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**CITY COLLEGE OF SAN FRANCISCO RECEIVES \$1.5 MILLION GRANT TO SUPPORT \$
FIRST GENERATION, LOW-INCOME AND DISABLED STUDENTS \$**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - City College of San Francisco (CCSF) is proud to announce that it has received a \$1.5 million grant from the United States Department of Education (DOE) to expand the services it provides to first-generation college students, low-income students, and students with disabilities. The funding will support the College's Writing Success Project, a program that sits under the federal government's TRIO Program designed to identify and support marginalized students. Now celebrating its 30th year, the new funding will allow the program to serve hundreds more students over the next five years.

Eligible students are matched with Success Coaches who provide academic support; offer workshops on financial literacy, scholarship applications and the transfer process to four-year universities; and connect students to resources such as academic advising, career exploration and job placement services. The fact that the majority of students who go through the program earn their Associates Degree points its strong impact in these students' lives.

"Many of our students are second-language speakers of English, and most of our students are balancing their school with demanding employment schedules and family commitments," explained Program Advisor Vita Paramo. "Because the San Francisco Bay Area is such an expensive place to live, our students face economic challenges that are especially acute, and we are continually inspired by the focus, creativity and drive that they bring to their college careers."

But Writing Success Project Program Director Ghislaine Maze explains that the community the program provides to students is just as valuable as tutoring services when it comes to student success. There are multiple annual events celebrating students, including the Anthology of Student Creative Work Showcase that features the poetry, songs, stories, artwork and photography of Writing Success Project students. The program also hosts a First-Generation Celebration each November, with discussion and mentorship for all members of the community who are the first in their families to attend college.

Maze has been teaching English at CCSF for over ten years, and many of the Writing Success Project's Coaches have been with the program for just as long. Coaches offer problem-solving support and resources to help students navigate a wide range of obstacles that come their way while in school, from academic to financial aid and housing.

To learn more about CCSF's Writing Success Project, please visit: <https://www.ccsf.edu/student-services/tutoring/learning-assistance-department/writing-success-project>

About City College of San Francisco

For 85 years, City College of San Francisco (CCSF) has been the region's premiere public, two-year community college. The college is now one of the first in the nation to offer free tuition, providing San Franciscans with the opportunity to access a quality college education and workforce training that leads to university transfer and good jobs. Since its founding in 1935, City College has evolved into a multicultural, multi-campus community college that is one of the largest in the country. CCSF offers more than 250 degrees and certificates and features an award-winning athletics program. For more about City College of San Francisco, please visit <https://www.ccsf.edu/>.