Intentional Connections: ABE Pathways for Student Success
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Associate Vice Chancellor for
College Preparatory

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?
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!
The Program: Intentional Connections

16 Week Courses

Student Success Course

Reading

Writing

Lots of Supports

12 total contact hours, all other students take INRW
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

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

Student Ambassadors
Retention Specialists
Degree Checks
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

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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Thank You!