PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

The Enlace Program, which began in 1983 at Evergreen Valley College, represents an alternative approach to meeting the educational needs of Chican@/Latin@ students. The name enlace is derived from the Spanish word enlazar, which means "to bind or connect""to create a community." The Enlace community consists of a team of college faculty, staff, and community mentors with the program mission of helping Chican@/Latin@ students succeed. Enlace services include academic classes and tutoring support, counseling, and community mentoring.

PROGRAM GOALS

• To enable Chican@/Latin@ students to successfully complete the Enlace English, Math, and Science courses
• To mainstream students into the general education and transfer curricula
• To successfully retain and matriculate Chican@/Latin@ students
• To increase the number of Chican@/Latin@ students who graduate with an associates degree
• To increase the number of China@/Latin@ students who transfer to four year colleges and universities
THE MENTOR PROJECT

The Enlace English 1A mentor project was designed for our Chican@/Latin@ students to have an opportunity to explore and learn about their career of interest from Chican@/Latin@ professionals. Through the guidance of a mentor, Enlace students are able to learn what skills and/or preparation is needed to succeed in their desired career. Some of the areas of interest include: Business, Criminal Justice, Engineering, Nursing and Social Work.

OUTLINE

1. Students review list of all mentors to select their choice.
2. Program Coordinator matches students with their mentor and provides the student with a mentor profile form.
3. Simultaneously, mentors receive a student profile of their assigned mentee.
4. Once students complete the interview, they compose their mentor essay.

INITIAL CONTACT

When students receive their mentor profile, they use the information to write a letter of introduction. This letter is followed with a telephone call from the student to arrange an interview date.
THE INTERVIEW

- Schedule a 60-90 minute interview
- If possible, have interview at the work place for student to observe mentor during work hours
- Conduct a tour of work facility
- Consider a follow-up interview
- It is recommended to create an environment which lends an opportunity for a dialogue to happen versus an interview.

COMMITMENT

- Attend a Mentor Meet & Greet (Saturday)
- One year commitment (different student each semester)
- Interview (60-90 minutes minimum)
- Email, text, or call corresponding throughout the semester
- Able to offer suggestions related to the mentee's educational and career goal.
- Willingness to listen
- Students and mentors may maintain communication beyond the semester.
GOALS
- Provide advice and support related to students desired career path
- Promote the importance of academic excellence
- Emphasize the importance of students taking responsibility for their goals
- Enhance self-esteem of students

BENEFITS OF BEING AN ENLACE MENTOR
- Instill educational values
- Provide Guidance
- Make a difference in a student's life
- A great opportunity to give back to your community

HOW TO BECOME AN ENLACE MENTOR
Contact the Enlace Program Coordinator:
Phone: (408) 274-7900 ext. 6598
Email: mayra.garcia@evc.edu
Visit us: Acacia, AE-142