



## Emergency Assistance Fund Provides

The Emergency Assistance Fund, now managed through Cuyamaca Cares, is providing critical support for students and keeping them in school. Funding up to \$500 is available for issues such as housing/utility assistance, emergency auto repair, childcare, bus pass, and more.

The fund has supported 12 students this semester with a total financial impact of \$6,860. Requests range from rental assistance, auto repair, SDG&E shut-off notices, replacement of stolen work tools, and tires. All were issues identified as having a direct impact on the students' ability to attend and/or succeed in school.

With the change in operational ownership Cuyamaca Cares is able to follow up with students and connect them with appropriate longer-term support. Additionally, students can self-refer (in addition to faculty/staff referral).

**"All I can say is WOW and thank you. We had just about given up! I cannot adequately express what this means to me and our family."**

***--Emergency Fund Recipient***

## Jazz and Jokes Fundraiser

The first annual Jazz & Jokes Scholarship Fundraiser was held on Friday, February 21 in the Samuel M. Ciccati Theatre. The event was sponsored by the Umoja Scholars Program and served as the signature event for Cuyamaca's College's Black History Month.



Students, faculty, administration, and community members enjoyed an evening of comedy and music courtesy of Focused Fusion Entertainment. A reception was held beforehand where students and guests mingled with special invited guests Edmond Perkins, Field Representative for Assembly member Dr. Shirley Weber (District 79) and Kenya Taylor, candidate for County Board of Supervisors District 2.

Proceeds from the event will support Umoja Scholars students accepted to a four-year university for fall 2020.

## Automotive Technology Panel Benefits Employer and Students

Career Education hosted the Automotive Technology Employer Panel on February 10, 2020. Local industry partners took part in the panel, including Valvoline, Bureau of Automotive Repair, John's Automotive Care, RAE Service Company, and El Cajon Ford. The free panel was attended by approximately 80 attendees, a mix of student and community members. Brad McCombs, coordinator for the Automotive Technology Program, moderated the panel.



## Financial Literacy Classes at Donovan Correctional Facility

The San Diego Center for Economic Education, which is housed at Cuyamaca College under the leadership of Tony Zambelli, is conducting personal financial literacy classes to inmates at Donovan Correctional Facility. The classes are conducted by Brett Litoff.



The participating inmates are expected to be released within two years and attend a transition class designed to help them reintegrate into society. Course topics include using money as a protection device, understanding the differences between banks and credit unions, exercising self-control when spending, minimizing fees at the ATM, and understanding credit/credit scores. Major funding for the classes is being provided by Bank of America.

## Partnership Provides Music Education in Santee Schools

Music faculty member James Sepulvado is working in partnership with the Santee School District and Bertrand's Music in San Diego to offer music classes to students in nine school sites within the district. The partnership allows for no enrollment charges for music classes to families of fourth-through eighth-grade students via funds from the Santee School District Foundation. More than 300 students have signed up thus far.

[The partnership was featured in the Feb. 6, 2020 edition of the San Diego Union-Tribune.](#)