

HomeBase Resource Panel Report

Background:

American River College formed an implementation team at the beginning of 2020 to guide development of HomeBase pathway communities. In March, Los Rios facilities were closed and ARC transitioned to remote operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The team recommended placing physical HomeBases temporarily on hold so that focused attention could be given to the creation of a virtual HomeBase presence. Virtual HomeBases were implemented during the Fall 2020 semester, and have continued to grow.

Project Purpose & Scope:

The purpose of this project is to provide an assessment of the implementation of Virtual HomeBases and recommendations for moving forward.

Implementation Review shall be held to the following boundaries:

- The review shall focus on the questions posed through the Project Objectives.

Project Objectives:

Successful completion of this project is intended to answer the following questions:

Assessment of HomeBase Questions:

1. What is the current structure and staffing for HomeBase?
2. What activities occurred in the HomeBases since August 2020?
3. What was the level of student engagement in the HomeBase?
4. What was the level of faculty engagement in the HomeBase?
5. What student services were provided to students through HomeBase?
6. What instructional services were provided to students through HomeBase?
7. What is the alignment between Area Offices, Area Deans, and HomeBases?
8. What are the intended short- and long-term outcomes of HomeBases?
9. What are the unintended short- and long-term impacts of HomeBases?
10. To what extent are the program's activities leading to the intended outcomes?
11. How are HomeBase activities intentionally designed to reduce or eliminate DI in each area of service?

Recommendations for HomeBase Questions:

1. What is the recommended structure and staffing for HomeBase?
2. What are recommended yearlong activities for HomeBase?
3. What is the recommended level of student engagement in the HomeBase?
4. What is the recommended level of faculty engagement in the HomeBase?
5. What is the recommended level of student services through HomeBase?
6. What is the recommended level of instructional services through HomeBase?

What is the recommended alignment between Area Offices, Area Deans, and HomeBases?

Project Membership:

	Name of Participant	Role at the College
Project Co-Lead	Frank Kobayashi	Vice President of Instruction (Initial Implementation Team Member)
Project Co-Lead	Jeff Stephenson	Vice President of Student Services (Initial Implementation Team Member)
Members	Alisa Shubb	Academic Senate President (Initial Implementation Team Member)
	Kristin Farlow	Classified Senate President
	Student	Associated Students
	Reyna Moore	Counselor (Initial Implementation Team Member)
	Kim Queen	Counselor (Health Homebase Counselor)

	Kathy Sorensen	Instructional Dean - HomeBase Tri Chair
	Adam Windham	Instructional Dean
	Nisha Beckhorn	Student Services Dean - HomeBase Tri Chair
	Jazzie Muganzo-Murphy	Student Services Dean - HomeBase Tri Chair
	Jana Gonsalves	Faculty Liaison
	Teresa Urkofsky	Faculty Liaison
	Kristin Farlow	HomeBase Staff
	Tim Reilly	HomeBase Staff
	Terrell Grant	HomeBase Staff

Timeline:

The Resource Panel met on the following dates during the Fall 2021 semester:

- Wednesday, September 15, 2:00PM to 3:30PM
- Wednesday, October 6, 2:00PM to 3:30PM
- Wednesday, October 20, 2:00PM to 3:30PM
- Wednesday, November 3, 2:00PM to 3:30PM
- Wednesday, November 17, 2:00PM to 3:30PM

Learnings and Findings:

Structure:

The current structure of HomeBases involves a Tri Chair model, who meet bi-weekly with the VPSS and VPI. The Tri Chair, Instruction (Kathy Sorensen) oversees six Faculty Liaisons, one for each HomeBase. The Tri Chair, Counseling (Nisha Beckhorn) oversees all aspects of counseling within the HomeBases

including assignments. The Lead Tri Chair (Jazzie Muganzo Murphy) oversees overall structure of HomeBases and staff and peer mentors within each of the six HomeBases - current staff includes: Coach, temp Clerk, Peer Mentors, Counselors, Faculty Liaisons.

HomeBase teams meet weekly for one hour; departments invited in to share program/structure updates, address Counselor questions, and highlight innovations within their program to be shared with students. Coaches oversee daily activities of HomeBase.

