

STEM Starter Academy:

10 Years of Positive Student Outcomes

Alignment with DHE Equity Agenda



Background

Sponsor

- Legislature – Ten Years (FY14-23)
- \$4.75 million annual funding

Goal

- Recruit, Ready, Retain and Graduate diverse students (race, gender, age) who earn STEM certificates and degrees, transfer to 4-year STEM programs and/or enter the workforce

Design



Impact

By the numbers (Year 8)

- 31,000 students served
- 9,500 earned degrees or certificates
- 2,700 transferred to 4-year institutions
- 1,000 case managed students (best practice implemented - 2019)

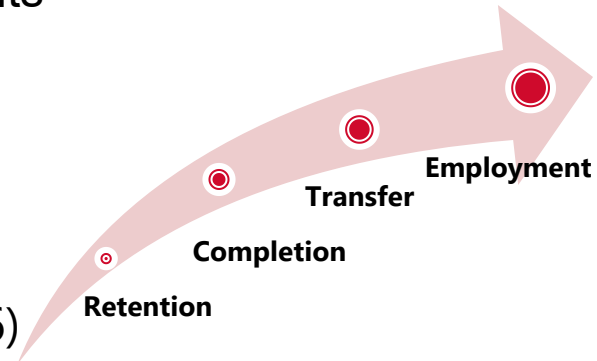
Representation reflects community college demographic

- 51% students of color
- 54% women
- 35% age 25+
- 56% part time

Outcomes

SSA participants are more likely than similar peers to:

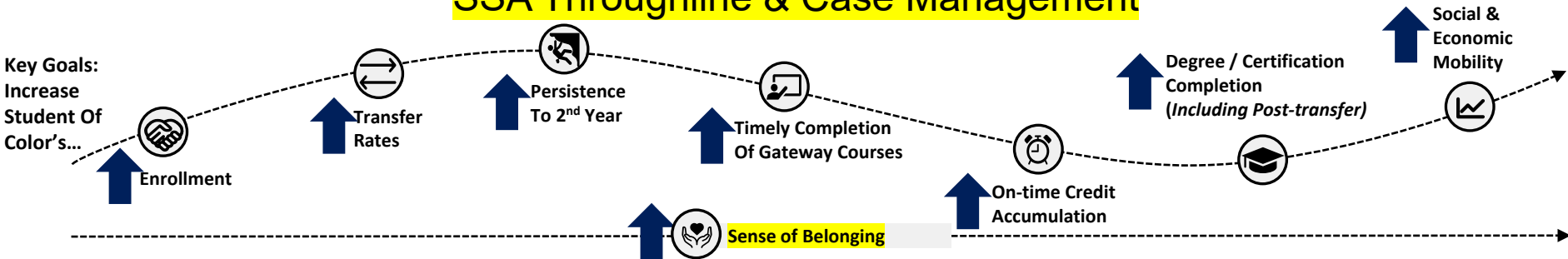
- Earn a STEM degree or certificate
 - Black 3.2x
 - Latinx 2.4x
 - Women 2.1x
- Statistically Significant Results
- Achieve positive outcomes
 - SSA 65% vs 56% non-SSA (Year 1)
 - Net gains increase +9 to +16 points (Years 1-6)
 - New Case Management practice increased positive outcomes an additional 7% (after Year 1)
 - Advance toward degree/transfer (1-6 years after joining SSA)
 - 21% in year 1 >>> 56% in year 6



SSA Aligns with DHE Equity Agenda and Framework for Student Success

Overarching Goal: The elimination of racial disparities in the Massachusetts public higher education system

SSA Throughline & Case Management



Value across Ecosystem

- Implementation of BHE Policy through sustainable institutional change
 - K-12 to community college
 - Adult Learner re-entry to college
 - 2-4 Year transfer to university
 - Industry/employer engagement (talent development)
- Impacts on Institutions
 - Leverage learning through Best Practices
- Metrics
 - Data Dashboards

Discussion

How best can the success of STEM Starter Academy be leveraged to advance the Equity Agenda?