

# Basic Needs Study

# Action Areas

This document provides a list of suggested action areas based on the results of MJC's 2023 [Basic Needs Study](#). If you have any questions regarding the study results or would like to tell us how you are implementing any of the potential solutions below, feel free to send us an email at [mjcinstitutionaleffectiveness@yosemite.edu](mailto:mjcinstitutionaleffectiveness@yosemite.edu).

## Action Area #1: Basic Needs Programs Awareness

**Problem:** Students and employees alike are unaware of many of the Basic Needs Programs offered at MJC. Employees are not confident in their ability to make accurate referrals to students with basic needs insecurities.

### Potential Solutions

- Improve communication about these programs by putting messaging where students will actually receive it (e.g. in classrooms, guidance courses, social media, etc.)
- Provide Basic Needs training/professional development to employees so that they are able to make appropriate referrals to students in need
- Create an orientation/outreach process that informs students of **ALL** that MJC has to offer, including the Basic Needs Programs

## Action Area #2: Program Centralization & Institutionalization

**Problem:** Almost 30% of students who could benefit from MJC's Basic Needs Programs do not know how to access the programs. Employees point to decentralized services and the lack of a single point-of-contact/process as a big reason students are not getting the help they need.

### Potential Solutions

- Offer programs on BOTH campuses and remotely to increase student access
- Create a single access point for all Basic Needs Programs and streamline the program qualification process by eliminating duplicate paperwork and procedures (e.g. one application for all programs)
- Build successful programs into MJC's budget so they are not dependent on temporary grant funding, allowing programs to continue post-grant completion.

## Action Area #3: Childcare

**Problem:** Approximately 30% of parenting MJC students (parenting students make up ~40% of the MJC student population) do not have reliable access to child care. Both students and employees point to lack of child care at MJC as a major barrier for students, especially those with basic needs insecurities.

### Potential Solutions

- Improve communication of childcare voucher program
- Provide priority enrollment in MJC's Early Care and Education Program to students and program tuition waivers to eligible students
- Increase staffing of MJC's Early Care and Education Program by partnering with the community (e.g. Stan State), to allow for full-time service hours and an increase in program spots