



Intentional Connections: ABE Pathways for Student Success

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*Texas Pathways Institute # 5
Dallas, TX*



State Mandates for Placement

New TSIA Fall 2013

Student Score

College Ready

DE with Diagnostic

Adult Basic Education (ABE) with Diagnostic



Adult Basic Education (ABE)

Score 5 or 6 DE

Score 4 or 3 Institutional Decision

Score 1 or 2 Referred to ABE Programs

Let's talk about - Intentional Connections

Whose
Lens
Are You
Using?



The Reality of the ABE Student

I'm Margo Brown and I'm going to start college this Fall.

I have my GED.

I'm a single mother trying to make my life better for me & my kids.



A Glimpse into Margo's World

26 years old and wants to be a nurse

Tested at ABE level

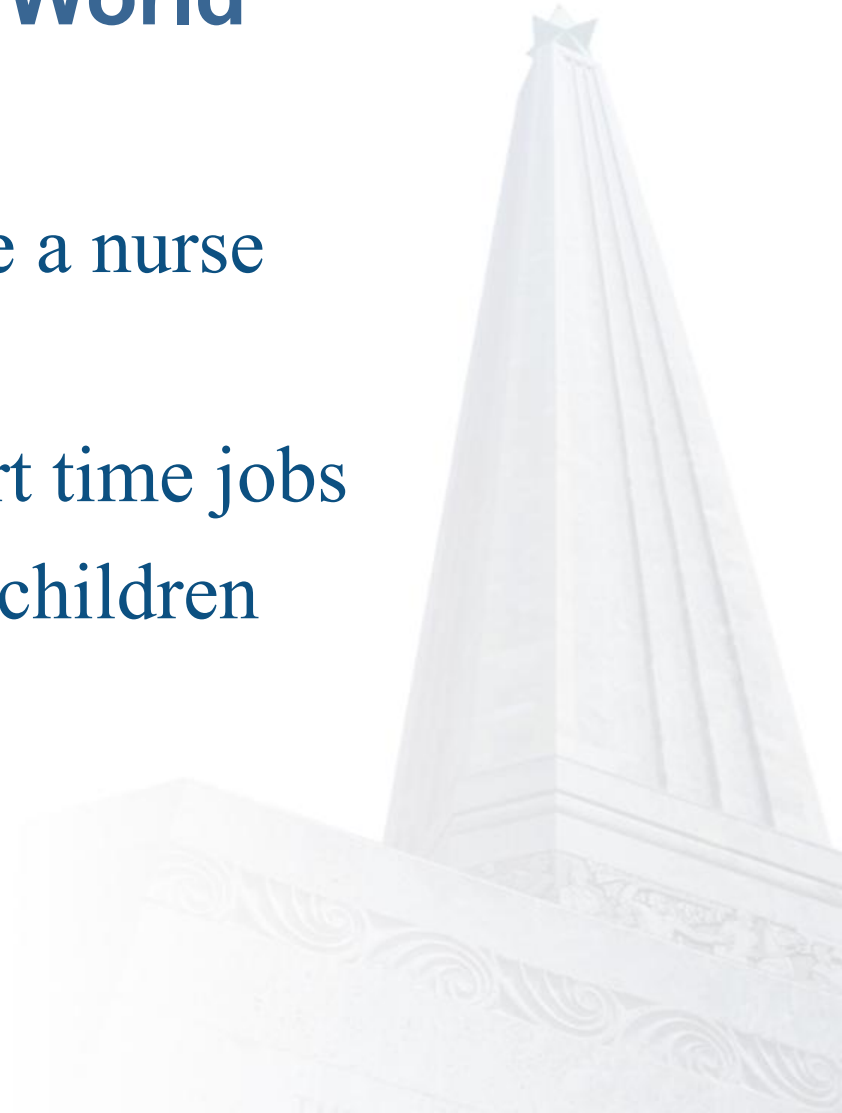
Living in poverty with 2 part time jobs

Single mother of two small children

In an abusive relationship

Food insecurity

Unreliable transportation



Margo's Reality!

Factors that may contribute to me leaving school:

College was not what I thought it would be.

I never was good at school, so why would I expect to be now?

I have no idea what courses to take.

Everyone at home thinks this is a “stupid” idea.

Ways to help change this:

Relevant materials (contextualized)

Small success steps

Visualizing the end goal

Opportunity for counseling, personal attention, flexible scheduling

*Kerka, S. 1995

SJC's Reality!

Lowest level developmental students historically stand little chance of completing a credential or being retained

