

SparkPoint at Skyline College

Increasing Student Persistence, Retention and Success
by addressing financial barriers.

Prepared by Chad Thompson for the California Community Colleges Basic Needs Summit on April 26th, 2018



SparkPoint is a program of:



Meet Jose Iniguez

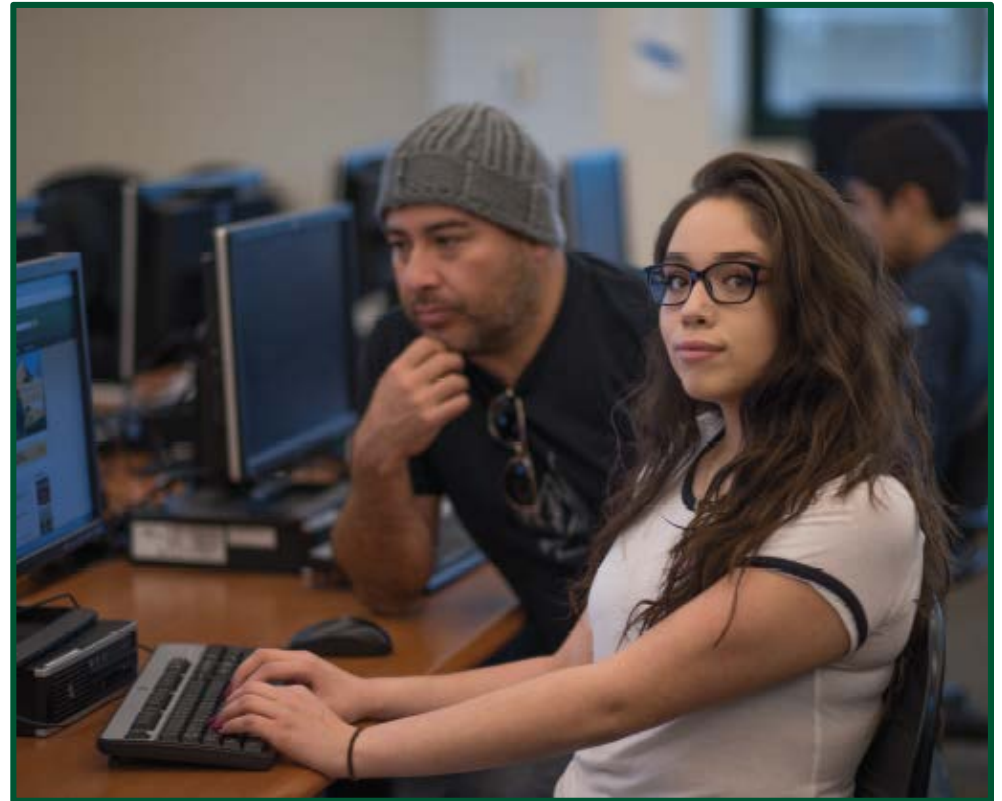


Jose Iniguez

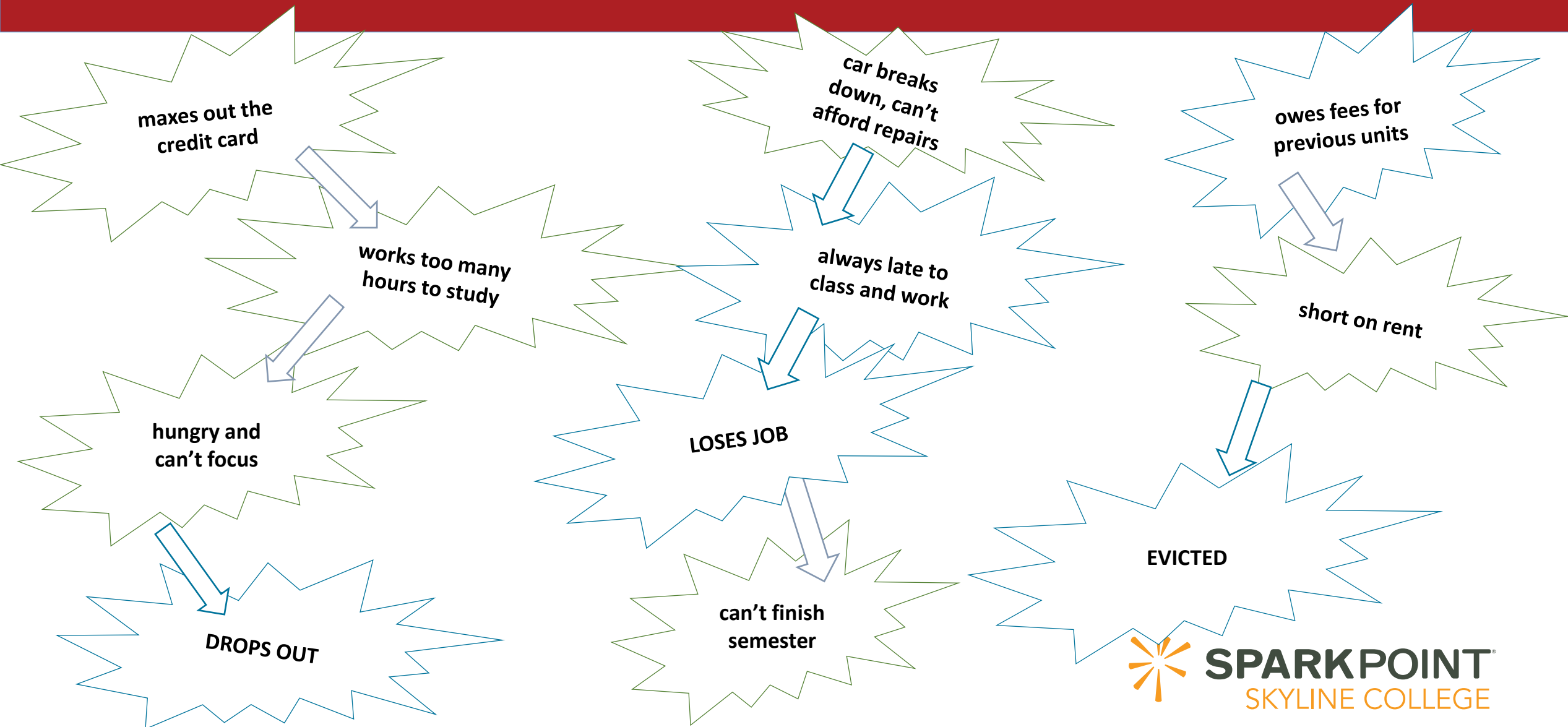
- First introduced to SparkPoint as a community member when seeking services from the Co-Located Employment Development Department Office (EDD) in 2012
- Efforts: EDD Services, Financial Coaching, Food Pantry, Public Benefits Support
- Outcomes: Enrolled in Sustainable Construction classes at Skyline College, developed a more consistent and healthy diet for whole family, opened a bank account, completed his certificate and got a part-time job with the Sustainable Construction Program.

What is SparkPoint?

