San Diego Community College District

From the Streets to the Campus: Service to Homeless Students

Dr. Maria Nieto Senour
Board President

Mary Graham
Board Member

Rich Grosch
Board Member

Dr. Constance M. Carroll
Chancellor
District Overview

Dr. Constance M. Carroll
Chancellor
California Community College Mission

- Open Access to Higher Education
- Transfer Education
- Career Technical Education
- Adult/Continuing Education
- Basic Skills/Remedial Education
- Support Services
- Economic Development
- Bachelor’s Degree Pilot Program (Mesa College)

72 Districts
114 Colleges
The San Diego Community College District

- California’s second-largest community college district
- Serves the City of San Diego and surrounding region
- 5 Member Elected Board of Trustees
- Student Trustee (Rotating)
San Diego County’s 20 Largest Employers

1. UC, San Diego
2. Sharp HealthCare
3. Scripps Health
4. Qualcomm Inc.
5. City of San Diego
6. Kaiser Permanente
7. UC San Diego Health System
8. San Diego Community College District
9. General Atomics (and affiliated companies)
10. Rady Children’s Hospital-San Diego
11. YMCA of San Diego County
12. San Diego State University
13. Sempra Energy
14. Palomar Health
15. Northrop Grumman Corp.
16. SeaWorld San Diego
17. General Dynamics NASSCO
18. University of San Diego
19. BD (Becton, Dickinson, and Co.)
20. Solar Turbines Inc.

Source: San Diego Business Journal Book of Lists 2017
San Diego CCD Leadership Team

Board of Trustees
Bernie Rhinerson, Dr. Maria Nieto Senour, Rich Grosch, Peter Zschiesche, Mary Graham

Student Trustees Joseph Newell (Mesa College) and Ignacio Hernandez Valverde (City College)
60,000 Students Enroll in Credit Colleges

SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE  SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

SAN DIEGO MIRAMAR COLLEGE
45,000 Students Enroll in Continuing Education

- Educational Cultural Complex
- César Chávez Campus
- Mid-City Campus
- North City Campus
- West City Campus
- CE at Mesa College
- CE at Miramar College
42,000 Service Personnel (3-Year Average)
Enroll at Military Base Programs

NAVAL AIR STATION, NORTH ISLAND, CA
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION, MIRAMAR, CA
BALBOA HOSPITAL, SAN DIEGO, CA
NAVAL BASE, SAN DIEGO, CA
MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT, SAN DIEGO, CA

NAVAL STATION, GREAT LAKES, IL

CENTER FOR SURFACE COMBAT SYSTEMS, DAHLGREN, VA

JOINT EXPEDITIONARY BASE-FORT STORY, LITTLE CREEK, VA

NAVAL TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER, MERIDIAN, MS
NAVAL TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER, CORRY STATION, FL
Student Demographics
Fall 2016

Colleges

- White: 31%
- Latino: 38.8%
- African American: 8%
- American Indian: 0%
- Asian: 15%
- Pacific Islander: 0%
- Filipino: 2%
- Other: 2%

Female: 50%
Male: 50%

Continuing Education

- White: 32%
- Latino: 33%
- African American: 8%
- American Indian: 0%
- Asian: 15%
- Pacific Islander: 0%
- Filipino: 2%
- Other: 2%

Female: 66%
Male: 34%
SDCCD Community/Student Context

• San Diego: a diverse, multi-cultural community

• A wide range of student goals
  o Transfer
  o Vocational (career/technical)
  o Job skills upgrade
  o General education
  o Academic and support services for all types

• A broad range of socio-economic situations
  o Students of all ages (average age 29)
  o Working students (68%)
  o Middle class
  o Poverty, including food and homeless challenges
The Challenge of Homelessness
Nationally and in San Diego

Mary Graham
Vice President,
Institutional Effectiveness
Homelessness: Nationally and in California
(Downtown Streets Team – 2014)

United States: 578,424
California: 113,952

From the 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress
Overall Causes of Homelessness
(Downtown Streets Team – Survey)

