Alaska’s Peer Mentor Pilot Program

2009 CACG Initiative
Background

- Review of Alaska student pipeline data
- Statewide Gap Analysis (NCAN partnership)
  - Identified key stakeholders
  - Collected data on perceptions of educational system
  - Surveyed major sectors on college access activities
  - Concluded in release of *Making Alaska More Competitive*
  - 4 Recommendations
- Statewide Educational Summit
- CACG provided resources to start pilot
Pilot Development

**College Guide Program**
- Recent College Grad
- Trained in college access
- Service orientation model
- Placed in high school
- 1 Year assignment
- In 8 states and 15 institutions

**Target Audience**
- First gen. / low income

**Dream Project**
- Current college student
- Service class taught on campus
- Course requirement
- Matched w/ students
- Course enrollment dictated
- In one institution

**Target Audience**
- First gen. / low income
Benefits of National Model

- General Technical Assistance
- Program Development / Implementation Support
  - Sample Grant Applications/forms/structure/best practices etc.
- Training
  - All Guides + one staff (National)
  - All program directors @ NCAN conference
  - Initial Guide training (participating w/ another state)
- Reduced cost on data system
- Alignment for future funding
Partners

• Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE)

• Anchorage School District

• University of Alaska

• Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education
Implementation Strategy

• Phase I
  – Pilot in Anchorage School District

• Phase II
  – Utilize experience to inform planning for full scale refined program

• Phase III
  – Expand program across Alaska and increase quality
College/Career Guide Activity

Phase I  (First 2 months)

• Interview/Assess each senior for ed/career plan;

• Conduct online survey for entire school
  – pilot baseline data

• Make connections with grades 9-11th;

• Establish guidelines for college/career activity by grade
Next Steps

- Evaluate pilot
- Modify/enhance program
- Outline expansion plan
- Explore future funding options/partnerships
Any Questions?

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