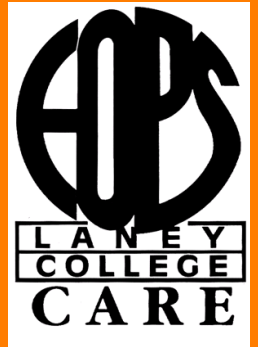


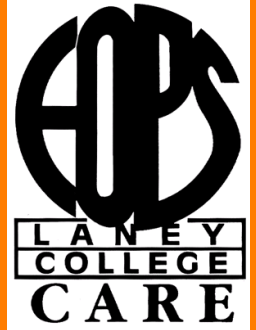


b2b Learning Community
– a CBO/Community
College Partnership



b2b learning community is a

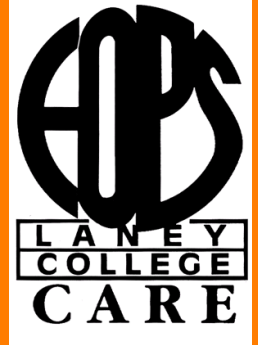
college/CBO partnership between Beyond Emancipation and Laney College, Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) to support current and former foster youth to enter, persist and succeed in post-secondary education. Currently a cohort of 21, b2b students receive up to two years social, emotional and academic support.



Learning Community

Beyond Emancipation

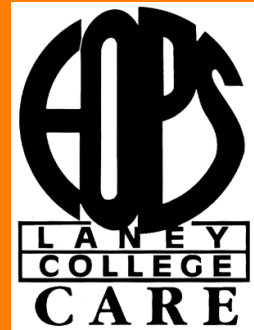
Beyond Emancipation (B:E) supports transition aged youth with experience in the foster care or probation systems in their transformation to live healthy, connected, productive lives. B:E's programs focus on the areas of housing, education and career development.



Learning Community

What is purpose of b2b?

- Nurture students' belief in their ability to be successful scholars and professionals (academic identity; hope for the future)
- Achieve better persistence and completion outcomes within community college
- Create pathways to certificate programs, college completion and meaningful, livable wage work



Learning Community

Roles of Partners

The collaboration supports students comprehensively by merging two institutional areas of expertise: Social Services and Academic Support.

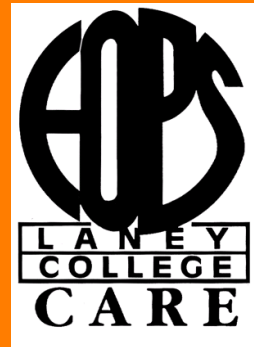
- BE's coaching/case management approach connects youth to resources; promotes their self awareness; and supports them to problem-solve barriers to educational success, develop skills and build community with their peers and throughout the college campus
- EOPS offers academic support in the form of financial assistance, academic counseling, and peer advising



Learning Community

Goals and Objectives

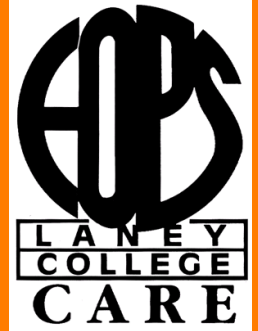
- Support foster youth attain their educational goals
- Ensure participants have financial, practical and emotional support needed to enter, persist and complete AA degree or certificate program
- Support students to build skills, experience and relationships needed to sustain a healthy trajectory: Creative Connected Resourceful and Whole
- Facilitate reform that results in greater campus responsiveness and sensitivity to foster youth and increased institutional responsibility



Learning Community

Challenges on a Community College Campus

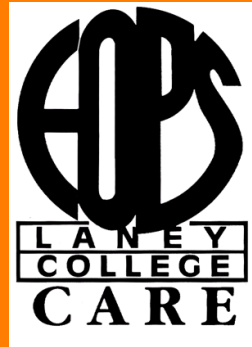
- Navigating the complicated matriculation process
- Accessing campus resources with complicated deadlines and requirements (i.e. EOPS, DSPS, Financial Aid)
- Lack of academic preparation (moving beyond basic level courses)



Learning Community

Challenges on a Community College Campus (cont)

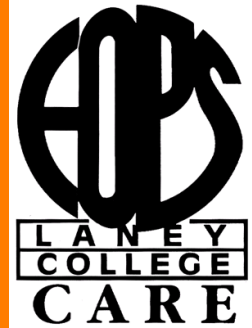
- Lack institutional knowledge necessary to advocate and/or plan for themselves
- **Lack relational capacity to engage faculty, staff, and peers**
- **Balancing school with work, parenting and other responsibilities**



Learning Community

Student Outcomes:

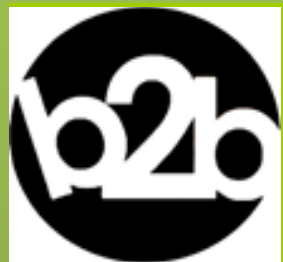
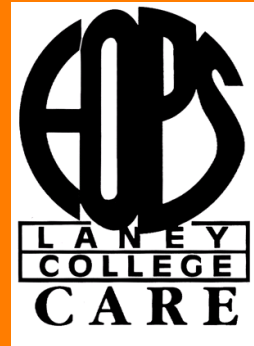
- Institutional Connection: how well are b2b participants connected behaviorally to college? (i.e. class attendance, preparation etc.)
- Interpersonal connection: how well are b2b participants connected affectively to college? (e.g. relationships with staff, instructors, peers; belonging, etc)