Top reasons people become homeless:
- 31% job loss
- 20% drugs or alcohol use
- 15% divorce or separation,
- 13% an argument with a family member who asked them to leave
- 7% domestic violence
- 10% eviction
- 7% mental health
- 7% physical health or medical condition.
- 12% incarceration
- 1% housing restrictions due to probation or parole

What could prevent homelessness?
- 34% employment assistance
- 31% rental assistance
- 28% drug or alcohol counseling
- 19% mental health services

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HOMELESS
No Family or Support Health Problems
Could use some compassion really need the help.
Profile of San Diego County Homeless Population
(Based on Annual Count Conducted in August 2016)

- 8,669 Total
  - 3,729 in shelters
  - 4,940 unsheltered

(4th highest in U.S., after Seattle, Los Angeles, and New York)

Image Source: Monica Almeida, The New York Times
Image Source: Wendy Fry, KPBS San Diego
San Diego County Homeless Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Transgender</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tallied from annual January homeless count</td>
<td>5,674 65.5%</td>
<td>43 0.5%</td>
<td>2,952 34.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender

Veterans: 1,156 13.3%

Chronically homeless: 1,345 15.5%

Mental health issues: 1,504 17.3%

Substance abuse: 1,376 15.9%

Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic:
- White: 5,464 63.0%
- Asian: 117 1.3%
- Black: 1,836 21.2%
- American Indian: 194 2.2%
- Multiple races: 930 10.7%
- Native Hawaiian: 128 1.5%

Hispanic:
- Non-Latino: 6,200 71.5%
- Latino: 2,469 28.5%

Total homeless: 8,669

Percentages may not equal 100 because of rounding.

Source: Regional Task Force on the Homeless
High rental costs and low vacancy rates in affordable housing contribute to homeless populations.

“Point-in-time” counts can miss significant numbers of unsheltered people.

Miscounts are greater in cities with warmer climates, where more homeless people are more likely to be outside.

This has financial implications, since these counts are the basis of the formula the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development uses to determine funding.

More homeless than we think?
A Zillow study argues that there are more San Diego County homeless on the street than the official 2016 tally.

- **HUD estimate**: 4,940
- **Zillow estimate**: 7,420
  +50.2% more

Sources: HUD, Zillow
Homeless Veterans
A Special Challenge

Homeless Veterans Face Many Challenges:

- Mental Health Challenges
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Substance Abuse Issues
- Landlords reluctant to rent to those with bad credit, past evictions or criminal records
- High cost of housing and low vacancy rate for rentals

Image source: Peggy Peattie, San Diego Union-Tribune
Regional Approaches

Rich Grosch
Vice President,
Educational Collaboration
What is San Diego Doing to Address Homelessness?

- San Diego Regional Taskforce on the Homeless
  - Formed in January 2017 and tasked with strategic planning and coordination of resources
  - Board made up of stakeholders including elected officials, regional homeless service providers, and representatives from business, education, law enforcement, and healthcare
  - Continuum of Care consortium provides services
  - By combining services, the region is also able to improve its data collection and produce more detailed regional reports

Sample of San Diego Homeless Dashboard, reporting on those assisted by Task force's Continuum of Care services
What is San Diego Doing to Address Homelessness (Cont)?

- San Diego Mayor’s Staff includes a Senior Advisor for Housing Solutions

- Mayor’s 2017 State of the City address declared homelessness the city’s No. 1 challenge and included proposals for:
  - A ballot measure to increase hotel taxes that will, among other things, triple funding for homeless services
  - A central intake center where homeless San Diegans will have their needs assessed and be connected with services
  - A temporary increase in shelter capacity while long-term, low-income housing is created
What is San Diego Doing to Address Homelessness (Cont)?