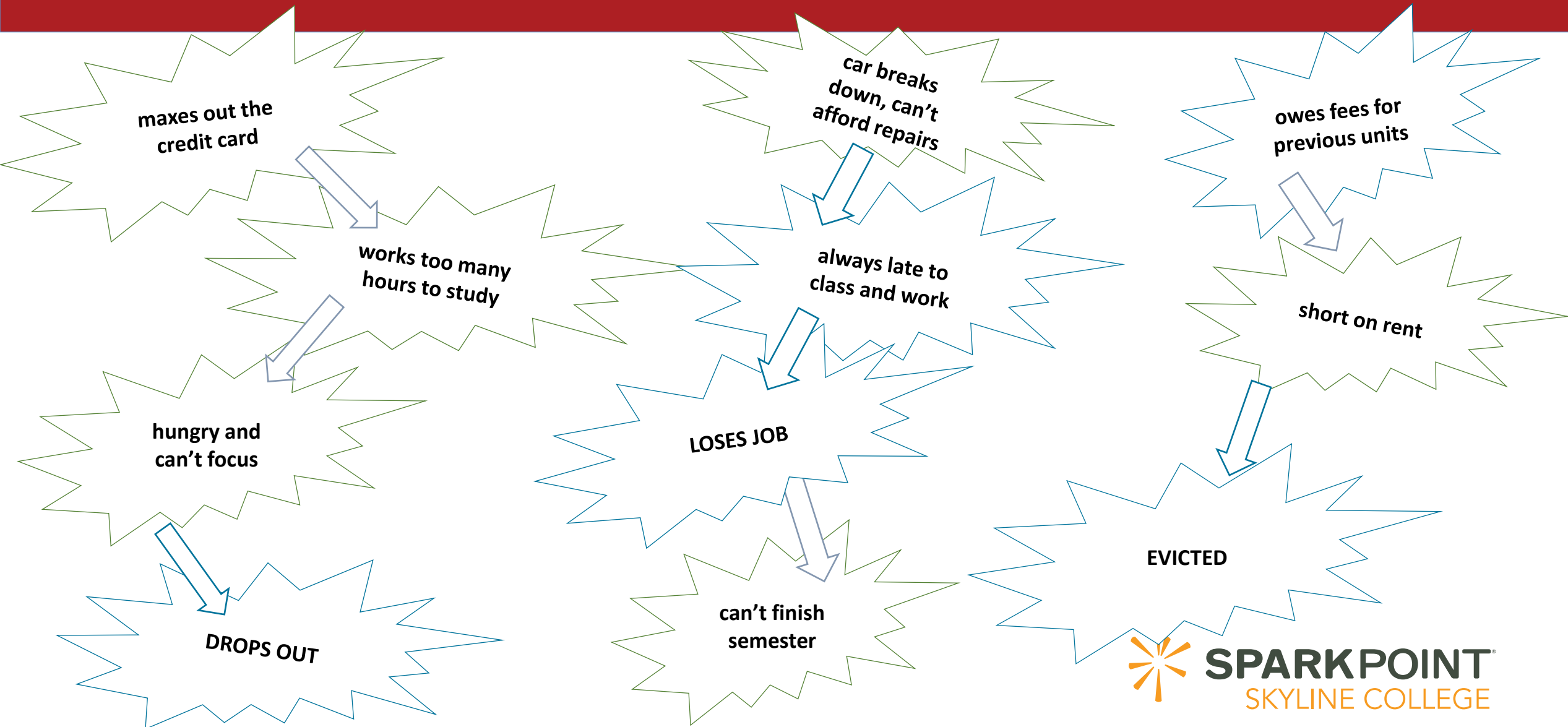
Students and other members of the community use **SparkPoint** services & resources to strengthen their financial capability & further their economic & educational goals.



The Cascade Effect at Colleges



The Cascade Effect at Colleges



SparkPoint Services

Services in these three general areas:

1. Workforce Preparation | Education
2. Financial Capability
3. Benefits Access | Supports

List of Resources and Services:

- Financial Coaching (Budget, credit, banking, IDA, Debt, etc.)
- Public Benefits access (resource referral and support)
- Food Pantry Access
- Career Services and NOVA Job Center
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Grove Scholars Program
- Legal Clinic

SparkPoint at Skyline College Outcomes

SparkPoint at Skyline College tracks results in following major outcome areas:

- Increased Income
- Improved Credit
- Reduced Debt
- Building of Assets
- Increased Student Persistence



