

Center for Engagement, Service, and the Public Good

EPIC PROGRAM- ASI FUNDING REPORT FALL 2022

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COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS – Heritage Month Awareness & Cal State LA Gives Back Day of Service

For Native American Heritage month EPIC honored our community partner serving the Native American Community with a day of community service. EPIC collaborated with United American Indian Involvement Inc. <https://uaii.org/> to coordinate volunteer support for the UAII's annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner Event. <https://youtu.be/i6Ac UNe1QQ>

In collaboration with the Center for Student Involvement, a canned food drive was coordinated on the Cal State LA campus to collect canned foods to donate to UAII families. The CSI sponsored AMC movie tickets for each student who donated 5 canned food items.

Cal State LA Gives Back Day of Service – NOVEMBER 17, 2021, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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

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

Food: Volunteers were invited to have lunch with UAII. EPIC coordinated snacks for the volunteers as well.

Pre-service Volunteer Orientation: Volunteers participated 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

- 15 Students & 2 EPIC Staff Members
- Total Volunteer Hours: 85

Food Drive

- Collected food valued at \$1,354
- 30 individual food boxes were created and distributed

Student Volunteer Reflections (Survey Responses)

Question: How does community engagement contribute to your college experience and your student success?

- Community engagement helps with networking and building skills on how to respectfully engage with other types of communities.

- It gives me the opportunity to connect with my community, to connect with like-minded individuals, and to have a greater understanding of the different experiences that exist in the world.
- It contributes by helping me get to where I need to be in terms of success

Question: Open Comments

- I really enjoyed the prayer. Praying to "The Creator" was a bit of a culture shock for me when I always hear to "God". I also LOVED the drum ceremony. It was my favorite part of my experience.
- This experience has provided the motivation that I look forward to continue to experience with my career choice in the future. I believe just using the skills of being empathetic and patience is a big part of being successful not just in my career but in life in general.
- Being kind, culturally sensitive, and attentive are key to serve. I am a public health major, and it is important to make good connections with people.

EPIC Program Reflection

It was a pleasure to support UAll and be a part of their annual Community Dinner event. Not only did EPIC work to engage Cal State LA students in a meaningful day of service, but we were also part of a Native American celebration that included ceremonial traditions and community members. The primary goal of hosting a Gives Back Day in conjunction with a Heritage month is to provide opportunity for cultural awareness and connections. EPIC envisions community engagement opportunities that provide meaning pathways for students to engage with community, short and long term. Our partnership with UAll deepens through these special events and creates a pathway to serve and connect with the Native American community in Los Angeles.

EPIC 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 25 Federal Work Study eligible students to serve our community partner sites. The student tutors onboarded the program during September & October and began their direct service at their assigned elementary school site in November. During fall semester, the student tutors have been engaged in program training, team building activities, and planning for the Spring semester events.

Program Reflection

Student employment hiring was very challenging due to Financial Aid Program staff turnover and procedural changes with the Federal Work Study program. There was a great deal of work involved in maintaining communication with our pending students as they went through the Federal Work Study hiring process, which took over 30 days to process. Student tutors onboarded the program at different intervals and therefore delayed the tutors' field placement date. As a result, EPIC was eager to work with the Federal Work Study program to establish a hiring plan to assess and plan for needed support with future hiring processes, with the goal of onboarding students in September. The program rehired 10 students and recruited 15 new hires. We have a great group of students that are eager to serve our elementary school partners and the children they serve.

EXPENSE DETAIL AND FINANCIAL PLAN

FALL 2022	FUNDING	DESCRIPTION
Cal State LA Gives Back <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation • Snacks & Misc. Supplies 	\$957.01	
Student Employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live Scan Service • Tutor Training Catering 	\$1,763	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • America Reads and Counts program tutors are required to clear live scan prior to field placement assignment. • Two six-hour program trainings occurred in October
SPRING 2023 Estimate		
Eagle Connect License Renewal	\$3,600	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual renewal 2/15/23 – 2/15/24
Cal State LA Gives Back <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation • Snacks & Misc. Supplies 	\$1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May Event (date TBD) • Honoring Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month • Partner Collaboration: SIPA https://sipacares.org • Sponsoring volunteer transportation to and from service site.
Building Bridges and Connections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event Presentation Materials • Catering- Volunteer Lunch 	\$1,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • America Reads and Counts Program Event taking place March 17 & 24 • Focuses on wellness presentation for elementary school children at our ARC partner sites • This event serves 900+ elementary school children across five elementary school sites

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day of Service for Cal State LA Students: Open to 30-35 Cal State LA students per event.
Annual UAS Admin Fees	\$750.00	
TOTAL	\$9,870.21	

Canned Food Donation
DRIVE 'N MOVIES
 11/1/22 - 11/18/22

DONATE 5 CANNED FOOD ITEMS FOR AN AMC MOVIE TICKET*

*While supplies last.

All canned foods will be donated to the United American Indian Involvement Inc.

DROP OFF LOCATIONS - MON-FRI, 9AM - 5PM:

- Center for Student Involvement (University-Student Union 204)
- Center for Engagement, Service, and the Public Good (Career Center Lower Level)

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EPIC and United American Indian Involvement, Inc.
 Presents the

UAII Annual Giving Day of Service

Cal State LA Gives Back!

Join us for a day of service to help serve our community!

**November 17, 2022
 from 10:30am-3:30pm**

We will be assisting the United American Indian Involvement, Inc. with their Food Giveaway Event. For information about their organization, check out their website: www.UAII.org

Transportation is provided.
 Space is limited, secure your spot today!
 Sign up by November 4, 2022

For more information, contact Anh Hong at ahong@cslanet.calstatela.edu or call us at (323) 343-3380.