

# National Center for Inquiry & Improvement

# SERVICES & SUPPORT

Focusing on guided pathways and student financial stability reforms, our team at the National Center for Inquiry & Improvement (NCII) supports colleges in implementing authentic large-scale change that enables success for all students.

We have been involved with guided pathways since its inception, and we have worked with more than 350 colleges across the country as they undertake this challenging work. Specifically, we help colleges rethink how their policies, programs, and services can collectively build optimal student experiences. We facilitate critical college conversations and advance implementation and engagement efforts that focus on a student-centered, evidence-based practice.

Our team — which includes an extensive network of topic-based national experts — offers a combination of ground-level experience and national perspectives. We serve colleges through national- and statelevel initiatives as well as direct college support through our Agency, Attitude, & Intensive Implementation (A2I2) cohort subscription model. We are committed to this work and passionate about how community college experiences can ensure bright futures for all students!

If you would like to work with us:

- Invite us to facilitate a one- or two-day workshop tailored to your guided pathways work. See reverse for details. Resources include tools and examples NCII created for other colleges. (\$6,000–\$20,000)
- Participate in the two-year long A212 cohort, which includes six site visits filled with intensive on-site work with leadership, faculty, and staff as well as ongoing support (e.g., office hours, webinars, peer support) between visits. Resources include customized tools and assessments for college-specific implementation. (\$140,000–\$150,000)

Examples of our content and style of work include:

- Guided Pathways Demystified I and Guided Pathways Demystified II (white papers)
- \* Beyond Financial Aid (toolkit, funded by Lumina Foundation)

See the reverse for details about our specific services.

For more information, contact:

Rob Johnstone Founder and President, NCII rob@ncii-improve.com

ncii-improve.com

# We can help your college through every step of planning, implementation, and evaluation in the AACC guided pathways model. Our services and support include the following.

#### **PLANNING**

- Make the case for guided pathways
- \* Connect guided pathways efforts to broader goals of equity, social justice, and economic mobility
- Create a sense of urgency \*
- Actualize a structure and process to get the work done
  - Establish college-specific parameters
  - Identify, organize, and launch workgroups
- Meaningfully communicate and engage diverse stakeholders
- Consider technology and data to support and inform guided pathways

- **IMPLEMENTATION**
- \* Ground the work in the student experience and how to revise/optimize it
- \* Create and mobilize institutional workgroups/ structures to:
  - Develop metamajors
  - Map programs
    - Prioritize career exploration earlier in the student experience
      - Restructure intake/onboarding and advising models
      - Revise developmental education
      - Integrate student financial stability/ basic needs supports into guided pathways
      - Demonstrate potential return on investment
- Conduct self-assessments
- Better understand student needs and priorities
- \* Engage in discussions about role clarity
- Use diverse data to identify the specific problems and inform strategies
- Create spaces to explore data and convert insights into action

### **EVALUATION**

Adapted from the AACC Pathways Project Graphic

"Working with Dr. Johnstone and his team has helped push our college forward with many aspects of implementing guided pathways. Whenever we aren't sure of the 'right' direction, they have been there to guide us and confirm or redirect us so we stay on a positive forward-moving path. We wouldn't be where we are in implementing guided pathways right now without their guidance." - Regina Colletto, Guided Pathways Director, Merced College (CA)

\* Define and measure reasonable short- and long-term indicators of

progress and success

EARLY

- **OUTCOMES**