

Project Summary

Channel Your Success (CYS) is an academic student success and engagement initiative aimed at improving retention rates and timely graduation for students. Initiatives and activities align with advancing the CSU Graduation Initiative 2025 and campus-wide strategic planning to focus on more intentionally on structures that promote access to education opportunity in the region and that advance student equity, diversity, and inclusion. Additionally, CYC, is a peer-led campaign intended to empower students to become navigators of their own success. Students from historically under-represented groups such as Latinx, low socioeconomic status, and first-generation, have the opportunity to establish connections and build community through our culturally relevant programming which essentially leads to having an encouraging space for networking and building support systems at CSUCI. CYC advances the campus strategy to eliminate equity gaps through peer-led and culturally relevant activities.

A known factor in reducing time to degree completion is helping students to navigate the hidden curriculum. CSUCI's Channel Your Success Campaign advances a peer-led degree completion strategy through co-curricular engagement opportunities that support the achievement of academic goals. Culturally relevant programming includes: drop-in peer mentoring, workshops on academic success strategies, pairing peer mentors with students by major, and leading "nudge" campaigns. One nudge campaign conducted via a phone bank, is reaching out to students on academic probation (AP) who are disproportionately Latinx students. Mentors contacted 480 undergraduate students on AP. During calls, mentors discussed with students the steps for meeting the requirements of their AP status and connected students with peers in their major.

In a continued partnership with Academic Advising, Channel Your Success Mentors organized a phone bank to reach over 460 students on academic probation to help them with the probation process and help answer questions. Mentors discussed the steps for meeting the requirements of their academic probation status and paired students with mentors

Channel Your Success Mentee Quotes:

- “It has truly changed my experience here at CI. My first semester I did not know many people on campus or did not know about events/activities that was going on at school. As soon as I started coming to PEEP I was more aware of events going on at campus and made a lot of new friends!”
- “I’ve worked with 2 peer mentors and they have been exceptional. They have helped calm me down when I would get anxious at school. They’ve helped me with class scheduling, making sure I have enough credits to graduate, life problems, etc. They are always there to listen and help. I’ve learned how to have self care days and that was something I’ve neglected for a long time. They’re very helpful!”
- “Working with a peer mentor has helped provide me with guidance on how to register for the courses I need, where to seek tutoring and how to become more involved on campus.”

Goals

Effectiveness is measured by the reduction of CSUCI students on academic probation.

- Increase number of first year students partnered with a peer mentor throughout the semester.
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