

Advocating for Emergency Aid in Texas



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

FAAC Meeting
March 08, 2018

Monique Lee Whitley - Program Coordinator – *Emergency Aid Network* and
Dr. Terisa Riley - Senior Vice President for Student Affairs and University Administration-
Texas A&M University-Kingsville



Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Nearly 3 million students leave college each year because of small, **emergency** expenses they cannot meet. **60x30TX** has poised Texas for understanding the benefits and **impact** emergency aid programs have on persistence, **completion**, and **student debt**.



The Advocating for Emergency Aid in Texas Project...

4 Phases

- ☐ Landscape Analysis
- ☐ Network Launch
- ☐ Awareness and Dissemination
- ☐ Advocacy



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Phase One



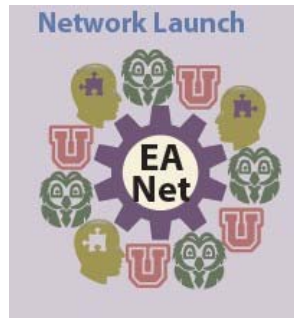
Activities

- Survey sent
- Emergency aid practices solicited
- Selection of **EA Net**



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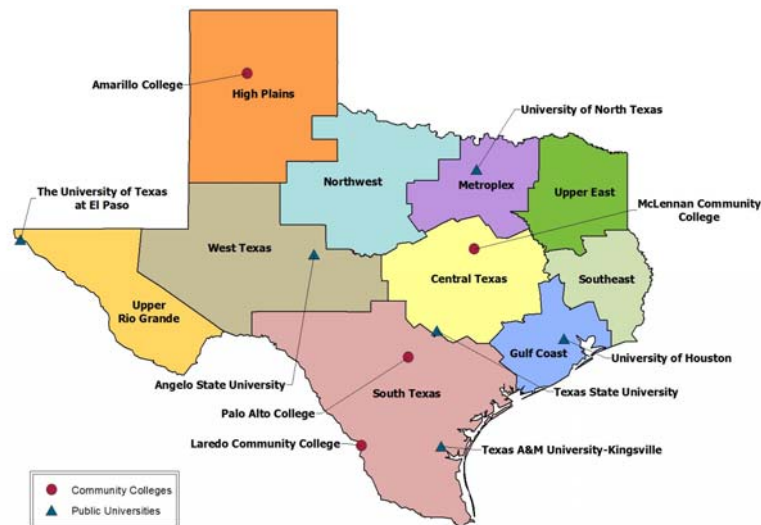
Phase Two



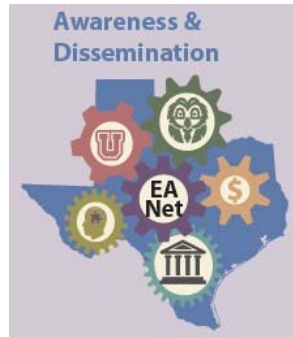
Activities

- 10 institutions chosen
- **Four to Five** team members
- Share best **practices/** barriers

Emergency Aid Network (EA Net)



Phase Three



Activities

- FLAC and FAAC interaction
- Statewide convening



Phase Four



Activities

- Recommendations
- Dissemination of findings

Where are we now?

Landscape Analysis

Network Launch

Awareness & Dissemination

EA Net

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Defining **EMERGENCY**

Currently, the EA Net is considering a universal definition of *emergency*, which is...



Emergency is defined as, “An *unexpected or unforeseen expense, event, or circumstance that could cause a loss of momentum toward student success.*”

Note* **Typical** unexpected or unforeseen expense, event, or circumstance categories might include: Childcare, Housing/rent, Food, Health Care, Transportation, and Utilities.

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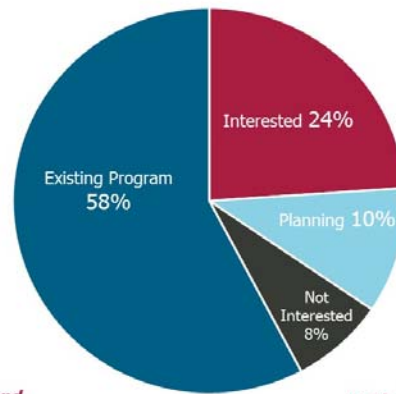
What programs are currently out there to help with these types of emergencies?

