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| . MSU-logo-2001 | **REPORT*****From the office of the…*****Sara Tamjidi and Blessing Akinniranye** |
| TO: | Members of the Executive Board |
| FROM: | Sara Tamjidi, Blessing Akinniranye |
| SUBJECT: | Diversity Services Report 7 |
| DATE: | February 22st, 2021 |

**Year plan Update**

Diversity Services is progressing well with the first issue of *SOAPBOX* publication, as well as our Peer Support Proposal for the upcoming year. For Black History Month, we are working on a *Listen Up!* podcast episode, A Black literature campaign, and post for black businesses. Additionally, we have multiple collaborative initiatives underway for the month of March.

**Service Usage**

Our engagement on Facebook (~1800 followers) and Instagram (~2700 followers) has remained consistent.

**Past Events, Projects, & Activities**

Soapbox Publication

Content submissions have officially closed, and we’ve received ~30 submissions. We have also opened submissions for BIPOC business ads, and this will likely remain open until the first draft of the publication is complete.

Peer Support Proposal

We have completed phase one, which involved consulting current MSU Peer Support services on operating logistics, COVID-19 adaptations, and general successes and challenges. This was done through a survey, which we greatly appreciate the following services for responding to: WGEN, MACCESS, SHEC and PCC. A summary of the data we collected is available upon request.

We have also completed a majority phase two, which has involved one-on-one consultations with Black and Indigenous student groups, and other offices and organizations related to diversity, equity and inclusion. The purpose of these consultations has been to better understand the current challenges and need within our target student population and to explore ways our service can begin to address some of them through peer support.

Fundamental Resource Guide

The guide has been reviewed by individuals at the EIO office and ASP. The final edits are being made and there are plans to contact the Underground to begin designing the guide in the coming days. Additionally, we are still working with WGEN on providing translated versions of the guide.

**Upcoming Events, Projects & Activities**

Soapbox Publication

We are in the process of reviewing the content submissions and preparing secondary content for the issue. Following this, contributors will be contacted if there are any requests for changes. We are also accepting BIPOC business ads to be included in the publication. Once all the content has been approved, we will be working closely with Incite to design and publish the issue. Our goal is to have it published and released by the end of March.

Peer Support Proposal

Once we complete phase 2 consultations, we will be moving into phase 3. This will be where we consolidate all the information we’ve collected and draft a preliminary proposal. The proposal will be reviewed by everyone we’ve previously contacted, and we plan to have a final proposal published by the end of the term. This will be done with the hopes that, the incoming team will have a framework to begin to implement service in September.

General Campaigns and Events

* The SPA committee plans to release at least two additional Listen Up! podcast episodes by the end of the term.
* The IFC will be hosting an inter-faith event in March, where spiritual/faith-based groups will be invited to attend.
* R/R plans to release additional mini resource guides by the end of the term.
* Due to unforeseen circumstances the Land Acknowledgement Event was canceled and rescheduled to early March.

**Currently Working On**

In addition to leading our own work, we are supporting other clubs and services in their work through collaborations. This includes working with BAPMac and McMaster Indigenous Health Movement on a Panel being held in March. Additionally, we are in early discussions about collaborating with MACCESS on an event during Disability Pride Week. Also, we are looking into the possibility of collaborating with PCC and WGEN on providing peer support from an ethnocultural lenses.

**Budget**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***ACCOUNT CODE*** | ***ITEM*** | ***BUDGET / COST*** | |
|  |  |  | |
| 5003-0317 | TOTAL SPENT IN LINE | 0 | |
|  | 5003-0317REMAINING IN LINE | 100 | |
|  |  |  | |
|  |  |  | |
| 6102-0317 | TOTAL SPENT IN LINE | 400 | |
|  | REMAINING IN LINE | 3600 | |
|  |  |  | |
|  |  |  | |
| 6103-0317 | TOTAL SPENT IN LINE | 1300 | |
|  | REMAINING IN LINE | 4700 | |
|  |  |  | |
|  |  |  | |
| 6501-0317 | TOTAL SPENT IN LINE | $456.99 | |
|  | REMAINING IN LINE | $2,043.01 | |
| ***TOTALS*** | | | |
| **TOTAL BUDGETED DISCRETIONARY SPENDING** | | |  |
| **TOTAL ACTUAL DISCRETIONARY SPENDING** | | | 0.00 |
| **REMAINING DISCRETIONARY SPENDING** | | |  |

**Volunteers**

Nothing new to add here, volunteers are working in their respective CEP and SPA teams.

**Current Challenges**

With the demands of school generally increasing, it has been challenging to see our team put in so much time and effort into this work and having very limited resources to compensate them.

**Successes**

Despite all the extra time and effort our service’s additional undertakings have required, our team has been committed and making things happen; which we truly appreciate and wish we could do more to show that.