Changes in Whittier: Growing Needs & Growing Interests

Stephanie Carmona, M.A.
Katherine Lazo, M.A.
Community Education Program Initiative
Longfellow Elementary

- We use the Parent Center through the Whittier City School District
- iPads provided by school
- Group sessions
- Ran by undergrads
Whittier City Community Center

- Cell phone training sessions + other tech
- One on one sessions
- Appointment based/walks ins welcomed
- 15-30 min sessions
- Undergrads run sessions
Whittier Fifth Dimension
Context

- Parents/Family
- Community Members
- University

Fifth Dimension

After School Organization

Community

Child

Computer

UG
Questions Being Asked by Administration

- How can Fifth Dimension expand?
- Where should CEPI belong organizationally?
- Where should Fifth Dimension be organizationally?
- Are there ways to consolidate programming? (Day on Campuses)
- Are funds being used to their “fullest” potential?
- Should CEPI have a course? Could it be given one?
Questions I’ve Been Asking

- What’s essential for Fifth Dimension to continue to be successful? (for the children, family, partners, undergrads/grads?)
- How do I communicate the systems of our programs when they’ve become ingrained?
- What is the relationship between a Community Engagement Program and the Education Department?
- Where is there compromise to be found?
- How can all sides start speaking the “same language”?
- How does my identity come into play?
- How to establish a system of Fifth Dimension run by an untenured faculty/staff
Thanks!

Stephanie Carmona, MA
scarmona@whittier.edu

Katherine Lazo, MA
klazo@whittier.edu