

EPIC PROGRAM- ASI FUNDING REPORT

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ASI REPORTING: FINANCIAL PLAN AND EXPENSE DETAIL

Funding Request:			
EPIC is requesting funding support in the amount of \$10,000. Funds will go to support community engagement program, service, and student employment.			
FALL			
Community Engagement			
Cal State LA Gives Back	\$1,982.13	Description: transportation, catering, misc materials (super a supplemental food purchase)	
Student Employment			
America Reads & Counts Program	\$1,904.76	Description: Studio Gear Program t-shirt order, program t-shirts for tutors to wear in the field/community	
SPRING			
Community Engagement			
Eagle Connect License Renwal	\$4,500.00	Description: product license renwal	
Cal State LA Gives Back	\$863.00	Description: transportation & misc materials	
Annual UAS Admin Fees	\$750.00		
TOTAL	\$9,999.89		

FALL SEMESTER 2021

EPIC PROGRAM INITIATIVE- COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Heritage Month Awareness: To honor heritage and community serving organizations, EPIC is collaborating with community and campus partners to coordinate virtual conversations centered on community assets, community needs, cultural awareness, issues facing communities, mission and services provided by organizations, and opportunities to get engaged. This initiative not only centers on examining the issues impacting communities but also acknowledges meaningful contributions and celebrates traditions that are alive and thriving in Los Angeles communities.

November: American Indian Heritage

Cal State LA Gives Back Day of Service is coordinated in conjunction with Community Connections Initiative

CAL STATE LA GIVES BACK DAY OF SERVICE – NOVEMBER 15, 2021, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Description

Cal State LA Gives Back is a community engagement focused event in which 20 Cal State LA students are invited to participate in a day of service at a local non-profit community partner organization.

In partnership with United America Indian Involvement, Inc. <https://uaii.org/> Cal State LA student volunteers provided support to the organization's food distribution event. Volunteers assisted with: preparing food boxes, transferring food boxes to recipients' vehicle (trunks), check-in event recipients and guide recipients through the drive-up event. The UAII event is coordinate annually to provide resources to the American Indian community.

Volunteer Transportation: Cal State LA student volunteers will be transported to and from the event location via an EPIC program sponsored bus.

Food: Volunteers will be provided a lunch box sponsored by the EPIC program.

Safety materials: Volunteers will receive a mask, hand sanitizer, and safety guide information

Pre-service Volunteer Orientation, Nov 8: Volunteers will participate in a zoom orientation prior to the day of service hosted by UAII. Agenda: Introduction to UAII and services, Community History, Event Overview, Safety and Protocols

Event Outcome

Volunteer Participation

- 20 Students, 2 EPIC Program Staff Members
- Total Volunteer Hours: 108.5

Student Volunteer Reflections (questionnaire)

Question: Why is it important to your major/career by volunteering today?

- Volunteering today is important for my major to work with others and help my community because my major is about helping others.
- It's important to my career that I volunteered today because it gives me some insights of the families I will serve as an educator in an urban environment.
- It is important for my major to have volunteered this day because not only am I getting involved with helping people but it's helping me in a way where I can meet new people and get to socialize and talk. My major will require me to talk to new people as I continue to help them so this event really helped me get out of my comfort zone:)
- Beyond my major, it is more of a personal matter. I take much self-growth when volunteering.
- As I enjoyed attending the volunteer events to help others, this event satisfies the 10-hour community service for my honor college requirement.

Question: Special Comments

- I really enjoyed volunteering this organization, I hope I can do it again in the future. Thank you
- The organization was very kind. I hope the partnership between UAII and CSULA continues.

- I can't wait to volunteer next semester because I truly enjoyed this experience :D !
- Overall, an amazing experience and organization!

Event Photo Gallery

Link to Photos: <https://calstatelaimages.photoshelter.com/galleries/C00008f.Q8ma1IBM/G0000g7ZJQI8TA5E/2021-Cal-State-LA-gives-back>

EPIC Program Reflection

This event was the first in person event since pandemic. While we were initially not sure what to expect with student interest and commitment, we were overwhelmingly happy to see a great response. EPIC saw a fantastic interest by students to participation. Unfortunately, we were unable to accommodate all of the students as we had a max of 20 participants. This event has hosted up to 50 volunteers (past events), however due to our gradual move to in-person community engagement activities we planned for a smaller group of volunteers.

Our day of service was wonderful! The partner organization created a wonderful festival like setting to welcome their community members to their site. Our student volunteers really seemed to enjoy the site and the positive energy of our partner hosts. It was ESPECIALLY exciting to see our students working together, chatting and lunching together.

AMERICA READS AND COUNTS PROGRAM

Program Description

The ARAC program prepares Cal State LA students to transform their learning into ways that improve the quality of life for children. It aims to liberate communities and youth by promoting and advocating for education, social skills, health, and wellness.

Students offer mentorship, tutoring, college readiness preparation and workshops that focus on teaching and developing specific skills needed to succeed. In turn, they create a platform/curriculum that prepares our children to learn valuable life lessons overlooked by the district. These lessons are impactful when taught by college students whom have similar struggles and learn what it takes to persevere.

Cal State LA students learn to serve communities in the East Los Angeles, Lincoln Heights, and El Sereno areas and become inner-city experts that are exposed to a wide range of social and economic issues. This exposure helps shape their awareness of other cultures, personalities and different upbringings. By practicing their knowledge, skills and abilities with adversely affected communities they begin recognizing their own strengths as valuable citizens, capable of utilizing their education to positively change lives.

Student Employment Outcome

The ARC program has recruited and hired 14 Federal Work Study eligible students to serve our community partner sites. The tutors will reenter the school sites in-person starting spring. During fall semester, the students have been engaged in training and team building activities.

The goal of the program is to hire a total of 20 student tutors. It has been extremely challenging to recruit students and they have on boarded to the program in a staggering process. We have made attempts to outreach to students: two student-wide email notices went out; and several program directory-based emails went out to students.

Our community partner organizations are prepared to welcome students back into the classroom- this is a major accomplishment given the challenges the LAUSD schools have faced with repopulation protocols for students and personnel. This accomplishment speaks to the profound connection and roots the program has in the community, and the commitment and diligent leadership of the Program Coordinator, Erica Martinez.

The program t-shirts were designed by the program tutors. They will be worn in the field. The t-shirts will help with reestablishing Cal State LA student presence in the community & school sites, and will build a sense of pride for the tutors who wear them.