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Community Safety: Campus Progress Report

For activities between July 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023.

CAMPUS NAME: MERCED

PROGRESS AND UPDATES

Provide updates on progress and continuous improvement efforts.

Guideline 1 — Community and Service-Driven Safety

All members of the UC community should feel valued, welcomed and free from any threat of physical, psychological or emotional harm. Our campus safety system must reflect the needs and values of a diverse campus community including those vulnerable to harm. Specific strategies and tactics in the campus plans will be shaped by a process that includes broad representation of the campus population and is sensitive to the needs of historically marginalized communities.

The campus safety system will provide high-quality service in a courteous and accessible manner that allows our community to feel safe and respected in every interaction. Interactions will be held to a high standard of respect and fairness and will be monitored. Hiring procedures and guidelines for campus safety personnel will involve participation of a broad representation of campus community groups including students, faculty and staff. This begins a continuous process of evaluation and improvement. Campuses will continually engage their communities and strengthen campus safety practices.

Action 1-1: Organized events

Please list all organized events, during the reporting period, relating to community engagement associated to actions in Guideline 1.

August 8, 14, 17, 21, 24, 25, 27, 31 *Violent Intruder response training*

August 19-20 *Bobcat move in day on Academic walk: Welcome tabling with fliers about UCMPD programs/services, property registration*

August 22 *Bridge crossing to welcome new freshman students*

August 30 *Merced Community Re-Direct presentation*

September 8 *Housing DUI goggles event*

September 11 *UCMPD Open house- The community was able to view the department, meet the team, eat food and participate in relationship building activities*

September 19 *1st Amendment presentation to students*

September 27 *UCMPD/EM Safety conference*

October 3 *Drunk Driving presentation and drunk goggle activity for students in partnership with UC Health promotions*

October 19, 20, 26, 27 *Violent intruder response training*

October 19 *Domestic violence prevention & awareness collaboration with UC Merced CARE office*

October 20-22 *UC Merced family weekend*

October 21 *Trunk or treat in partnership with UC Merced CARE office*

October 26 *Healthy Halloween Party with UC Merced CARE office*

October 28 *Treats n Beats Concert*

October 31 *Halloween Door decoration competition for community voting*

November 2 *Traffic stop presentation*

November 3 *Hippie Hill homecoming*

November 7 *Dangers of Fentanyl awareness*

November 1, 4, 15, 17 *Violent intruder response training*

November 28 *Eyewitness activity for community*

December 4 *Housing presentation for DUI and Drugs*

December 7, 13, 22, 23, 28, 29 *Violent intruder response training*

December 15-16 *Fall commencement*

1-1 Organized events: Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UCMPD remains very actively engaged with the community. We always agree to special requests from students. Our Police Insight program provides a space for a sworn police officer and a student service ambassador to engage with students, staff and faculty while providing education on safety topics.

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Action 1-2: Lessons learned

Provide lessons learned from past community engagement activities and describe how they informed (or will inform) future community engagement.

Lessons learned (Action 1-2): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UCMPD has learned the students are more likely to attend an event when they invite UCMPD or it is their idea for an event. Additionally, UCMPD has learned to program around peak times and high foot traffic locations to gain the most out of every interaction and event. Our Student service ambassadors are connected to clubs, organizations and departments to constantly look at partnership/collaboration requests.

Action 1-3: Future events

Please list future events, planned between January and June 2024, relating to community engagement associated with actions in Guideline 1.

January 12 *New student orientation*

February 6, 12, 14, 22 *Violent intruder response training*

February 13 *GRANITE 145 In person class presentation about UCMPD service/programs*

February 22 *ANTH 1 In person class presentation about UCMPD service/programs*

February 29 *COB 102 In person class presentation about UCMPD service/programs*

March 19, 25 *Violent intruder response training*

March 20 *Traffic safety and Safe Vehicle Operations experience*

March 27 *Fingerprinting – community safety*

April 3 *DNA, crime scene, blood spatter*

April 4, 15, 26 *Violent intruder response training*

April 17 *Stalking Awareness and Resources*

April 20 *Bobcat Day*

April 24 *Dangers of Narcotics*

April 27 *Cowchella/Spring concert*

May 11-12 *Spring Commencement*

Future events (Action 1-3): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UCMPD will continue to accept custom requests to meet the needs of the community. Student Service ambassadors table for three hours on a Monday/Wednesday/ or Friday.

