



REPORT

From the office of the...

Diversity + Equity Network Director

TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Arash Aria
SUBJECT: Diversity + Equity Network Report #5
DATE: January 19th, 2023

Year plan Update

In January of 2023, MSU DEN has executed numerous events and has hosted several campaigns. The past semester has been a learning process, and a lot of logistics have been sorted out. All the executives have their own year plans that they are working through and are doing impressive work. One of the goals Angela and I have had is to implement peer support and we have hired out peer support coordinators and are hiring the volunteers to troubleshoot peer support as a trial run this year to provide guidance for the following.

Events, Projects, & Activities

General Service Usage

The team has been off during the month of December, which resulted in a lower service usage, however our social media has still been active. There are campaigns and videos that are set to attract more students. The previous videos that have been posted have been viewed over 1000 times. We are excited to run events. A big aspect of this semester will be planning Diversity week.

Projects & Events: Halloween Night (Complete)

The CEP team arranged an event for Halloween in order to bring the BIPOC community together and develop a safe(r) space. Festive activities were planned and there was a great turn out. Additionally, we released an Instagram post that was outlining cultural appropriation along with disability awareness. This was the first in-person event that CEP planned and executed which was a great learning opportunity.

Projects & Events: Diversity on the Streets (On-going)

The SPA team has creatively developed an Instagram reels series that highlights the voices of McMaster University students. This series has an executive go around the university and ask questions to students pertaining EDI. There have been 2 episodes released that have increased our engagement and allowed for

students to understand what the service does. This is set to continue for the entirety of the school year and will operate with themes.

This term we are focusing on having topic-based conversations with students at McMaster. We will be speaking on matters related to DEN with students and gaining their perspective.

Projects & Events: Alumni night (Upcoming)

The SPA team has been working very hard these past couple months to arrange an alumni night where alumni from all faculties will be attending a conference to share their experiences. This will be a good networking opportunity for students and a great way to empower the BIPOC community.

Projects & Events: Open Mic Event (Upcoming)

Stay woke, McMaster Unspoken and MSU DEN hosted an event on November 18th, where McMaster students are able to come and share any poetry, music, art with an audience. This event will be taking place again this term.

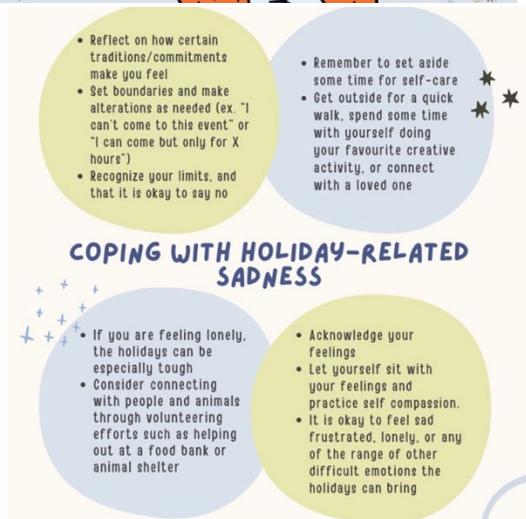
Outreach & Promotions

Summary

The MSU Services have developed a supportive community where we share events and posts on one another's social media accounts. Additionally, we are working to collaborate with SHEC and PCC on two separate events. In general, the peer support services collectively had exam care packages that MSU DEN was involved with. Additionally, the PCC prom is something we are working to support.

Promotional Materials

Over the past month or so, there have been limited number of posts due to the MSU services pausing for the exam period and holidays. Despite this we have released the following posts during this time. The promotions team have received their training and are working to support the Peer Support coordinators in hiring their volunteers.



Social Media Engagement since the Previous Report

The social media has seen a decline in activity due to the break, however our last post reached 1400 accounts which we are hoping continue to grow in the next semester.

Finances

Budget Summary

The budget summary is still the same, however there are numerous costs that are currently being tracked and processed to ensure the future events run smoothly with monetary funds.

There are some challenges with the current budget allocation which has paused us from proceeding with some activities.

Executives & Volunteers

Peer support coordinators have been hired and they have been onboarded effectively. The team is excited plan for the second semester and a huge focus will be diversity week. The morale of the team has been great, and I think communication has been streamlined. The subcommittees have been actively involved with their volunteers and socials are happening at the beginning of February.

Successes

Although the team is getting bigger, the structure has really allowed for efficiency and overall, the team feedback has been positive.

Current Challenges

We are currently struggling to align everyone's schedule to meet once a week which might obligate us to do biweekly meetings. This is something we are working on.