

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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