Action 1-4: Community input

Describe how community input from periodically administrated surveys (Action 1.6) and from the real-time feedback platforms (Action 1.7) are informing decisions about community safety?

Community input (Action 1-4) Implementation detail / description of actions taken

To date, our Public Safety Office has not received feedback over the last review cycle that would be considered actionable. We post all of our complaints on our [website](#).

Officers provide community members with a business card with contact information and a web link to submit commendations or complaints. Surveys are also sent to community members via SurveyMonkey on a daily basis after interactions with officers, dispatchers, Public Service Ambassadors, and office staff. The surveys show positive feedback regarding services currently being provided.

Action 1:5: Training dates

Please provide dates that sworn and non-sworn personnel have received or will receive high quality and regulatory training as described in the plan (Action 1.4 and 1.11).

September 4-10 *Authority without Arrest: Resolving Conflict and Gaining Compliance in Campus Policing (Justice Clearinghouse)*

September 11-17 *Being Water, Not Gas: Strategies & Tools to effectively de-escalate others (Justice Clearinghouse)*

September 18-24 *Communication skills for all occasions (Justice Clearinghouse)*

September 25-30 *Recognizing mental health disorders in others (Justice Clearinghouse)*

October 2-8 *Suicide explained: What leads someone to that moment (Justice Clearinghouse)*

October 9-15 *Suicide prevention & Intervention (Justice Clearinghouse)*

October 16-22 *What cops need to know about drug users to stay safe (Justice Clearinghouse)*

October 23-29 *Workplace violence & mass shootings (Justice Clearinghouse)*

November 1-5 *Changing police encounters through procedural justice training (Justice*

Clearinghouse)

November 6-12 Preventing an active shooting (Justice Clearinghouse)

November 13-19 The psychology of an active shooter (Justice Clearinghouse)

November 20-26 Adverse childhood experiences: The importance of law enforcement recognition & intervention (Justice Clearinghouse)

November 27-30 Case studies in law enforcement encounters with individuals with autism spectrum disorders (Justice Clearinghouse)

December 4-10 Intergenerational trauma and the role of family culture (Justice Clearinghouse)

December 11-17 Resiliency and the dynamic of restoration (Justice Clearinghouse)

December 18-24 Successful mental health diversion programs (Justice Clearinghouse)

December 25-31 Cultural intelligence for law enforcement: A deeper dive for success (Justice Clearinghouse)

January 1-7 Practicing procedural justice internally to foster its practice externally (Justice Clearinghouse)

January 8-14 Honoring our differences (Justice Clearinghouse)

January 15-21 Creating a culture of Inclusiveness: Recruiting a diverse workforce (Justice Clearinghouse)

January 22-28 Motivational conversation for community building (Justice Clearinghouse)

January 29-31 Working with LGBTQ+ Survivors of Sexual Violence Part 1 (Justice Clearinghouse)

February 5-11 Working with LGBTQ+ Survivors of Sexual Violence Part 2 (Justice Clearinghouse)

February 12-18 Beyond Racism: Identifying the Roadblocks, barriers and blind spots that are holding your organization back (Justice Clearinghouse)

February 19-25 Actively caring for people: Lessons for criminal justice professionals (Justice Clearinghouse)

February 26-29 Actively caring for people: 7 principles for criminal justice organizations (Justice Clearinghouse)

March 4-10 *Crime and punishment: Exploring restorative justice and peacemaking (Justice Clearinghouse)*

March 11-17 *Owning racism & living the solution (Justice Clearinghouse)*

March 18-24 *Policing in the Post-Floyd era: Use of force and community engagement (Justice Clearinghouse)*

March 25-31 *Implicit bias: What you don't know can hurt you (Justice Clearinghouse)*

April 1-7: *Beyond victim blaming: Understanding and working with victims of domestic violence (Justice Clearinghouse)*

April 8-14 Abusive head trauma part 1(Justice Clearinghouse)

April 15-21 *Abusive head trauma part 2 (Justice Clearinghouse)*

April 22-28 *All eyes on DV: Developing a multi-disciplinary perspective to domestic violence (Justice Clearinghouse)*

