfer major, Ariana interned for Chesa Boudin's campaign for San Francisco's district attorney. She loved the experience and was thrilled when Boudin won the election. The experience

taught her that passion is at the core of success and Ariana has been living by that motto ever since. At this point, it's safe to say that has paid off for her.

After applying and being accepted to UC Berkeley, UCLA, and Stanford, Ariana chose Stanford as her final transfer destination. She will begin in Fall 2020 as a political science major. Her career goal is to earn her bachelor's degree in political science and then attend law school. After getting her JD, she plans to work in international or immigration law.

As Ariana prepares for her next big academic step and looks back over her time at CSM, she sums it up by saying, "I would not be who I am now had I not chosen to go to CSM and ignored everyone who questioned my decision to do so. I hope that my journey can prove that community college is not less than other institutions of education." She continues by advising prospective students, "CSM is not a last resort. It is a brilliant school, with exceptional staff, faculty and students, all of whom deserve and have my immense respect and appreciation. I will forever be proud of having been a community college student."



### Skyline College Honors Students' Academic Achievements



### STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY

San Bruno, California – May 13, 2020 – Financial scholarships were awarded to over 280 Skyline College students on Thursday, May 7, 2019 through an email and [website announcement](#) including a congratulatory video from Interim President Dr. Jannett Jackson in lieu of the in-person award ceremony.

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Skyline College students were virtually presented with 255 awards totaling more than \$189,000 in scholarship funds thanks to community support.

The prestigious Karl S. Pister scholarship was also awarded on May 7, 2020 to Skyline College student Pearl Ibeanusi who will complete her undergraduate studies at University of California, Santa Cruz. Ms. Ibeanusi is a leader on campus, holding the position of president of the Associated Students of Skyline College (ASSC).

The scholarship awarded provides \$20,000 over two years, and assistance in securing additional funding, to a transfer-eligible student who shows exceptional achievement despite adverse socio-economic status, has demonstrated commitment to assisting and improving the lives of others, and would not otherwise be able to attend the University of California, Santa Cruz due to financial need. This highly competitive scholarship is awarded to only 13 students nationwide.

"Taking a minute to recognize the achievements of students is truly an honor for me as Interim President of Skyline College. We are proud to provide over 250 scholarships this year, thanks to the generosity of the San Mateo County Community Colleges foundation and donors from the community, including many college faculty and staff. For many students, these scholarships make a significant difference in their ability to graduate," said Jannett Jackson, Ph.D., Interim President of Skyline College.

Many of the scholarships students received are generous donations from the community secured through the fundraising efforts of the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to promote student success and to nourish program innovation and excellence by providing special financial support for the District's three colleges including Skyline College. For more information, on the Foundation's scholarship program or to donate to Skyline College, please contact the San Mateo Community College District Foundation at (650) 358-6871.

### The International Student Program Goes Virtual!



The International Student Program (ISP) team has worked hard to move their operations online so that they can continue to provide support to the international student population at Skyline College in a similar capacity as before. While some operations such as email and phone calls have continued as before, ISP has had to come up with creative ways to continue to stay in touch with students. Here are some of the things that have been done:

- All appointments have gone virtual. The ISP staff meets with students via Zoom as needed. Carlos Romero, the academic counselor, is constantly booked about a week in advance
- Virtual drop-in hours: There is a one-hour drop-in Zoom meeting every afternoon for students to drop by to chat or ask questions.
- ISP has also held several webinars to ensure that students get the necessary information to maintain their F-1 statuses and stay on track. Some of the webinars that were hosted are:
  - » SEVIS Updates: There have been two webinars on this, updating students on the regulatory changes that have been made because of the COVID-19 situation.
  - » Health Insurance: A How-to Guide
  - » Peer Panel: Students shared tips and tricks on how to stay on track with online classes/distance learning, how to get essentials such as food, and where to get support if a student needs it
  - » Employment Workshops
- Severe Economic Hardship
- Summer Curricular Practical Training and Optional Practical Training

On top of these, a weekly newsletter goes out to students on Tuesday at noon via email and there are daily social media posts in order to reach out to as many students as possible. Last, but

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not least, the International Student Club (ISC) hosted its first virtual general meeting on April 16, 2020 where students got together to catch up and play some virtual games. The ISC intends to host at least one more virtual general meeting before the end of the semester.

The ISP will continue to provide the same level of support to the international student population to the best of its capabilities by providing more avenues for students to get in touch, hosting webinars and other events, as well as ensuring that students know that ISP is there for them.

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### Project Change Comes to Skyline College

SKYLINE COLLEGE

# PROJECT CHANGE

*Serving our System Impacted Community*

Skyline College is committed to offering pathways for formerly incarcerated and other system impacted individuals into higher education. The United States incarcerates more of its citizens than any other country in the world. Incarceration impacts more than just those who serve time in correctional facilities. Family, friends and whole communities are often heavily affected, or system impacted, by incarceration. The new Skyline College Project Change Program provides support to system impacted students essential to achieving their academic, professional and personal goals.

Project Change is designed to build community, on and off-campus, that will serve as social, emotional and academic support for student members. The program connects formerly incarcerated and system impacted students to support services at Skyline College, as well as community resources.

The Project Change Club provides students with a voice on campus and a social network of students, staff and faculty who

understand many of the experiences and concerns that system impacted students have in going to college, and who want system impacted students to succeed.

Thank you to Program Coordinator John Skovgaard for his work starting Project Change at Skyline College. John wants all students who have served time in a correctional facility, have been placed on probation or on parole and all other system impacted students to know they are welcome in the Project Change family.

Students may join Project Change at by applying [here](#). Learn more about Project Change [here](#).

If you have any questions, email us at [skyprojectchange@smccd.edu](mailto:skyprojectchange@smccd.edu) or call at (650) 738-7964. Coming soon: office hours in the Social Science/Creative Arts Hub – Building 1, Room 1-124.