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Respondent

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Anonymous

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Application Information

1. Name: *

Janelle Qamaruzzaman

2. GCC Title/Position: *

DSPS Counselor

3. Department: *

DSPS

4. Campus: *

Verdugo

Garfield

5. E-mail: *

janelleq@glendale.edu

6. Phone: *

818-240-1000 ext 5905

7. Dean or Department Head's Name: *

Shauna Haggeman

Project Proposal

8. Name of Project/Program: *

DSPS: Integration, Inclusion, and Innovation

9. Please select which category best describes your project: *

- Arts & Culture
- Athletics & Fitness
- Career & Work Training
- College Operations & Facilities
- Humanities/Social Sciences
- Science & Technology

10. Amount requested: *

\$15,000

11. What do you propose to do? *

We would like to thank the Glendale Community College Foundation for their continued support of the DSPS program and the DSPS student population at GCC. With the continued support of the Foundation, DSPS has been able to grow while having a visible profile within the campus community. This directly contributes to student success and support and would not be possible without the support of the Foundation.

Among many barriers DSPS students face, integration into campus life and inclusion remain among the highest. Although DSPS faculty and staff are committed to fostering an environment that supports integration and inclusion for students with disabilities, funding is an obstacle and challenge we face every academic year in order to create and foster an environment where students can thrive. Additionally, this funding offers faculty and staff innovation opportunities to best integrate students while cultivating a space of inclusion which will directly lead to student success.

I am respectfully requesting funding that will provide various access pathways for students enrolled in DSPS via:

Professional development opportunities in innovation for DSPS faculty and staff specific to DSPS student integration, and inclusion. This includes having faculty attend the annual CAPED conference (California Association For Postsecondary Education and Disability). Additionally, provides an opportunity for professional development at staff and faculty retreats.

Funding for DSPS related campus events promoting integration and inclusion for DSPS students

DSPS swag (which continues to be crucial and instrumental at events in increasing DSPS visibility on campus). This brings inclusion and integration via awareness of the DSPS program.

Integrate and include Garfield students into career major exploration opportunities both at Garfield and the credit to noncredit pathway(s).

Materials and supplies for a Sensory Room/Sensory Space working in collaboration with the library where we have designated space. This is distinct from the meditation room in the Inclusion Center as the library is always staffed with extended hours during the week and weekends to ensure this space is accessible to students in distress. This is an innovative project that promotes integration and inclusion for DSPS students. We have also reached out and have support from the person involved in the design of the sensory space at SoFi Stadium. Sensory spaces have proven to help students with regulation, de-escalation, improved focus, and provides campus inclusivity.

12. Who will be involved in the project/program? *

DSPS faculty, staff, and students will be involved to ensure student inclusion and innovation is achieved in order to close gaps in inclusion and integration our students face.

13. What are the benefits of this project/program to the students, college, and the community? *

There are numerous benefits of awarding this grant to DSPS. Not only will these funds enable DSPS faculty and staff to focus on providing integration and inclusion to students enrolled in DSPS in an innovative manner, it also provides funding for professional development opportunities for all GCC faculty and staff that put integration and inclusion at the forefront. This in turn directly benefits students when the campus as a whole is focused on providing integration and inclusion to all, in an innovative manner. Ultimately, what works for and benefits DSPS students works for and benefits all students.

An innovative DSPS program that provides as many resources as possible to GCC students, faculty is a hallmark of an academic institution that is committed to the success of all students. Student success cannot be achieved without integration and inclusion being a cornerstone of the institutions' espoused values.

Additionally, professional development opportunities for DSPS faculty and staff aims to increase faculty and staff awareness, explores challenges faced by the diverse DSPS student population, and introduces pedagogical practices that help to ensure DSPS students are effectively supported in their higher ed journey. Staff development trainings benefit DSPS students by raising disability awareness so faculty and staff are better equipped when working with the DSPS population. This also helps to promote access for DSPS students. Lastly, those who work with DSPS students are sensitive to the myriad needs our students have. We recognize the importance of professional development opportunities that help us grow professional to assist our diverse student population as best as we can.

