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MAAC Announces New Workforce Development Program for Opportunity Youth at MAAC Community Charter School

New program to connect high school students with career technical education for living-wage jobs

Chula Vista, Ca. – MAAC, a non-profit based in San Diego, is excited to announce "Connect to Success," a workforce development program designed to help prepare high school students enrolled at MAAC Community Charter School (MCCS), a free public charter high school, with the technical and soft skills needed to acquire living-wage jobs in green construction and health careers pathways.

MCCS is making it a priority to offer career technical education (CTE) to those students who have chosen not to pursue traditional college degrees so they may be better equipped for career success after high school.

Through Connect to Success, services offered by the MAAC workforce development department will be integrated with curriculum at the charter school. During the first three years of the program, approximately 100 students are expected to complete the trainings and certifications necessary to help give them an advantage for the post-high school job market. Participating students will receive financial support while enrolled in the program; students will also receive assistance from a staff job developer who will provide each participant with one-on-one coaching and help ensure students are successfully placed in jobs and are able to retain employment.

"For years, we have been providing successful workforce development programs geared towards adults who are re-entering the workforce or changing careers," stated Arnulfo Manriquez, President/CEO of MAAC. "We are grateful for the opportunity to take our model career technical education program and now offer it to our MCCS students, enabling them to receive the training and certifications required to place them in jobs that pay fair wages and help transform our students' lives as well as their families and communities."

The Connect to Success program is scheduled to kick off with its first cohort of students during MCCS' spring session, which is scheduled to begin on April 8, 2019. Initial funding for this program has been made possible by a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous. To inquire about enrolling in the program, please contact Jonathan AbuSaba at JAbuSaba@maacproject.org. If you are an employer or vocational institution that is interested in partnering and promoting the Connect to Success program, contact us at workforce@maacproject.org.

About MAAC

The Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee on Anti-Poverty of San Diego County, Inc. dba MAAC is the leading provider of comprehensive social services in San Diego County and works to create healthier and stronger communities by providing a space where individuals and families in need can find means to self-sufficiency through advocacy and access to high-quality programs in five key areas of focus: Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Education, Health & Wellbeing, and Advocacy & Leadership Development. For more information, visit www.maacproject.org or Facebook.

About MCCS

MAAC Community Charter School (MCCS) is a free public charter high school, located in Chula Vista, CA and chartered by Sweetwater Union High School District that serves students through a supportive, alternative learning environment. MCCS provides students ages 14-20 with an extended opportunity to earn a high school diploma. More than 1,000 students have graduated since the school opened in 2001; many of these students are the first of their families to graduate high school with plans to continue on to college or career technical education. For more information on MCCS, visit www.maacproject.org/mccs.

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