

Project SUCCESS: Increasing the First-Year Persistence Rates for African American and Latino Male Students

Project Personnel

Total Award Amount \$10,000

Project Director

Name: Byron Howlett
Title: Acting Associate Vice President and Dean of Students
College: Dean of Students Office

Co-Project Director

Name: Lorena Marquez
Title: Coordinator, Cesar E. Chavez Center for Higher Education
College: Office of Student Life & Cultural Centers

Co-Project Director

Name: Tashiana Bryant
Title: Coordinator, African American Student Center
College: Office of Student Life & Cultural Centers

Project Description

Project SUCCESS is a pilot program and mentoring initiative to address African American and Latino male student success rates to persist from year 1 to year 2 at CPP. Project SUCCESS will enhance the success of first-year freshmen and first-year transfer African American and Latino male students not currently involved in a recognized campus support program by helping them successfully navigate the educational process through intentional and meaningful mentorship and connections with faculty and staff. Project SUCCESS will also engage participants' parents and families by connecting them to the overall educational process. By addressing the first year persistence gap for African American and Latino male students, Project SUCCESS will strengthen CPP's major goal of diversity by enhancing the success of underrepresented students.

Project SUCCESS will create opportunities for African American and Latino males to engage with others, build a strong cohort of peer support, as well as create meaningful mentorship relationships with faculty and staff on campus. Students will be considered participants once they apply, attend a welcome reception, and attend at least five weekly meetings and one event per quarter. The goal is to have an average of 60-90 students participate for the entire academic year.

Beyond the pilot year of Project SUCCESS, additional sources of funding will be needed to help sustain the program. With the continuing support of potential campus partners and integration into the fabric of the African American Student Center and Cesar E. Chavez Center for Higher Education, Project SUCCESS has the opportunity to be sustained.