14. How does this project/program support the College's Institutional Strategic Plan? *

View ISP at <https://www.glendale.edu/home/showpublisheddocument/68172>

The Glendale Community College Institutional Strategic Plan promotes diversity equity, inclusion and accessibility. DSPS students have some of the highest gaps in achievement and access. Inclusion and integration is what opens the door to increased student achievement. Enrichment opportunities such as professional development for faculty and staff creates an opportunity to further develop our skills to empower students with disabilities via professional development. This is in turn empowers not only DSPS faculty and staff but all campus wide employees to identify and work to reduce equity, achievement, and access gaps that our students face. We will be able to use these funds in innovative ways to ensure success is achieved by keeping inclusion and integration at the forefront.

Additionally, the funding requested to integrate Garfield students into career exploration opportunities, campus wide events promoting access for DSPS students, swag, and events that allow students integrate and be included in campus life and success while supporting the mission of the college by directly helping students achieve their economic, educational, career and life goals. Swag is important as it helps DSPS maintain a presence on campus. A presence leads to better inclusion, integration, and equity. This gives students a pathway to achieve their goals. We will continue to use swag in innovative ways to promote inclusion and innovation for DSPS students.

15. Timeline for the project/program. *

The funds will be used beginning Fall 2026 and will continue to be used as long as available. Per the guidelines, funds need to be used by the end of the 2026-2027 academic year.

16. How do you propose to use the funds requested? Please include specific budget information. *

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I cannot show each breakdown in good faith due to differing rates of locations and speakers we would look for professional development both on and off campus (e.g. conference rates and locations, speaker fees), increase swag prices due to fluctuating tariffs and increased inflation, fluctuating costs associated with events, fluctuating costs with goods and services associated with events, textile costs for sensory spaces, etc. Previously, we have had guest speakers such as the great late Judy Heumann from Crip Camp and author Gail Saltz. Previously speakers of this caliber agreed to significantly reduced speaking fees that took time and trust to negotiate. Additionally, prices for locations and transportation have fluctuated since the pandemic.

17. Please list any other sources of funding you have applied for and include dollar amounts if already awarded. *

I applied for and was awarded a \$5,000 grant on behalf of the DSPS department in 2024 and was granted \$5000.00. The grant expires on 6/30/25. I also applied for and was awarded a \$10,000 grant in 2025. The grant expires on 6/30/26.

18. How will the Foundation's support be recognized? *

We will acknowledge the Foundation's generosity and sponsorship at every event and activity held to remind the GCC community of the importance of the foundation and the work they do to assist in funding equity and inclusive projects and events. We will also mention the Foundation in every DSPS publication and promotion.

19. How do you plan to evaluate this project's success? *

We will use student surveys for feed back and will also use quantitative analysis. We will share the results with the Foundation so it can review the effectiveness of the grant.

20. If your project/program is successful, how will it inform your practice moving forward? *

Our practice will be informed by recognizing existing equity gaps that exist both in DSPS and GCC. This grant will be a great resource in helping us close and address those gaps as it will provide access to DSPS students.

21. Please provide a 2 – 3 sentence summary of your project proposal. *

This proposal helps to integrate and include DSPS students via innovative work and professional development. Through integration and inclusion, DSPS students are able to access success at GCC and achieve their goals. By means of professional development, DSPS events, a presence on campus (swag), and a dedicated sensory/space room that is consistently accessible, DSPS faculty and staff are able to provide much needed innovation for student success in seeking equality of opportunity.

Signature and Acknowledgments

22. I hereby acknowledge/certify: *

- My Dean or department head is aware of this application and has authorized its submission.
- If my proposal involves the hiring of temporary/contracted professionals, I will obtain approval from Human Resources before proceeding and will provide documentation to the Foundation that the hiring/contracting has been reviewed and approved.
- If my proposal involves conference and/or other travel, I will complete the GCC travel approval process and adhere to GCC travel guidelines.