April 29-30 *Assessment of domestic violence injuries (Justice Clearinghouse)*

May 6-12 *Domestic violence 101: What justice professionals need to understand about the dynamics, context & roots of this chronic crime (Justice Clearinghouse)*

May 13-19 *Traumatic brain injury, strangulation and domestic violence (Justice Clearinghouse)*

May 20-26 *Understanding sexual assault perpetration: Dynamics, tactics and the psychology of sex offenders (Justice Clearinghouse)*

May 27-30 *First responding officer duties in sex crimes investigations (Justice Clearinghouse)*

June 3-9 *Male victims of sexual assault (Justice Clearinghouse)*

June 10-16 *Victim rights: What law enforcement officers need to know (Justice Clearinghouse)*

June 17-23 *Addressing problematic sexual behaviors in children and adolescents (Justice Clearinghouse)*

June 24-30 *What justice professionals need to know about hate crime (Justice Clearinghouse)*

July 1-7 *Understanding gender based hate crimes (Justice Clearinghouse)*

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Training dates (Action 1-5): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UCMPD applied the campus safety plan topics to locate an on-demand webinar platform to allow the officers to train on their workdays each week. This provides them with training on a limited budget because they do not have to travel to obtain it. The training is on the following topics:

- *Verbal de-escalation*
- *Non-violent crisis intervention*
- *Lawful use of force*
- *Cultural competency*
- *Diversity*
- *Homophobia / Transphobia*
- *Biased policing/ Anti-racism*
- *Domestic violence*
- *Sexual violence*
- *Hate crimes*
- *Employee personal wellness*

The list of the training programs the campus officers participate in is listed above in 1-5 and on the Public Safety website.

Action 1-6: Additional information

Is there anything else you would like to report progress on related to Guideline 1?

Additional information (Action 1-6): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Our officers continue to do outreach for the community and offer a series of training workshops on Violent Intruder Response Training and Rape Aggression Defense Training. They also provide training on duress alarms, AEDs, loss prevention, CANRA training and CSA training.

Guideline 2 — Holistic, Inclusive and Tiered Response Services

To ensure the safety of the UC community, a tiered response model will match a call for service with the appropriate type of response and responder(s). This holistic approach will include mental health, wellness, basic needs, bias/hate response, law enforcement, emergency response and other services through interdepartmental partnerships and cross-trainings. Multidisciplinary crisis teams will be available 24/7 and triage behavioral health crises, conduct wellness checks, and safely connect individuals to coordinated care, including health and social support resources. Non-sworn security personnel will more visibly render services such as residence hall foot patrols, providing safe shuttles/walks for students, staffing events requiring additional security, and diffusing unsafe behavior.

The University will prioritize deterrence and violent crime prevention over the enforcement of non-violent minor offenses, such as non-hazardous traffic violations. The University will reinforce existing guidelines that minimize police presence at protests, follow de-escalation methods in the event of violence and seek

non-urgent mutual aid first from UC campuses before calling outside law enforcement agencies.

Action 2-1: Public safety tiers

Please provide names of units/teams that carry out the functions of the four tiers of public safety providers.

Public safety tiers (Action 2-1): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

We were able to secure funding for three non-sworn responders, Public Service Ambassadors, who could assist with low level interventions.

The campus partnered with the county to provide behavioral health specialists. The specialist worked on campus and would respond during regular business hours to students in distress and needing hospitalization. The program ran throughout the fall semester, responding to critical incidents through CAPS. We had 28 students who were placed on involuntary hold using this protocol.

The program was successful, but the county decided to expand the program countywide, and pulled the team from UC Merced's campus. While they are still available to respond, the response time can range from 45 minutes to 2 hours. We are now exploring other options.

Action 2-4: Budget for non-sworn tiers

Please provide the total campus budget for non-sworn tiered response providers (i.e., personnel in security, student services partners, and mental health and professionals).

Budget for non-sworn tiers (Action 2-4): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

$300,000 for three Public Service Ambassadors.

Action 2-5: Hours of mental health responders

Are non-sworn mental health responders and providers available 24 hours, 7 days a week? If not, please provide the days or hours of service.

Hours of mental health responders (Action 2-5): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

NO

There are no providers in the region.

