



# A Message from President Kim Lopez

## Weekly Update: 1-17-25

Dear Cañada Colleagues,

### Flex Day Follow Up

I hope you enjoyed the fantastic workshops provided by our colleagues and thank you to our Professional Development Planning Committee for organizing last Friday's Flex Day. If you haven't already, please complete the [Flex Day Feedback Form](#) to help us know what we can do to better support you! Recordings, handouts, and other resources from this and past Flex Days can be found on the [Flex Day Resources](#) page. Our Professional Development Planning Committee will be planning the April 17 Flex Day in the coming weeks. If you are interested in hosting a workshop, please complete a [Flex Day Proposal](#) by March 14, 2025.



## Welcome Week

Welcome Week at Cañada College was a lively celebration on the Upper Lawn! Departments set up resource tables, connecting students with opportunities, support and valuable information for their success. The buzz of conversations and smiling faces made it a memorable start to the semester. We wish all our students an amazing semester ahead, filled with growth, community and new opportunities!



## Updated SMCCCD Undocumented Community Resources Website

Our district team has worked diligently to create a district-wide site, [SMCCCD Undocumented Community Resources](#) which offers guidance and support for undocumented students, staff and families. This hub provides information on legal and financial aid resources, campus ally programs, and community partnerships. This site will be invaluable as we navigate these challenging times.

## SparkPoint Program Food Distribution

As we begin the new year, the Equity and Antiracism Planning Council (EAPC) encourages Cañadians to commit time to supporting the Cañada College Food Distribution, which happens every Tuesday in Lot 6 from 11 a.m.-1p.m. We know that food is an equity issue, it impacts all of our wellbeing and many of our students' success in particular. The food distributions address hunger in our community and on our campus. Thanks to SparkPoint and our partnership with Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, the Food Distribution on our campus serves more than 400 clients a week and most of our clients receive over \$200 worth of free food each week! [Sign up to be a part of the food distribution here.](#)

EAPC members who participated at the Food Distribution have learned: our students think seeing Cañadians at these events makes a big difference in feeling supported on campus, we understand much more about the community we serve by having meaningful interactions with families, that everybody coming to provide support makes a big difference—from sorting or packing food to getting food in family's cars—having extra hands cuts down wait times for families so they have a better experience.



## Scholarship Reviewers Needed - Respond by February 28, 2025

The Financial Aid Services Department, in partnership with the SMCCCD Foundation, is inviting faculty, staff, and administrators from Cañada to serve as scholarship reviewers for the 2025-26 Cañada Scholarship Program. Reviewers will be assigned between 20 to 40 scholarship applications to evaluate from March 4 to 16 on AcademicWorks, the online platform used by the three SMCCCD colleges. The time commitment is expected to be no more than 6-8 hours, offering a rewarding opportunity to connect with our students. This role is purely voluntary. Reviewers will receive detailed instructions and a scoring rubric. Please respond by February 28, 2025. If you're interested in this enriching experience, reach out to Patricia Flores at [floresp@smccd.edu](mailto:floresp@smccd.edu).

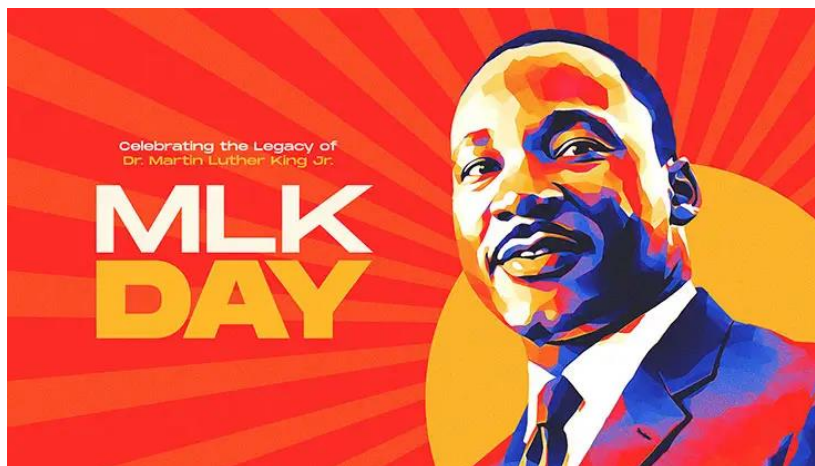
## Foundation for California Community Colleges Wildfire Relief Fund

Southern California wildfires and hurricane-force winds have closed several community colleges, displacing students, faculty, and staff who are facing financial struggles. The [Foundation for California Community Colleges](#) is providing emergency assistance for housing, supplies, and other vital needs. Your [donation](#) can help them recover and stay on track with their education. Please consider giving today if you can.



## Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On Monday, we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. His dream of equality, justice and unity continues to challenge us to break down barriers, foster understanding and stand up for what is right. In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, no classes will be held and offices will be closed from Saturday, January 18 through Monday, January 20. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, January 21.



I wish you a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Sincerely,  
Kim