ABE Level 3 and 4, as determined by TSIA, yet have a high school credential

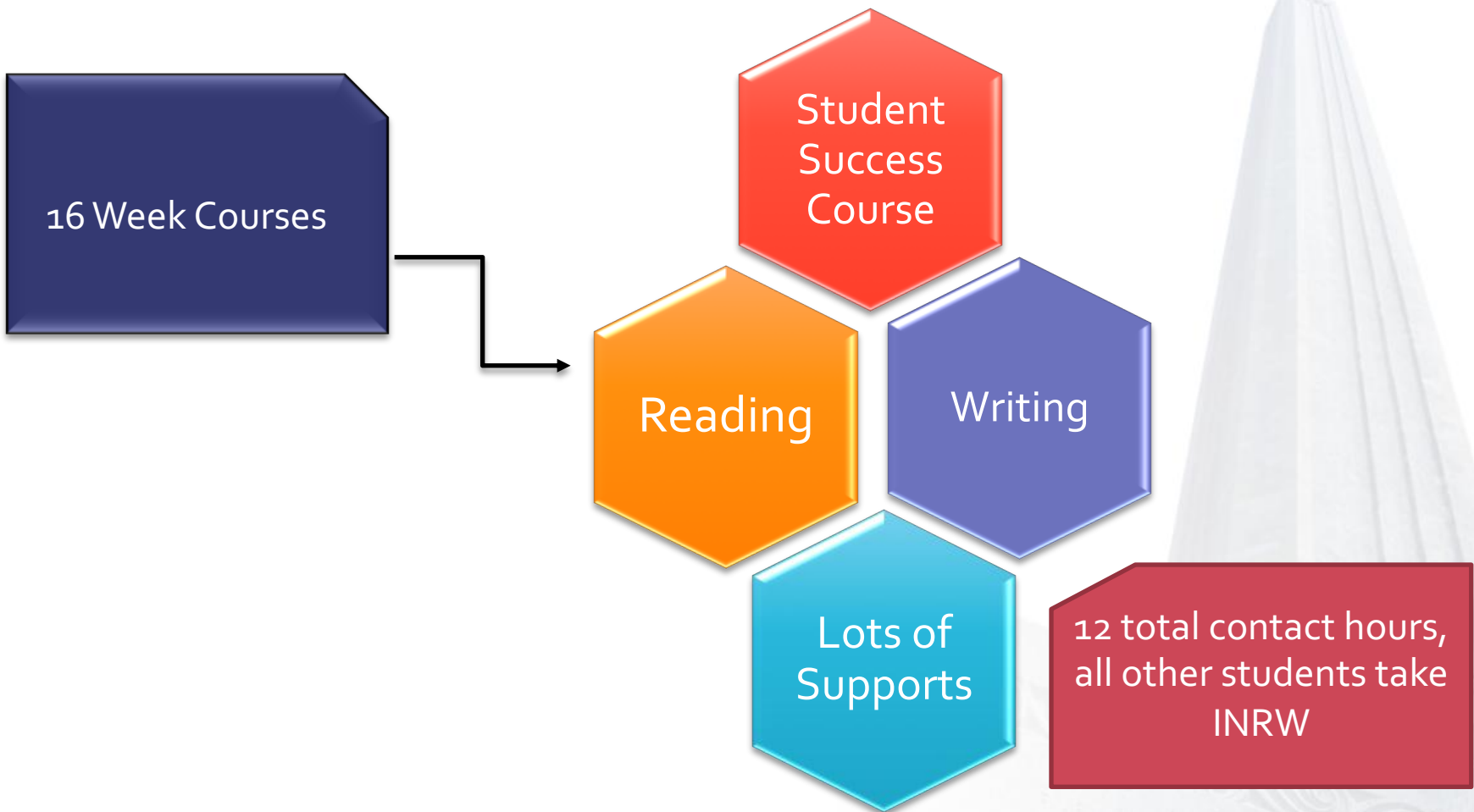
Students need intentional guides to successful completion

THEY NEED HELP!



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The Program: Intentional Connections



Program Supports – iConnect Center

One Center on Each Campus

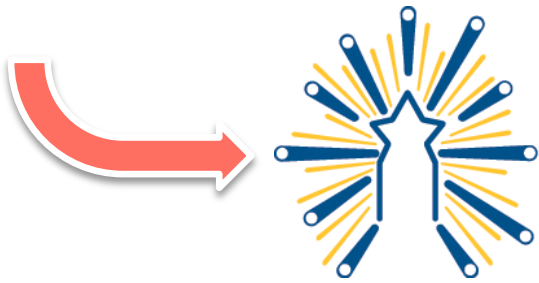
Hub for Connecting to the Campus/ College

- Gateway to other services on campus, faculty use and recruiting

Retention Specialists

Tied to Diverse Student Populations Office

- ❖ General Students
- ❖ ESL/ ESOL
- ❖ CPD/ Non-Credit



SAN JACINTO COLLEGE iCONNECT CENTER

- ❖ Student Ambassadors
- ❖ Retention Specialists
- ❖ Degree Checks

- 
- ❖ Student Success Center
 - ❖ Student Services
 - ❖ Student Engagement
 - ❖ Admissions/ Ed Planning
 - ❖ CPD/ Non-Credit
 - ❖ Business Office
 - ❖ Financial Aid
 - ❖ Testing Center
 - ❖ Veteran's Center
 - ❖ Diverse Populations

Program Supports

Workshops

Notetaking

Learning styles and study strategies

Time management

Final exam prep and test anxiety

Financial literacy

Others

College Knowledge Fair

Cultural events

Student engagement activities



Speakers

Motivational speakers

Mental health

Healthy relationships

Intentional Connections student conference

On-campus speakers such as deans, department chairs for technical and academic programs



Other supports

Intensive career evaluation and exploration
(Focus 2, Career Project)

Points of Contact

Field trips

First Generation Club

Health Science Career Club

Faculty advisors

Service Learning opportunities



Successes

Fall 2011-Fall 2018

TERM	ENROLLED	Success A-C	
		Number	%
FALL 2011	20	15	75%
FALL 2012	11	6	55%
FALL2013	88	68	78%
FALL 2014	405	299	74%
FALL 2015	585	433	74%
FALL 2016	648	486	75%
FALL 2017	527	411	78%
FALL 2018	474	TBD	TBD

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



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Thank You!