

## **Collaborative Work Team: Engaging Communities**

The “Engaging Communities” Collaborative Work Team (CWT) is charged with developing recommendations that: 1) integrate various community engagement and community relations initiatives, and 2) align research and practice with the college mission and strategic goals and with desired community- and college-identified outcomes. The CWT will identify current engagement and outreach with West Side communities; formalize shared goals and strategy; and make recommendations about Salt Lake Community College (SLCC or College) structures and resources that will result in a better coordinated and sustained relationship with West Side communities.

### **Benefits of a “West Side Outreach” Collaborative Work Team**

A cross-college team focused on developing recommendations for West Side outreach supports several institutional strategies. Well-thought out and sustained collaboration with West Side communities, at a minimum, strengthens mutual understanding and builds trust between the College and our communities. By bringing together individuals and institutions in an intentional way, we have an opportunity deepen our place-based and cultural competence and better recognize different communities’ assets and needs. Similarly, we can demonstrate that the College offers an inclusive college experience and that the communities we are working with can find their place and achieve their goals at SLCC. This supports strategy 13 (increase college participation) and potentially helps us inform strategy 10 (close the completion gap through targeted student support).

Additionally, a CWT:

- Formalizes our commitment to engagement – with an emphasis on civic and community engagement – with the West Side
- Establishes common direction and metrics for success
- Supports collaboration and encourages practitioners to leverage the work others are doing in the community
- Creates transparency within the College and with community partners
- Models interdisciplinary, cross-college, and community-informed community relations and engagement planning

### **Charge: Engage Communities**

This is a two-year CWT. At the end of the first year, team members will present community relations and outreach recommendations to Cabinet for their review. During the second year, the team will begin to implement recommendations and set structures for long-term collaboration, including regular team meetings and an annual review of recommendations.

Year One

- Identify the top three goals for place-based community relations in West Side communities (North Salt Lake, 6200 S, and West of I-15) and how they align with the College’s strategic plan.
- Establish metrics and methodologies to determine College progress toward goals.
- Examine current outreach and engagement.

- How do they interact?
- Are the resourced?
- What should we be doing differently?
  - Example: Do we need Creation of a Diversity and Multicultural Community Outreach Team from West Valley communities paid hourly to attend outreach events in communities of Color? Are there changes we would recommend to the West Valley Center that both builds on the assets of the surrounding communities and helps us better meet their needs as students and community members?
- Engage stakeholders to ensure participation, collaboration, and clear communication, including presenting to internal community for feedback and communicating and receiving feedback from a community advisory team. This should include a minimum of two meetings with each group of stakeholders.
- Identify and present critical, strategic decisions that must be made by College leadership to successfully implement recommendations.
- Maintain the internal SharePoint site with regular updates.

#### Year Two

- Outline next steps to ensure continued discussion, review, and accountability for work outlined in the recommendations.
- Begin implementation.
- Maintain the internal SharePoint site with regular updates.

#### Timeline

- Draft sent to Cabinet (mid-September)
- Finalize charge and membership (mid-September)
- Send invitations from VP Sheehan in (mid-September)
- Hold first meeting (last week of September, first week of October)
- Hold regular meetings (CWT members will review the schedule throughout the year)
- Identify and convene external advisory committee (mid- to late-October)
- Convene first internal stakeholder meeting (mid- to late-October)
- Submit CWT recommendations to Cabinet (May 30, 2022)
- Submit CWT second year report to Cabinet (May 30, 2023)

#### Membership:

1. Richard Diaz (co-lead –Student Affairs)
2. Jennifer Seltzer Stitt (co-lead – Community Relations)
3. Lea Lani Kinikini (Special Assistant to the President and Chief Diversity Officer)
4. Kate Gildea (Enrollment Management)
5. Roderic Land (Deans' Council)
6. ? (ECC)
7. Rick Bouillon (Provost's Office, Workforce and Economic Development)
8. Idolina Quijada (West Valley Center)
9. Daysi Hernandez (Faculty, School of Business)
10. Michael Navarre (Institutional Marketing)
11. Ashley Edelfsen, VP for the Central Region (SLCCSA)