Introduction *

The overall goal of the Bridging the Gap (BTG) implementation grant is to support the goals and mission of the Long Beach College Promise (The Promise) initiative; to improve college preparation, improve access to college, and increase the number of students who complete a postsecondary degree in the Long Beach community. Our focus for the BTG implementation grant continues to revolve around college and career readiness while leveraging resources and funding available through other grants and resources that help Long Beach students earn degrees and certificates in preparation for rewarding lives and careers. The activities for BTG are derived from our initial self-assessment and the mapping of current grants, programs, and services available at each of the partner institutions. The self-assessment and the mapping allowed us to identify the gaps to better support students’ college and career readiness along the educational continuum. This project is possible through the generous support from the James Irvine Foundation.

Overview of the Six Activities *

Activity 1: Dual Enrollment

Objective: To map and identify gaps in academic and support services available to LBUSD students participating in dual enrollment programs at LBCC or CSULB.

Update: • Completed a comprehensive Long Beach College Promise glossary of terms for early college credit opportunities (ECCO).
• Conducted focus group interviews with LBUSD students enrolled in dual enrollment (DE) courses to learn about their experiences and how to better support student success.
• Developing a white paper to inform partners about the findings of the student focus groups and making recommendations to improve services for ECCO.
• Developing a K-16 infographic services map that integrates each institution’s academic support services, identified gaps, and prospective services for LBUSD students participating in ECCO.
• Developing joint (LBCC and CSULB) recruitment activities at LBUSD campuses.
• Planning joint student and parent orientations for students enrolling in DE courses.
Overview of the Six Activities *

**Activity 2: Faculty Development**

**Objective:** To develop and implement a coordinated professional development plan for LBCC and CSULB faculty who participate in early college engagement activities, including those who teach students in dual enrollment courses.

**Update:**
- Exploring a coordinated professional development plan for faculty teaching dual enrollment courses at LBCC and CSULB.
- Planning to conduct focus group interviews with faculty teaching dual enrollment classes to learn about their experiences, challenges, and areas where we can support their teaching.

**Activity 3: Online Major & Career Exploration**

**Objective:** To pilot and scale an on-line major and career exploration tool that LBUSD students can utilize to explore majors and careers and that counselors/advisors can use in conjunction with in-person counseling.

**Update:**
- Working alongside CaliforniaColleges.edu (on-line major and career exploration tool) to launch a pilot of the new website at CSULB and LBCC in the Fall of 2017.
- Planning a faculty training and orientation on the utilization of CaliforniaColleges.edu to learn about the new assessments and tools.
Overview of the Six Activities *

**Activity 4: Summer Transition Program**

**Objective:** To develop and implement a summer transition program that focuses on major and career exploration for LBUSD students entering LBCC or CSULB.

**Update:**
- Planning a 4-day summer transition residential program with a focus on major and career exploration for LBUSD students who are entering LBCC or CSULB.
- Target population: 150 students including CSULB admitted undeclared students and LBCC Beach Pathway students.
- Dates: July 31- August 3, 2017
- Planning day-to-day program activities.
- Working with Long Beach City to incorporate industry partners and site visits in the transition program.
- Planning a coordinated recruitment plan for targeted population.

**Activity 5: Aligning Curriculum**

**Objective:** To develop and implement aligned outcomes and modules across LBCC and CSULB that focus on major and career exploration, work-based learning opportunities, and college success skills.

**Update:**
- In conjunction with LBUSD, LBCC, and CSULB partners, developing an articulated course for LBCC and CSULB first-year students focusing on major and career exploration, developing professional skills, and financial literacy.
- At CSULB, the course will be under a section/s of Counseling 191 and will be piloted in the Fall of 2017. The target population will be Beach Learning Community students (double and triple pre-baccalaureate students).
Overview of 6 Activities *

Activity 5: Aligning Curriculum Cont.

Update: • At LBCC, the course will be under a section/s of Counseling 7 and will be piloted in the Spring of 2018. The target population will be Beach Pathway students who participated in the BTG summer transition program in 2017. • Exploring curriculum structure, resources, textbooks, and on-line tools to incorporate in the course including the Get Focused, Stay Focused curriculum and CaliforniaColleges.edu.

Activity 6: Data Warehouse

Objective: To develop a comprehensive plan that will lead Long Beach College Promise partners across LBUSD, LBCC, and CSULB Institutional Research Offices to implement a data warehouse that will expand the use of cross-institutional data-driven decision making.

Update: • Examined the Fresno Unified School District’s model to share data across partner institutions (Fresno State, University of California, Merced, State Center Community College).
  • Visited the Fresno Unified School District to meet with partners and learn about how they developed their data warehouse and Memorandum of Understanding.
  • Exploring various options to develop a sustainable data warehouse (e.g. externally via Cal-Pass or internally at one of our partner institutions).