The Dibble Institute
Resources for Teaching Relationship Skills to Teens and Young Adults

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Santa Monica Case Study

Organization: **Contact:** **URL:**	Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA Nick Mata, Director of Special Programs (Mata_Nicholas@smc.edu) http://www.cdss.ca.gov/CalWORKS
Program Name:	CalWORKS
Funding:	Department Budget
Curricula used:	*Love Notes*
Curricula benefits:	Addresses current issues and challenges in students' lives that prevent them from successfully completing college program.
Population:	Community college students who are part of CalWORKS (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families – TANF), EOPS/CARE, and Guardian Scholars (foster youth)
Audience Demographics:	Primarily female head of households, unemployed, needing additional education to enter the workforce, ages 17-29 Foster Youth
Class size:	Average 15-20 per class
Location of instruction:	In the a campus classroom or large conference room
Length of instruction (number of sessions and hours per session):	Hour long workshop series held during the school day during a free period. Three sessions per series. Also did a 6-hour retreat covering 9 lessons.
Instructor Training Protocol:	Instructors attended a two-day *Love Notes* training.
Utilization of teacher and student materials:	Each instructor has a *Love Notes* binder. Workbook pages are not used.
Program Recruitment Proccess:	Promoted the workshops and retreats via paper flyers, email invitations, and word of mouth during counseling appointments and visits to the CalWORKs office.
Incentives to teachers and students:	None

Outcomes:	1) Engaged students outside of the classroom and the normal counseling/ advising scenario. 2) Participants learned and discussed vital aspects of relationship and relationship building, which they indicated they rarely get to do.
Challenges:	1) The one-hour workshop series was not enough time to cover everything in a lesson, but the day-long retreat may have been a little overwhelming for the participants. 2) Getting more men to attend.
Tips:	1) Offer food or snacks. 2) Create a safe and confidential space for discussion. 3) Vary the presenters, presentation styles and/or modalities.