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Unit Review Leader: Community Outreach

Unit Name: Loretta Edelen

1.

What improvements have been planned/implemented:

Community Outreach is planning to implement a more strategic mentoring program for our Fall 2012 Foster Care Alumni (FCA) students who participate in our Jump Start Orientation (June 27-29, 2012). We plan to pair up students with faculty and staff during Jump Start in an effort to retain more students.

2. How did you decide that these improvements would benefit your unit or what weakness is the unit trying to improve:

Based on the data collected from tracking the last two Jump Start Orientation participants, we find that they have not been staying at ACC after one or two semesters. Research has been shown to prove that Mentoring is a very effective retention tool. So we plan to use the ACC faculty and staff who have been trained by Professional Development, as mentors. We think that we could better utilize the services of these volunteers in helping our incoming FCA students.

3. Measures: what measures are going to be used to determine if the improvements were successful.

We will track the number of FCA students who participate in the ongoing Mentoring Meetups, held once a month in addition to tracking their enrollments by semester from Fall through Summer 2012-13.

3a. Baseline data: the data used to determine improvements were needed

The baseline data used is based on the attendance of the July 2010 and July 2011 Jump Start Orientations held at ACC. This data includes semester by semester tracking of the Orientation participants.

3b. Target goals: the data that shows your improvements have achieved your goals

The goal is to have at least the same retention rate as the total credit student population from Fall to Fall which is about 44%, based on ACC College Wide 2011 Institutional Goals Snapshot prepared by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Accountability.

3c. Current data: where you are currently in reaching your target

We are currently reaching our target from fall to spring consistently, but not Fall to Fall.

Narrative:

Nothing