How Community Colleges Can Address Challenges of Poverty

WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK COLLEGE COMPLETION CONFERENCE JULY 15, 2016 the American Dream Community Colleges and the Nation's Future

Reclaiming



Community College Context

- The student experience
- ✤Gateway to the American Dream
- Majority of low-income college students nationwide





Misplaced Precision

- Food pantry on campus
- Health center to community clinic
- Pro-bono legal services
- Comprehensive model





Poverty

Household income as primary predictor of success
Real life is beyond \$\$\$ - reality is along a continuum
No typical profile – sudden vs inter-generational
Issues are interlocked, layered, and complex





Comprehensive Model

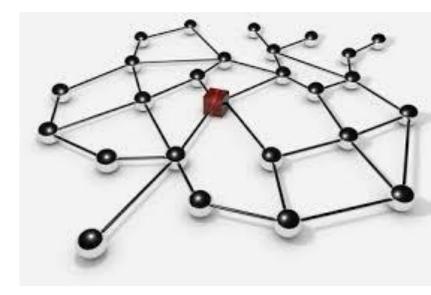




Basic Needs

Child Care & Elder Care

- Transportation
- Benefits Access (TANF, WIC)
- Physical & Mental Health
- Safety (Personal/Community)
- Food & Housing
- Clothing





Stabilizers

Legal Assistance

- Emergency Fund Access
- Fresh-Start Fund
- Completion Scholarship
- Healthcare Advocate





Financial Supports

Individual Development Account

Tax Assistance - VITA

Scholarship Assistance

Financial Literacy





Catalysts

- Peer Mentors
- Workshops
- Community Allies
- Alumni Network
- Technology





Academic Supports

- Summer Bridge
- Developmental Ed/Pathways
- Mandatory Orientation
- Job Shadowing/Internship
- Career Planning
- Faculty & Staff Development
- Academic Coach





Non-Cognitive Skills

- Growth mindset
- Perseverance/Resiliency
- Motivation/Grit
- **♦**Hope





"I hope I find it in you."



Discussion

Think – Pair – Share

Most meaningful, significant, powerful support?

Greatest challenge and solutions?

