



2024-25 FACULTY AND STAFF GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name of Project/Program: Dream Big Club, Garfield Campus Date: 5-30-24

Applicant's Name: Aarin Edwards

GCC Position: Acting Associate Dean Department: Student Services

E-mail: aedwards@glendale.edu Phone X5846

Please check which category best describes your project:

- Arts & Culture, Athletics & Fitness, Career & Work Training, College Operations & Facilities, Humanities/Social Sciences, Science & Technology, Other

Amount requested: \$ 13998.75

Please attach a one- to two-page typed request that provides a comprehensive summary of your project/program and establishes the need. Please include the following:

- What do you propose to do? Who will be involved in the project/program? What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community? How does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan? Timeline for the project/program. How do you propose to use the funds requested? Please include specific budget information. Please list any other sources of funding you have applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded. How will the Foundation's support be recognized? How do you plan to evaluate this project's success? If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward? Please email this completed and signed form along with your proposal to zjacobs@glendale.edu

Submission Deadline - Thursday, May 30, 2024 by 5:00 PM PST

Signature box containing: Your signature indicates approval of this request to the Glendale College Foundation, Applicant's signature, Chair or Department Head Signature, Print name of Chair or Department Head

Grant Review Committee comments and/or recommendations:

This grant was denied/approved on _____ The amount awarded is \$ _____

The Dream Big Club, Garfield Campus

1. What do you propose to do?

Garfield students often have big dreams. They want to earn a degree, start a business, learn a trade, or make a living using their artistic talents. They are often first-generation college students, new to the United States, have experienced violence, trauma, oppression, and deep poverty, or come to Garfield having had negative past educational experiences. It takes a big dream to overcome those barriers and walk into an American college, and the Dream Big Club will become the support network that connects Garfield students to their big dreams while they are learning at Garfield.

Many of our students come to us with big dreams, but sometimes Garfield students arrive on campus so exhausted from their life's path that they haven't had a chance to stop and dream. Hunger, homelessness, domestic violence, the trauma of poverty, or the challenges of immigration or experiencing being undocumented can sometimes force students into survival mode and not allow for the space to stop, breath, and dream.

Through weekly gatherings and a Pronto group, the Dream Big Club will create a reliable, accessible, and equity-focused community of counseling faculty, classified professionals, peer mentors, and students. Together, the Dream Big community will help each club member create or refine their big dream, practice speaking the dream out loud, provide support, encouragement, academic, career, and mental health advice, social capital, and comradery. The Dream Big Club will become the place where students studying at Garfield connect their studies to their Big Dream and learn the practical next steps to make their dreams reality. (Often, transfer to Verdugo and then university transfer.)

Our goal in Year 1 is 200 regular club members.

2. Who will be involved in the project/program?

The Dream Big Club will be operated by Garfield Campus Student Services team members, including academic and career counselors and classified staff in the Counseling and Welcome Centers. The project will be overseen by the Associate Dean of Student Services. An advisory group will be comprised of team members from Noncredit ESL, Noncredit Business Division, the Garfield Student Success Center, DSPS, GCC Cares, Career Education, and anyone else interested in supporting Garfield students to graduate, transfer to Verdugo, transfer to University, and accomplish their long-term goals.

3. & 4. What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community, and how does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan?

The benefits to students of the Dream Big Club are described above, but this project also can benefit our district in important ways and support Institutional Strategic Plan Goals A, B, C, and D.

Goal A, "Promote and Protect Anti-Racism, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility: GCC Garfield Equity Gap data shows Asian/Pacific Islanders, Black, Filipino, Latino, male students and students over 50 do not transfer from noncredit to credit at rates equal to the general noncredit population. Black, Filipino, male, and students under 30 do not earn certificates at the same rate as other noncredit GCC students. The Dream Big Club will

Superintendent/President Dr. Ryan Cornner

Board of Trustees Dr. Sevan Benlian • Yvette Vartanian Davis • Dr. Armine Hacopian • Desirée Portillo Rabinov • Ann H. Ransford

be the strategic intervention Student Services will use to decrease these equity gaps, using intentional strategies designed to reach these important equity groups.

Data clearly shows interactions with Garfield counseling leads to success. Students who interact with Garfield Counseling transfer to credit at a rate of 30.6%, while students without counseling interactions transfer at a rate of 15.9%. Students interacting with counseling earn noncredit certificates at a rate of 22.4%, while students without counseling interactions earn certificates at a rate of 7.7%. The Dream Big Club is the method we will use to broaden the population counseling and student services interacts with, increasing success and closing equity gaps.

Goal B, “Clarify Student Pathways”: Many Garfield students do not have the knowledge of American educational systems that is the foundation to understanding how education leads to career goals, and which sectors of education lead there. Students often ask what the difference is between noncredit and credit, or between a community college and a four-year institution, or what degree, certificate, or training program is needed to pursue a particular career goal. The Dream Big Club will provide this path-clarifying education through a fun, social, and interactive support network.

Goal C, “Facilitate Student Entry into Pathways: The Dream Big Club will support students to complete credit applications, enroll in credit and noncredit career education and academic programs, apply for Financial Aid, and connect with student support services at the Verdugo Campus.

Goal D, Help Students Stay on Pathways: Through weekly meetings, forging strong relationships and supportive communities, frequently offering basic needs and student support services, and communicating the links between students’ big dreams and academic persistence, the Dream Big Club will support students to stay on their paths.

The Dream Big Club will also support the college to convert noncredit students to credit students, increasing credit enrollment and contributing to funding through the new Student-Centered Funding Formula.

5. **Timeline for the project/program:** The Garfield Dream Big Club will meet weekly at the Garfield Career and Counseling Center on Tuesdays from 12:30-1:30, 14 weeks in Fall 2024 and 14 weeks in Spring 2025.

6. **Project Budget:** *Twenty-five percent of Garfield Students are in CalWORKs, so CalWORKs is able to provide 25% of funding for this project.

Item	Foundation	*CalWORKs	Total
Food	9750	3250	13000
Supplies	4248.75	1416.25	5665
Total	13998.75	4666.25	18665

7. **How will the Foundation’s support be recognized?** The Foundation’s logo and the sentence, “Supported by through a generous grant from the Glendale College Foundation” will be included on all project materials.

8. **How do you plan to evaluate this project’s success?** We will collect the student IDs of all Club members and track their persistence, certificates, transfers to credit, degrees, and university transfers. We will also cross-check against the key equity groups listed in Goal A above.

9. If successful, we will seek to institutionalize this program through Program Review and the college’s budget allocation processes.