Learning Community

Student Outcomes:

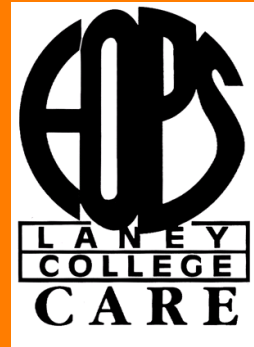
- Academic Identity: does student academic identity change and how is it related to academic success? (e.g. importance of college; consider self good student)
- Academic Persistence/Completion: do b2b participants persist and complete? (e.g. course completion, college degree, transfer to 4-year college, employment, etc)



Learning Community

Program Design Elements

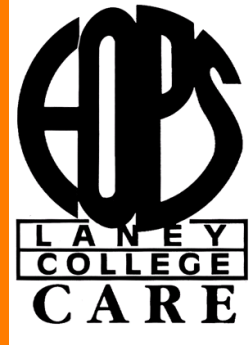
- Support to navigate the complicated community college entrance and financing process
- 1 week campus based summer orientation
- 4-semester dynamic cohort; 1 cohort class per semester
- Academic counseling and tutoring
- Intensive 1:1 coaching/case management
- Graduation and transfer assistance



Learning Community

Retention strategies

- Proactive coaching and case management support
- B:E staff based on campus 2 days per week
- Feedback form from professors
- Incentives for meeting college/EOPS deadlines/requirements
- Intentional building of peer community
- Winter, Spring and Summer break activities
- Paid internship/fellowship opportunities
- Volunteer tutors/mentors
- Emergency fund support
- Laptop lender program
- Transportation assistance

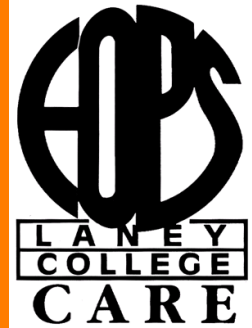


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Program Data

At the end of the 2012-2013 academic year b2b had an 83% retention rate:

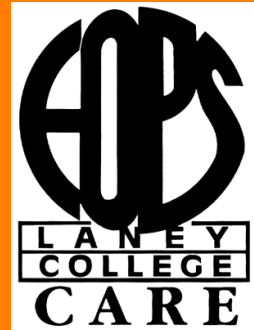
- 20 current & former foster & probation youth were active in b2b (24 started in fall)
- 7 students completed 2 full years in the program; 2 of the 7 graduated with their AA degrees
- 4 of the 7 completing students continued at Laney; 2 transferred to a 4-year university and 1 started full time employment with her AA degree



Learning Community

Important Features for Success:

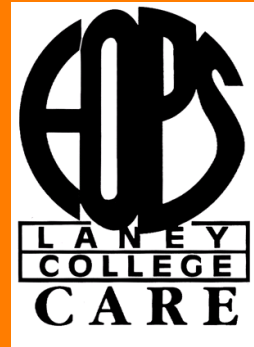
- Significant investment of time for cultural exchange both upfront and ongoing: language and culture of community-based organizations and academic institutions
- Both partners bring resources
- B:E staff based 40% time on campus
- Dedicated classroom space for convening cohort
- Program supports for the whole person: coaching, community building, strategizing



Learning Community

What gets leveraged in CBO partnership?

- Recruitment: B:E serves as a front door into Laney
- Retention: Laney serves as doorway into B:E
- Supports for the whole person: coaching, community building, strategizing
- CBO's need for strong education and employment outcomes: THP+ and THP+FC
- CBO's capacity for job placement and retention support
- CBO's capacity for follow-up
- More comprehensive data and evaluation
- Broadens potential funding pool: e.g. workforce development, youth development, homelessness prevention



Learning Community

Now What??!

As the program matures, we are engaged in the following:

- Address challenges related to sustainability: adequate allocation of resources to institutionalize b2b within Laney College
- Address challenges related to scale: balance need for intensive support with available resources
- Data-driven, evidence-based outcomes and evaluation: integrating data across institutions
- Broaden collaboration to include additional foundations, other CBO's, CSU's, UC's, etc.



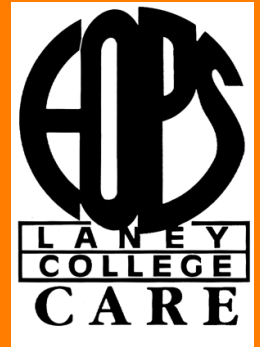
Learning Community

Contact Information

Sara Goldware
Education and Career Development Division Manager
510-667-7683
sgoldware@beyondemancipation.org

Shanina Shumate
b2b Coordinator
510-667-7802
cralph@beyondemancipation.org

Leslie Brown
Director of Coaching
510 -667 -7624
lbrown@beyondemancipation.org



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