61 percent of institutions with an emergency aid program reported as having a *named* program. Some examples of those named programs are:

No Excuses Fund

Helping Hands

Student Assistance Fund



Paydirt Pete

Eli Fund

HOGG Loan

Katie Kirby Student Care Fund

Data source: Emergency Aid in Texas Survey / 2017



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Survey Responses for Those without an EA Program

- “No, (we do not have a program) but we are planning”
- “No, (we do not have a program) but we are **interested** in planning”
- “No, (we do not have a program and) we are not interested”



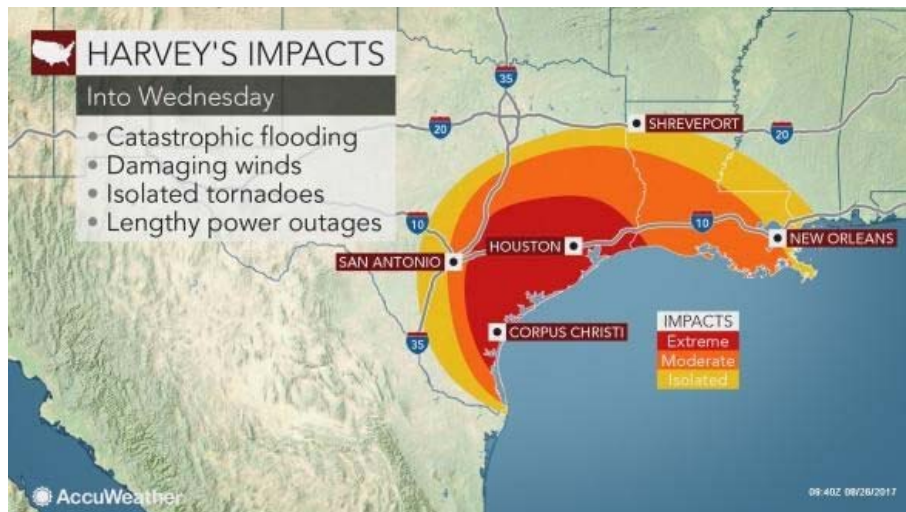
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Then Harvey happened...



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Informing the FAAC



Questions?



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THANK YOU!

For additional information:

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/60x30TX/TexasEANet>



Best Practices for Emergency Aid Programs					
Meeting Date	Topics	Speaker	Organization	Speaker	Organization
June 23, 2017	Defining an emergency	Ben Dobner	Great Lakes	David Gardner	THECB
	· Planning				
	· Flexibility				
	· Identifying cause				
18-Aug-17	Cross-departmental coordination/administration of program	Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart	Amarillo CC	Ted Gonder	MoneyThink
	· Program stewardship	Jason Briseno	Austin CC		
	· Application process/documentation required				
	· Award distribution				
	· Timeliness/Efficiency				
	· Staff/faculty training				
20-Oct-17	Cross-College Program Learning/Sharing	Evan Weissmann	MDRC	Tracy Robinson	Finish Line @Univ. of Memphis
	· Technical - Communications/Distributions				
	· Design/Innovation				
	· Implementation				
	· Administration				
	· Marketing/Outreach				
	· Automation of processes/application				
	· Evaluation	Omari Burnside	NASPA - EA Rubric		
8-Dec-17	Diversified advertisement/communication	Kelly Soucy	UT-Austin	Zachary Taylor	Readability Studies
	· Outreach/promotion				
	· Modalities				
	· Eligibility criteria				
	· Limitations				
16-Feb-18	Sustainability	Sara Goldrick-Rab	Wisconsin Hope Lab	Lori Beaty	Tarleton Univ
	· Fundraising				
	· Foundations	Brad Hershbein	"Kalamazoo Promise" author		
	· Partnerships				
	· Federal/State funding				
	· Using data to leverage funding				
27-Apr-18	Tools	Tim Renick	Georgia State Panther Retention Gran	Lisa Nagy	UT-Arlington
	· Needs assessment				
	· Data tracking				
	· Management Information Systems (MIS)				
	· Program effectiveness				
	· Support Services	Texas Connector	One Star - SS Mapping Project		
22-Jun-18	Recommendations	All Members		Bryan Ashton	TG
17-Aug-18	Convening Preparation	All Members			

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Emergency Aid Practices

Question	Referenced Law and /or Rule	Additional Resource Information
How does emergency aid impact financial aid?	Adjusting Components of Cost of Attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HEA Sec. 479A(a) • FSA Handbook AVG Chapter 5 Adjusting Data Elements used to Calculate EFC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HEA Sect. 479A(a) • FSA Handbook AVG Chapter 5 	
Does emergency aid count against future financial aid?		
Do rules of funding depend upon the <i>type</i> of funding awarded? (ie., loans vs. grants or vouchers)		
Do rules of funding depend upon the <i>department</i> disbursing the aid?		
Is there any particular amount that is not to be exceeded as to not impact COA?		
Are EA award amounts to be reported as taxable income by the student? If not, is there a cap amount?		
Are there rules regarding IHE's being required to send a 1099 to the student for receiving emergency aid?		
What are the rules concerning 3rd party payments?		
Are there rules to EA funds being awarded by a foundation vs. the institution?		

Note* All questions relate to regular emergency aid programming. For regulations regarding *disaster* aid, please visit: <https://ifap.ed.gov/ifap/disaster.jsp>