

Dates of Activity: April 2008 – June 2008
Seed Grant: Developing a College Going Culture in the San Joaquin Valley
Grantee Organization: Central Valley Higher Education Consortium (CVHEC)
California State University, Fresno
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Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership

In August, CVHEC will celebrate the one-year anniversary of the opening of The College Place.

This report will focus on two areas:

1. Development of the replication tool kit.
CVHEC has developed a community-based, college access center replication tool kit to foster the development of additional centers (a.k.a., The College Place) in the Central Valley.
2. Dissemination of the tool kit and the satellite centers that have been developed.
CVHEC distributed the tool kit through a partnership with the Central Valley Library Consortium to develop satellite centers based on the Fresno model. Following are 10 new locations:
 - Coalinga Library
 - Huron Library
 - Madera Ranchos Branch
 - Merced Library
 - Modesto Library
 - Porterville Public Library
 - Oakhurst Library
 - Reedley Library
 - Springville Library
 - Tulare Public Library

Planned Activities for next 3-6 months

- MOU development with State Center Community College District and California State University, Fresno
- Development of curriculum to create a one-unit internship class for coaches at California State University, Fresno
- Recruit four interns for fall 2008 semester
- Set up stipend with financial aid department
- Complete faculty-overload agreement
- Follow up with the City of Fresno regarding \$50,000 request submitted
- Conduct focus groups and surveys at The College Place to determine the use of technology by 18- to 24-year-old residents, specifically frequency of use and technology accessibility; report results to college and university leaders and Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group.

Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

The lack of cross-training on college going issues and resources at the libraries have been challenging. In addition, more funding is needed to offer training and for printing and travel costs. Madera County Workforce Investment Board has expressed interest in developing a Center; however, we do not have any seed money to leverage costs.

CVHEC will distribute a press release in August to announce the one-year anniversary The College Place.