



Center for Collaborative Education receives grant to design teacher pipeline for aspiring educators of color based on its *Collective Ownership Model*

Because all students deserve teachers of color

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Los Angeles, CA – The Center for Collaborative Education (CCE) in partnership with Río Hondo Community College, El Camino Community College, and Cerritos Community College, is pleased to announce the receipt of a three-year, \$9,000,000 Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) grant from the United States Department of Education to develop and implement a teacher pipeline that recruits and supports aspiring educators from the local community, addressing the need for more teachers of color.

[Nationwide, student populations in the United States are increasingly diverse, but teachers remain mostly white.](#) People of color have fewer opportunities and supports in pursuing careers in education, a Department of Education study found. Yet studies also show that Black and Latinx students demonstrate higher test scores, a more positive outlook, and higher attendance rates when they learn from teachers from the same racial and ethnic backgrounds.

This SEED grant will allow CCE to create the Community Partnerships for Teachers Pipeline (CPTP) to create greater opportunities for students and teachers of color. The CPTP is collaborative and community-led, and provides aspiring teachers with innovative educator certification pathways and training. CCE will leverage a new *Collective Ownership Model* to bring this pipeline to life. The Collective Ownership Model increases equity and opportunity in schools and communities by focusing on the following key drivers:

- Engaging community to build voice and ownership
- Leveraging the community through an asset based approach
- Building capacity through applied leadership

“We are excited to play a role in helping to diversify and strengthen teacher diversity,” says Dr. Oscar Santos, Executive Director at CCE. “In order to effectively do this work, it is critical to begin this work with the communities where these schools are. Our Collective Ownership Model is an asset-based approach to build leadership within and for communities.”

In implementing the CPTP, CCE and partnering community colleges will:

- Offer aspiring teachers of color several pathways to becoming an educator, including STEM certification, special education assistant certification, and more
- Provide personalized mentorship and career development to ensure new teachers are confident and successful in their new roles
- Place and support teacher candidates in local neighborhood schools that will benefit the most from increased educator diversity

“Río Hondo College is eager to launch its partnership with CCE and area schools to boost mentoring, advising and career development activities that will strengthen the pathway to teaching careers,” says Teresa Dreyfuss, Acting Superintendent/President at Río Hondo Community College. “Our communities are rich in diversity as well as skills in math, science and computer science that -- if directed into the teaching profession -- can immeasurably enrich our children's education.”

Colleen McKinley, Director of Educational Partnerships and Programs at Cerritos College adds: “We are thrilled to be part of the CPTP project, which will expand opportunities for our Teacher TRAC students and assist us in our efforts to diversify the teaching force in our local classrooms. This project will be critical in meeting this demand and addressing the needs of the students in our community.”

The development of the Community Partnership for Teachers Pipeline will increase teacher diversity in local Los Angeles communities, and, as a result, will improve outcomes for students of color in public schools. The CPTP will ultimately serve as a model for teacher pipelines nationwide, ensuring that students and teachers across the country have what they need to succeed.

“The CCE team is passionate about promoting student and community success and wellness by intentionally increasing equity, opportunity and engagement within historically under-resourced schools and communities,” says Yvonne Ribas, CPTP Project Director. “We aim to scale and replicate the CPTP project model nationwide, so that communities around the country can cultivate equity-minded teachers who will best serve their students and community.”

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About the Center for Collaborative Education

The Center for Collaborative Education (CCE) has, for the past twenty years, been a part of the wide conversation around education, equity, and next generation best practices that maximize success for all students. CCE’s current work focuses on the following strategic program areas: District and School Design; Instruction and Assessment; Leadership Development; and Research, Evaluation and Policy. In these areas, CCE works directly with educators and other professionals in schools, districts, and states to increase educational access and opportunity for all students, with particular attention to groups that have historically been underserved, including students of color, low-income populations, and English language learners.