- Local Housing-First Initiatives:
  - San Diego Housing Commission’s “Housing our Heroes,” which aims to aid 1,000 homeless Veterans in the City of San Diego within a year through:
    - Landlord Outreach
    - Rapid Rehousing Assistance
    - Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers
    - Federal Housing Vouchers with Supportive Services
  - Project One for All, a county-wide model to provide intensive wraparound services to homeless individuals with serious mental illness
Community Leaders have raised funds to buy and install large tents (made by the company Sprung) in different locations throughout the county.

Tents will serve as “bridge housing” for homeless people waiting for permanent housing.

Each tent can house 250 people.
The Challenge for Homeless Students and Those Facing Insecurities

Rich Grosch
Vice President,
Educational Collaboration
California Homeless Youth Project Study

- 93% of community college faculty and staff agreed that some students on their campuses are experiencing homelessness.
- Only 15% reported that their campuses are adequately prepared to support these students.
- 1 in 9 CSU students are experiencing some form of housing instability.

[Image: 9 out of 10 surveyed homeless children and youth in California have career goals that require education beyond high school. Yet, only 16% of these youth thought that they would attend or graduate college within the next five years.]
The study also looked at campus resources, which vary throughout public colleges and universities. Resources include:

- Mental Health Services
- Child Care
- Centers for LGBTQ and Non-Caucasian-Identifying Students
- Advisors and Programs for Foster Youth and Homeless Students
- Student Housing
- Food Assistance
- Discounted Public Transit
How Community Colleges Compare

- UCs offer the most programs and services – average score of 86%
- CSUs have an average score of 77%
- Community Colleges are significantly less well-resourced, with an average score of 41 percent.
Homeless Students at SDCCD

- About **500** students (1%) districtwide are homeless at any point in time

- Example: City and Mesa College student Issanna Loughman
  - Involuntarily committed to a mental facility as a youth
  - “Kicked out” of her adopted home at 18
  - Formerly homeless
  - Suffered a debilitating injury
  - Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship Semi-finalist
  - All-USA Community College Academic Team Member
HOPE Lab Study Participation Background

- Study partners: Wisconsin HOPE Lab, the Healthy Minds Study, the Association of Community College Trustees, and Single Stop

- Online survey was conducted in 2015 with 4,312 undergraduate student respondents.

- Survey was designed to assess student mental health, food security, and housing security.
Study Participation Background

• *Healthy Minds* study participation was a priority of the SDCCD Board of Trustees

• Supporting the mental health needs of students has been a long-standing SDCCD Board priority
  - Board has held several workshops on District services

• Concerns for homeless and hungry students is also an important public policy matter for the District, as increasing number of students are in distress
A growing number of low-income SDCCD students experience food and housing challenges, even with financial aid and employment income.

- Half of the respondents indicated they had experienced food and/or housing insecurities
  - 20% hunger; 13% homelessness

- Food insecurities included:
  - Lack of nutritional food; and inability to acquire nutritional food in socially acceptable ways

- Housing insecurities included:
  - Homelessness; unaffordable housing; poor quality housing
Lessons Learned
(Continued)

The data makes the case for addressing mental health needs of all students

- 1 in 5 students report having been diagnosed with anxiety or depression
- 11% of students thought about attempting suicide
- Barriers to seeking mental health service include:
  - Financial reasons
  - Not enough time/too busy
  - Not sure where to go
  - Preferring to deal with issues on their own
Difficulty Paying for Food

Results of SDCCD student responses to Healthy Minds survey.
Housing Insecurities

Results of SDCCD student responses to *Healthy Minds* survey.
Mental Health Needs

Results of SDCCD student responses to Healthy Minds survey.
Special Policies and Efforts to Address Food and Clothing Insecurity

Dr. Maria Nieto Senour
Board President
District Challenges

- SDCCD institutions vary in terms of size, student demographics, physical location (inner-city, suburban) and maturity of support programs.

- A *one-size-fits-all* approach is not feasible.

