

Equity in Mental Health Symposium Planning Members

District Directed Call - SEA Funded

Summer/Fall 2024:

Applications are being solicited from full-time and part-time faculty members with assignments in Spring 2024 to coordinate the implementation of the Equity in Mental Health Symposium on October 16th and 17th at the Indian Valley Campus. Up to eight faculty members will be selected to plan, coordinate, and organize the Equity in Mental Health Symposium, while developing a blueprint toward institutionalizing and sustaining this work. Each Equity in Mental Health Symposium Planning Member selected will receive up to 55 hours of compensation at the current stipend rate of \$74/hour.

Description and Rationale for Project:

College of Marin and the surrounding Bay 10 community college districts are facing the challenge of meeting the mental health needs of community college students. In May 2020, the Student Senate for California Community Colleges Survey report of 1690 students from 64 colleges identified the highest rated response (64% = 1140) of students reporting experiences of increased levels of stress, anxiety, distress, and/or any other mental distress than usual. Due to the lasting impacts of the global pandemics of COVID-19 and persistent racial inequity, there is increasing need for a learning community where College of Marin colleagues and area community-based organizations can learn about, collaborate, and share best practices related to providing optimal services to promote the well-being of students.

The Equity in Mental Health Initiative is a collaboration of the Umoja Equity Institute and Psychological Services. Since its inception in 2019, the Equity in Mental Health Initiative has sought to bring a host of opportunities to create a sense of belonging and opportunities to discuss the well-being and collective healing of students, faculty, and staff of color. Due to the success of that collaboration and work, in Fall 2023, College of Marin partnered with The Steve Fund to participate in an 18-month Equity in Mental Health on Campus Initiative (EMHC). The Steve Fund's mission is to promote the mental health and well-being of students of color as they pursue their academic goals and professional careers. The Equity in Mental Health on Campus (EMHC) Initiative is designed to guide and support institutions through a transformative process to make the mental health of students of color a campus-wide priority.

The College of Marin Equity in Mental Health initiative has broadened its scope to include the intersecting identities of both marginalized and minoritized communities. The Umoja Equity Institute and Psychological Services recognizes that being in community with each other and creating environments where equity-minded work can take place is the hallmark of showing intentionality and authenticity in this work. There is recognition that this work directly impacts health and well-being which is why the need for instilling belonging is of critical importance.

The purpose of this district directed call is to initiate the planning of the 3rd regional learning symposium specific to equity in mental health. Specifically, our goal is to bring together College of Marin students and colleagues with leaders and practitioners in mental health programs and services from our county to explore topics and solutions in providing maximum support to students and college communities. The series will include targeted approaches to support Marin transition age youth, with an invitation being extended for Marin schools' participation in this year's symposium.

The second symposium occurred on August 17th and 18th 2023 at the Kentfield campus and consisted of two full days of dynamic workshops and learning experiences for over 150 participants. See program for more details: <https://www.equityinmentalhealth.net/>. This year's Symposium is proposed to take place on October 16th and 17th at the Indian Valley Campus, with a goal to increase COM students and Marin youth participation.

Objectives

- a. Showcase local, regional, and national practitioners of mental health, with a focus on supporting equity, ancestral, and naturalistic solutions, through thematic presentations and engagement with participants
- b. Provide opportunities for College of Marin students, colleagues, community members, and Marin youth to share and collaborate on best practices in structured learning settings
- c. Create collaborative connections with other community colleges, professional organizations for mental health to create a greater conversation to help community college students with an intention to scale this work systemwide.

Scope of Work:

Summer/Fall 2024 will be the planning phase for the Symposium, which will include:

- Engagement meetings with COM community for support and participation in Symposium
- Secure monetary and/or in-kind sponsorship for event
- Engagement meetings with community-based organizations for “save the date”, solicitation of feedback on planned sessions, and interest in facilitating sessions
- Identify prospective local, regional, and national speakers for symposium and ensure “save the date” and booking
- Collaboration with IT to ensure streamlined audio-visual and technology throughout the event
- Develop marketing and program materials in collaboration with COM design team
- Send invitations to community members/save the date
- Invite COM community, Marin Community, Marin Schools, colleges and professional organizations, news media, local newspapers, and other community-based entities
- Finalize Symposium agenda, keynote speaker(s), and facilitated workshop sessions
- Assessment of the Equity in Mental Health Symposium afterwards
- Development of a planning blueprint to institutionalize and sustain the work

Deliverables:

- A 2-day campus and community-wide Equity in Mental Health Symposium embedded in faculty professional learning week on Wednesday, October 16th, and Thursday, October 17th on ***Creating a Culture of Community: Reclaim, Remember, Reconnect.***
- Development of Equity in Mental Health Symposium assessment report
- Development of a symposium planning blueprint supporting institutionalizing and sustaining this work

Eligibility Requirements:

- Ability to carry out the scope of work during the period of June 1, 2024 through November 30, 2024 with a commitment to assessment and development of a planning blueprint of the project post-conference.
- Experience working with and/or in collaboration with Psychological Services and/or Umoja Equity Institute

Compensation:

- Equity in Mental Health Symposium Planning Members (8 maximum): up to 55 hours of compensation at the stipend rate of \$74/hour to engage in scope of work

Application Procedure:

1. Please send a letter of application (500 words or less) to Sarah Anderegg (sanderegg@marin.edu),
2. Applications must be received by **May 17, 2024.**

Criteria Used to Evaluate Applications (8.4.5):

UDWC shall evaluate applications using some or all of the following criteria with points awarded using the scale

indicated:

1. Mandatory criteria that every application must meet to be approved:
 - a. The proposed cost and probable availability of personnel, equipment, supplies and/or operational support will be available.
 - b. The project activities will not adversely affect the discipline or department budget, facilities or schedule.
 - c. The applicant has adequate experience and/or training to carry out the proposed project.
 - d. The applicant has notified the department chair of the application.
 - e. Compensation is commensurate with the scope of work. If not, UDWC may approve lower units/hours than requested. This criterion does not apply to externally-funded activities (Category II) where the District is not providing funding.
 - f. The unit member is not receiving compensation or funds from other sources for the same work/project. This criterion does not apply to externally-funded activities (Category II) where the District is not providing funding.
2. The problem or need addressed has been adequately thought out and described (0-10 points).
 - a. The problem or need addressed is in support of one or more of the college's goals and objectives (0-7 points).
 - b. The project activities are likely to contribute to instructional effectiveness (0-10 points).
 - c. The project activities are likely to increase student learning and/or retention (0-10 points).
 - d. The project activities are likely to encourage the adoption of instructional, learning or technical innovation(s) at the discipline, department and/or instructional levels (0-7 points).
 - e. Number of years since last award to recipient: 5 years or never awarded = 5 points; 4 years = 4 points; 3 years = 3 points; 2 years = 2 points; 1 year = 1 point; less than 1 year = 0 points.

Application Recommendations (8.4.6):

The UDWC shall make one of the following recommendations based on majority decision for applications for overload, reassigned time, reduced load, or stipend:

- a. Approve – UDWC will forward recommendations for approval to the Superintendent/President.
- b. Request revision of application – UDWC may recommend the applicant revise their application. UDWC will inform the applicant of its reasoning for the request.
- c. Deny – UDWC may deny applications. If UDWC does not, by majority decision, approve or decide to request revision of an application, the application shall be denied. Upon the request of a unit member whose application is not approved, UDWC will provide an explanation.