Alaska College/Career Advising Corps

“Near-Peer” Mentoring

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Director of Outreach
Increase the number of high school graduates who enroll and complete postsecondary education with special emphasis on disadvantaged populations
National College Advising Corps Model

- Recent College Grad
- Trained in college access
- Service orientation
- Placed in targeted high school
- 1 Year commitment
- Now in 13 states and 21 institutions

Target Audience
- First gen. / low income
Implementation Strategy

- **Phase I**
  - Pilot in Anchorage School District
    - Service HS
    - Bartlett HS

- **Phase II**
  - Utilize experience to inform planning for full scale refined program while ensuring self-sustainability
  - Bethel HS (Isolated rural community)

- **Phase III**
  - Expand program across Alaska and increase quality
Lessons Learned

- Site Selection – Capacity Assessment
- Staff Recruitment/Selection
- Key Performance Indicators
- Data Management
Capacity Assessment

Aligned with School Leadership

- Seamless delivery
- Access to tools/resources
- Buy in from various staff
- Integration into school calendar/activities

Not a priority for School Leadership

- Isolated advisor and fragmented delivery
- Limited access to tools/resources
- Little support/interest from staff
- No integration into school calendar/activities
Capacity Assessment

- A proven track record of collaboration between K–12 and postsecondary
- Leadership alignment and support
- Predominantly low-income student body
- Data collection/tracking
- Knowledge and use of AKCIS within the school
- Community involvement
Use of a Capacity Assessment

- Alaska’s Results with initial use in Bethel
  - Provides transparent selection criteria
  - Creates a discussion climate
  - Solidifies initial priorities
  - Identifies intersection points
  - Emphasizes commitment
  - Formalizes agreement
Key Characteristics

- Self-directed
- Personable & friendly
- Creative & out of the box thinker
- Builds collaboration and breaks down barriers
- Comfortable delivering presentations
- Strong critical thinking/problem solving skills
- Outstanding communication skills
Key Performance Indicators

- **Primary or Big Goal**
  - National Clearinghouse
    - Postsecondary enrollment

- **Program Activity Targets**

- **School Climate Indicators**
  - Universal Encouragement Program

See Handout
Core Components

- Student Profile
- Service Detail
- Career Plan
- Postsecondary Application Process
- Financial Aid Tracking
- Event Attendance (student specific)
- Event Tracking

Data Management
Data Features – Internet based

- Import student data from external source
- Searchable by relational fields
- Historical records to monitor progress
- Customizable reporting
- Admin/users assignment and access
Contact Info

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