- Even with unique populations and circumstances, all four institutions have many students in crisis, and are responding in different ways.
City College

• **Emergency Food Pantry**
  - Supports enrolled students in need by providing pre-packaged items suitable for an on-campus lunch or meal
  - Smart and Final partnership

• **Fantastique Apparel Program**
  - Student-run clothing resale store
  - Gently-used clothing suitable for interviews, work, or school is for sale at very low prices
  - Provides free clothing for homeless students
• **Referrals** to Father Joe’s Villages/St. Vincent De Paul and the Housing Opportunities Collaborative

• **Mental Health Services**

• **Food Drives**
  - EOPS Food Drive
  - Classified Employees Food Drive
  - City Athletics Food Drive – Competition among teams
  - President’s Holiday Celebration – Collects items for food pantry
Mesa College

• Associated Student Government (ASG) hosts:
  o “The Stand” food pantry, which includes toiletries, packaged foods, and work-suitable clothing.
  o Annual Thanksgiving Feast for hungry/homeless students
  o Homeless Outreach Student Transition (HOST) Program food and hygiene drive

• Mental Health Services
Mesa College (Continued)

• Mesa College Foundation
  o Payroll Deduction Campaign to support hungry students
  o Fun Run Fundraiser for hungry and homeless students

• The following support services provide food and food cards to hungry/homeless students:
  o Student Equity Program
  o Mesa College Foundation
  o EOPS
  o Student Health Services
  o Associated Student Government
  o Financial Aid (especially for Foster Youth)
Coordinate Club sponsors food and clothing drives for the homeless twice each year

EOPS/CARE program administers a food bank that provides an emergency food supply for hungry students
  - Pre-bagged lunch and breakfast
  - Funded by donations
  - Includes information on nutrition, healthy living and community resources
• A Housing Assistance service is currently under development with Student Affairs and Career/Placement offices

• Mental Health Services

Attention Miramar College Community:
July 21 @ 3-4:30PM in K-107
Healing Circles ~
Making Connections

This event is for anyone within our campus community who may want support processing emotions resulting from the recent tragedies that have impacted our nation.

The following times are also set aside for individual support: July 28 & Aug 4 @ 11-1 & 2-5

For additional information please call
(619)388-7564
Counselors provide referral support to a number of hungry and homeless students throughout Continuing Education.

Routine referrals of students to various agencies, including:
- Clairemont Service Center
- American Red Cross
- San Diego Food Bank
- Feeding America San Diego
- Various Churches
- County Mental Health Services
- Homeless Shelters and Services
Continuing Education
(Continued)

• Expansion of partnership with San Diego Rescue Mission and other programs that serve the homeless community:

• Programs and coursework offered in:
  o Career Technical Education
  o English as a Second Language
  o High School Equivalency
  o Parenting
Additional Recent SDCCD Efforts

- Added two mental health counseling positions at City and Mesa Colleges
- Restructured services at Miramar College to enhance mental health support
- Plans to add a mental health counselor at Continuing Education
- Expansion of food pantry support for students at all three colleges
- New partnership with “Feeding San Diego” organization
Additional Recent SDCCD Efforts
(Continued)

Partnership with Monarch School

Founded in 1988, the Monarch School enrolls approximately 350 homeless students ranging in age from 4 to 19.

Students of the Monarch School are included in the expansion of the San Diego Promise scholarship program.
Summary of Services for Homeless Students

As part of a holistic plan to support academic success, the program includes information and referrals to other programs and services including:

- Food pantries
- Financial aid
- Health services
- Mental health services
- Referrals to community agencies that provide housing
- Shower access (per Assembly Bill 1995)
- Priority registration for homeless youth under the age of 25 (per Senate Bill 906)
Areas for Advocacy by Trustees

- Prioritizing participation in studies to assess student needs, challenges, and insecurities
- Counties/cities to provide more affordable housing (vouchers, Section 8, landlord incentives, etc.)
- Increase advocacy with County Board of Supervisors to expand outreach to sign people up for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Transit passes (to address transportation insecurity)
- Free tuition/enrollment fee
- Vouchers for student books/class supplies
- Federal advocacy: year-round PELL
- Other?
THANK YOU!

Q and A