Action 2-6: Restorative justice and/or neighborhood courts

Describe the utilization of restorative justice programs or neighborhood courts for the adjudication of nonviolent and low-level crimes. If your jurisdiction has limited the opportunities for this by formal partnerships, what alternatives are you exploring and implementing internally?

Restorative justice and/or neighborhood courts (Action 2-6): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Meetings have occurred with the District Attorney who is in support of the program. We have a follow up meeting with the DA's Office in March to present an outline for implementation in Fall 2024.

Action 2-7: Additional information

Is there anything else you would like to report progress on related to Guideline 2?

Additional information (Action 2-7): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Annually, UC Merced students who would follow into this situation have numbered less than three.

Guideline 3 — Transparency and Continuous Improvement through Data

A systemwide dashboard with campus-level detail will be created and regularly updated to inform and empower the UC community. Based on new systemwide reporting requirements and uniform standards for data collection, this information will be used to assess campus safety practices, generate recommendations for best practices and hold the institution accountable.

Action 3-1: Data reporting

Are you reporting all data described in the UC Community Safety Plan for publication on the Systemwide Data Dashboard. If not, please describe any challenges with data reporting.

Data reporting (Action 3-1): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

YES

Action 3-2: Data-informed decisions

Has campus safety data informed community safety decisions and continuous improvement? If so, describe how and provide examples.

Decisions informed by data (Action 3-2): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UCMPD continuously evaluates data and feedback from surveys and personal interactions with community members. We adjust to the real time information being observed in the field, the feedback from our community and the line staff, and the challenges presented by a busy campus, bustling with activity.

Action 3-3: Data as a tool for improvement

How are you using the Systemwide Data Dashboards as an analytical and comparison tool for continuous improvement?

Data as a tool for improvement (Action 3-3): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UCMPD uses statistics to determine how to best use its limited resources and look for areas for enhancement and , UCMPD also uses the statistics to determine training needs and how best to be responsive to the needs of the campus community.

Action 3-4: Additional information

Is there anything else you would like to report progress on related to Guideline 3?

Additional information (Action 3-4): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

There is no additional information to include for this section.

Guideline 4 — Accountability and Independent Oversight

Campus complaint processes are essential mechanisms for the community to report misconduct and ensure that officers are acting consistently with rules, policies and the law. A standardized and robust complaint and investigation process will be implemented through police accountability boards.

The Office of President will designate a full-time position in service to the campuses to coordinate campus safety, ensure continuous improvement through best practices and monitor the implementation of the UC Community Safety Plan.

Three UC campuses are currently accredited by IACLEA, the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators. IACLEA is grounded in President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and continually evaluates and implements best practices for campus safety as part of its accreditation standards. The remaining seven UC campuses will seek this accreditation. Review and accreditation by independent third-party experts will ensure operational readiness, align policies and procedures with modern professional standards and best practices, promote a strong emphasis on the safety of the public and officers, offer additional community input opportunities, and provide an

independent and ongoing audit and review function.

Action 4-1: Police Accountability Board status

Is your Police Accountability Board (PAB) or equivalent committee operational and have trainings been conducted (4.1b)? If not, when is the projected date to be established?

Police Accountability Board status (Action 4-1): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Our PAB has been operating since Fall 2023

Action 4-2: Links to PAB information

Please provide any links to a member roster, by-laws, procedures, and PAB website.

Links to PAB information (Action 4-2): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

https://pab.ucmerced.edu/about/pab-members-and-administrative-advisory-group

https://pab.ucmerced.edu/

Action 4-3: Certification status

Please describe your progress and status on IACLEA certification.

UCMPD is an applicant agency in the IACLEA program. We anticipate being able to conduct a mock assessment during Summer 2024.

Certification status (Action 4-3): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

The campus has submitted its application and is going through the self-assessment process. Given the typical timeline, we anticipate approval in Late 2024 to early 2025.

Action 4-4: Additional information

Is there anything else you would like to report progress on related to Guideline 4?

Additional information (Action 4-4): Implementation detail / description of actions taken

NA

Other updates

Please provide any other updates or comments associated with the implementation and continuous improvement of the UC Community Safety Plan.

Our student intern with the Community Safety Plan has launched a social media website in an effort to increase the profile of activity happening on the campus.