

THECB Emergency Aid Network

Community Partnerships:
Transportation

Overview of Transportation Committee

- Charge: Research existing practices and make recommendations to stakeholders for how institutions can collaborate with community partners to offer transportation to students who do not have access to it and/or funds to pay for it
- Transportation can include local partnerships, public transportation, bike-share programs, and funding to cover gas/maintenance

Members	Institution
Katherine Beaumont Doss, Dean of Student Success	Alamo Colleges District – Palo Alto College
Norma Cano, Bursar	Laredo Community College
Glynis Christine, Coordinator, Student Emergency Services	Texas State University
Kirsten Compary, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs	Texas A&M University - Kingsville
Adriana Craddock, Special Services Counselor	Laredo Community College
Heidi Granger, Assistance Vice President of Student Financial Services	The University of Texas at El Paso

Overview of National Research

- More than one-third of university students are considered food and/or housing insecure; for community college students, it is more than half ¹
- These challenges are exacerbated when students cannot access services such as transportation and childcare ²
- 17% of students either routinely or sometimes used public transportation to get to school ³
- At Amarillo College, 15% of students either lacked transportation to get to class or their transportation was unreliable ²
- Colleges and universities have an opportunity to provide emergency aid programs that meet transportation needs or partner with community based organizations so students can attend class and complete their education ^{4, 5}

Overview of Research: Colleges and Universities

- Finding 1: Most institutions had some form of collaboration with the local public transportation system
- Finding 2: Larger schools such as The University of Texas at El Paso, Texas State University, and The University of Texas at Austin provided intra-campus bus routes around campus and to nearby apartment complexes
- Finding 3: Some institutions partnered with private businesses/municipal agencies such as Zipcar or the county
- Finding 4: Bike-share programs, either developed at the campus level or in partnership with a bike share program such as Zagster, were another option to meet transportation needs

Overview of National Research: Community Partnerships

- Finding 1: Transportation assistance or assistance for money or gas is typically offered as part of other services provided by the community-based organization
- Finding 2: Ways to Work was specific to meeting transportation needs with low cost loans
- Finding 3: Many organizations did not necessarily partner with colleges/universities outside of general referrals with the exception of Austin Metro providing discounted passes and Panhandle Community Services partnering with Amarillo College
- Finding 4: The Perkins Grant provides federal funding that may be used for transportation expenses such as gas

Overview of Panel Members

Name	Title	Organization
Blanca Gamez, Ph.d.	Assistant Director, Parking and Transportation Services	The University of Texas at Austin
Jan Gunter	Deputy Development Director	The Salvation Army-Austin Area Command
Steven Herrera	Director, Transportation Services	Texas State University
Mindy Nobles	Program Director, Academic Quality and Workforce Division	THECB, Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Grant

Panel Discussion

- What are the greatest impacts your organization has made in terms of meeting the transportation needs of students and/or the general population?
- What innovations would you recommend to help students meet their transportation needs so they can attend class, stay in school, and graduate?

Questions?

Thank You!

Executive Summary/References/Resources

¹ Goldrick-Rab, S., & Cady, C. (2018, April). *Wisconsin Hope Lab*. Retrieved from Wisconsin Hope Lab Publications: Still Hungry and Homeless in College: <http://wihopelab.com/publications/Wisconsin-HOPE-Lab-Still-Hungry-and-Homeless.pdf>

² Goldrick-Rab, S., & Cady, C. (2018, June). *Wisconsin Hope Lab*. Retrieved from Supporting Community College Completion with a Culture of Caring: A Case Study of Amarillo College: <http://wihopelab.com/publications/wisconsin-hope-lab-case-study-amarillo-college.pdf>

³ Klepfer, K., Ashton, B., Bradley, D., Fernandez, C., Webster, J., & Wartel, M. (2018, June). *Student Financial Wellness Survey - Latest Results*. Retrieved from Trellis Company: <https://www.trelliscompany.org/student-finance-survey/>

⁴ Kruger, K., Parnell, A., & Wesaw, A. (2016). *Landscape Analysis of Emergency Aid Programs*. Retrieved from NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education: https://www.naspa.org/images/uploads/main/Emergency_Aid_Report.pdf

⁵ *Student ARC: Advancing Retention in College with Emergency Aid*. (2018, June). Retrieved from NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education: <https://studentarc.org/>