Activities:

A broad range of activities and programming have been scheduled and taken place in HomeBase since August 2020. A sampling of activities include the following:

- Arts - Fall Mixer (WOW); Poet Laureate - collaboration with LP HB; Sound Industry Expert; Networking Workshop w/ SCC Librarian/LinkedIn; Word Soup/College Hour; Cisco Vasquez-licensing/copyright workshop in music; CalWORKS collab w/ SCC and ARC (nutritional edu program)-40 student cohort for CalWORKS on how to use benefits, etc. - video series using demo kitchen, workshops, etc.; Culinary Wkshp; Librarian collaboration on library services around th arts; “Art Breaks” series - provide inspiration and innovation for the field;
- STEM - Sp ‘21 Mixer (WOW); How to use Handshake; Work Exp & internships; MESA application; Game Night (community building)
- Heath/PS - Fall20 and Sp21 Mixer (WOW); nursing application workshop (Sp 21 again F’21)-collab w/FYE; F’20 Prep Medico - UC Davis & Kaiser connections - pre-med summer program - again in F’21.; Nutrition & Food Prep/nutrition - w/finances (prizes are meal prep containers)...pop up events on IG for PS: movie night, game night, cooking (community building); 20K Step Challenge (Spring Recess Event), “Get out and Active Weekends - What did you do?” (hiking, kayaking, skating, walking, etc) - A Health and Well Being HB community building campaign via Instagram.
- Language/People - F20 and Sp21 Mixers (WOW); Collaboration w/Arts - hosted Poet Laureate; Sp21- HB Chat with a Counselor (3x/week);
- Language - F20 - “Explore a Career in Public Relations” w/Scott Crow; Sp21 “What Can I do with my Communications Degree?” - career and edu driven (speakers: Jazzie, Liz Coleman, David Austin-Shrope); Sp21 - “How to use Handshake” collaboration with CAPSS; Friday eServices Assistance (weekly Peer Mentor zoom coverage); F21 - Major series workshops - “What Doors Can my Degree Open?” (English & Journalism, Communications/Speech); English Courses for Degrees - Majors/Professor Panel Discussion.
- People - Sp21: Black History Museum; Speed Friending; the BondFire (community building); F21 - Major series workshops - “What Doors Can My Degree Open?” (ECE/Teacher Ed, History/Art History, Social Science and Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science & International Studies, Philosophy, Psychology); Hispanic Heritage Month Museum; engagement via IG account (going live)
- Business - F20 and Sp21 Mixers (WOW); Career & Pathways Collaboration Resume workshop. Los Rios Colleges online Collabo Virtual Transfer event, College to Career Small Business Administration events: “Resources to Start or Grow a Business,” “Customer Development.”

“Success Starts Here” “How to Pivot Your Business”, Internship workshops with different employers.

- MCT - F20 and Spring 21 Mixers (WOW);
- All - promotion and participation in FYE workshops (transfer, time management, eServices, Nursing Applications);

Faculty Engagement:

Faculty Liaisons started with one Faculty Liaison in Fall 2020 in the ARTS, then three Faculty Liaisons in Spring 21 (ARTS, CMT and HEALTH AND SERVICE). Fall 2021 saw all six HB with liaisons. There are meetings with the Faculty Liaisons throughout the semester to connect and see how the different HBs are serving students. The Liaisons meet with the HB coaches and counselors regularly, and they work to connect the faculty in their HB with the activities of that HB. Counseling Faculty meet with students in the HomeBases.

Findings:

The faculty, staff, and administrators who were charged with implementing the HomeBase Pathway Communities beginning in Fall 2020 effectively and resourcefully stood up Virtual HomeBases despite unfavorable pandemic conditions. HomeBase Pathway Communities put words into action by operationalizing many of the key initiatives identified by the College through the [Start Right Project Team Report](#), [IPaSS Project Team Report](#), [Clarify Program Paths Team Report](#), and Disproportionate Impact Team Reports ([African American Project Team Report](#), [API Project Team Report](#), [LatinX Project Team Report](#), [LGBTQIA+ Project Team Report](#), [Native American Project Team Report](#)).

Two key themes that emerged from the Resource Panel’s work were “HomeBase as a way of thinking,” and “we are on the same team.” These two themes were prevalent throughout our discussions, signifying the unification between Instruction and Student Services facilitated through the HomeBases.

Moving Forward:

The Spring 2022 semester will signify the 4th semester since the implementation of HomeBase Pathway Communities. In addition to maintaining a virtual presence, the Spring 2022 semester will see the implementation of the physical HomeBase locations. The Spring 2022 semester will be the first semester that each HomeBase will have permanent classified staffing.

Recommendations:

One of the realizations of the Resource Panel at the midpoint of our work was the need to provide the College community with a greater understanding of HomeBases, the work being done, and the future of HomeBases. A second realization was HomeBases in their current form are a “bolt on” to our current organizational structure.

The Resource Panel recommends a more concerted effort to inform the College community about what the HomeBase Pathway Community is.

The Resource Panel recommends revisiting the [original success team models](#) as a lens to fully staff and support work in HomeBases.

The Resource Panel recommends investigation into how the HomeBase Pathway Community model can be integrated into the existing organizational structure, or how the existing organizational structure can be changed to incorporate the Homebase Pathway Communities.

Appendix:

1. [HomeBase Resource Panel Working Document](#)
2. [HomeBase Data](#)