## Year 2 Public Description of Work for Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education

# Los Angeles Community College District

## Initiative 3: Revitalizing and Strengthening Community Partnerships to Support Targets using Satellite Office Hours at Campuses

#### **Relevant Rubric Area(s):**

Increased or Enhanced Confidential Resources and Support Services; Remediation - Other efforts to remediate the harm of sexual harassment and/or support those that experience sexual harassment; Improved communication

#### **Description of Work:**

• LACCD will seek to expand the scope of external support services for targets by making the resources themselves more accessible by enhancing the on-campus presence and opportunities for access to them. The sought end result of this initiative is to establish formal ambassador programs for LACCD students, which may include internships, in partnership with local community resource agencies, including but not limited to domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers, and to establish a formal rotation of "office hours" at the nine colleges across the District whereby the District and the agencies with which LACCD has entered into an MOU highlight available services (1) in the immediate aftermath of an incident, (2) during the District's review of an incident and (3) following the conclusion such a review. This work will be intentional and go beyond the approach of tabling in visible locations on campus and passive information dissemination, and will aim to contextualize for students and employees more directly how services can be utilized during an investigation or other type mechanism to respond to a report of sexual harassment or misconduct. This will bolster the spectrum of immediate response options students and other individuals who may want the space, time and counsel from an independent perspective on the best way in which they might proceed to obtain a sense of healing, and hopefully, resolution, so they can persist in their college-based endeavors. It will also demonstrate to our community that we encourage targets to seek support in the way that feels right for them; that LACCD welcomes other stakeholders and types of expertise in redressing harm.

The goal for launch of this initiative will be April 2022, kicking off during National Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This work is innovative for the District, as it has not previously attempted to establish District-level memorandums of understanding for resources that may be of service to students or others at multiple District colleges, nor has it implemented external partner ambassador programs.

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During the Fall 2021 semester, the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will enlist the support of Institutional Research and Effectiveness to conduct an inventory of available and/or utilized on and off-campus support resources currently being utilized by students or employees based on program review data and information otherwise publicly available. In addition, the District will review and analyze the results of the 2020-2021 climate assessment data collected through the student study led by USC's Race and Equity Center to use as a starting point to identify alternate and additional resources that will more wholly serve the intersections of the District's diverse community. In partnership with the District's Student Trustee and the Student Affairs Committee, the District will seek further qualitative feedback from a representative focus group to ensure an appropriate spectrum of community-rooted support services for targets and survivors is established.

Once the inventory has been completed and additional community partners have been identified, by end of January 2022, the Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion will work in conjunction with the Office of General Counsel and the Division of Educational Programs & Services to establish cooperating agreements with partner agencies to (1) strengthen services for targets and individuals who report being victimized by sexual harassment or misconduct, on or off campus; and (2) wherever possible, establish formal ambassador programs whereby students can potentially earn college credits for participating.

In February and March 2022, the District will begin the process to secure agreements with interested partnership agencies. Utilizing the District's Deputy Title IX Coordinators and Regional Equity Officers, as well as the District's Student Affairs Committee and each College's Associated Students organization, the District will launch a campaign to recruit its first class of ambassadors, to formally start their programs beginning in the 2022-23 academic year, after receiving necessary training and securing appropriate advisor support locally.

During April 2022, the District will launch a pilot showcase of the new partner agencies and their services during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Dedicated materials will be produced both promotionally and for formal inclusion within the investigation and resolution overview processes for students and employees seeking to report incidents or concerns.

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