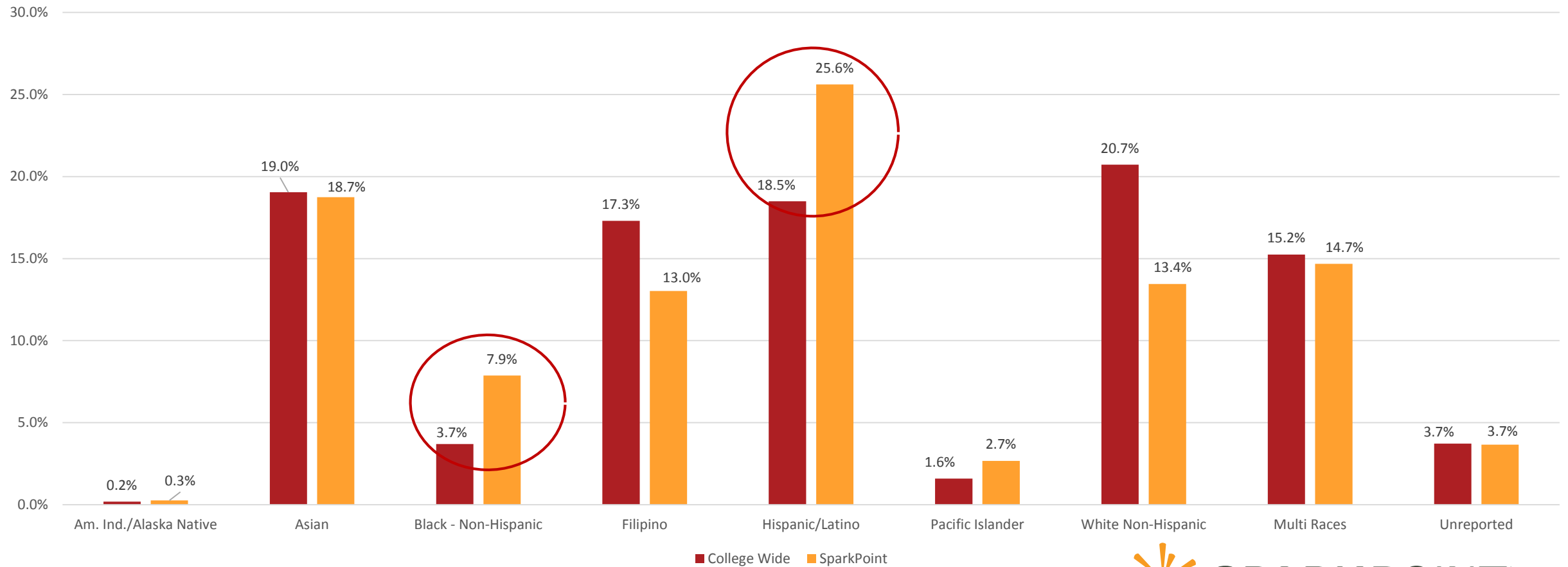
Key College (**Internal**) Partnerships

- SparkPoint is woven into the fabric of the college and written into the San Mateo County Community College District Strategic Plan
- Internal Partnerships are as important as external partnerships *(partial list)*
 - Career Services Center
 - EOPS/CARE/CalWORKs
 - ACCEL
 - Financial Aid
 - Guardian Scholar Program
 - TRiO Program
 - Counselors and Learning Communities
 - Promise Scholars Program
 - Dream Center



SparkPoint at Skyline College Service Population

SparkPoint Serves a Higher Percentage of Black and Hispanic/Latino Students Compared to the College



Launching SparkPoint Centers

- Modeled after the Annie E. Casey Center for Working Families model
 - Bundling Services leads to increased financial success
- UWBA piloted SparkPoint Centers
 - Work with participants to reach long term financial goals
 - Bring together existing service providers with expertise in content and community (*community colleges, CBOs, etc.*)
- SparkPoint Oakland launched in 2009
- SparkPoint at Skyline College launched in 2010



THE ANNIE E. CASEY
FOUNDATION



Increased College Partnerships

- SparkPoint at Cañada College launched in 2015
- SparkPoint Contra Costa partnered with Contra Costa College in 2016
- SparkPoint San Jose launch in partnership with San Jose Evergreen Community College District in 2017
- SparkPoint Marin partnered with College of Marin in 2017
- SparkPoint Oakland partnered with Laney College 2017



SparkPoint Skyline Snapshot

- July 1st, 2017 – April 25th, 2018
- Over 300 students served in 25 workshops
- Food Pantry served 406 families for over 3,800 distribution touchpoints
- Over 600 Financial Coaching efforts
- 176 “Clients” served
- 105 “Measurable Clients” served
- 50 Grove Scholars served
- 198 Benefits appointments



SparkPoint Regional Goals

SparkPoint is a strategic *poverty-cutting* initiative

SPARKPOINT GOALS FOR EVERY CLIENT:



A livable
income



Credit score of
650 or above



Three months
of savings



Debt less than
40% of income

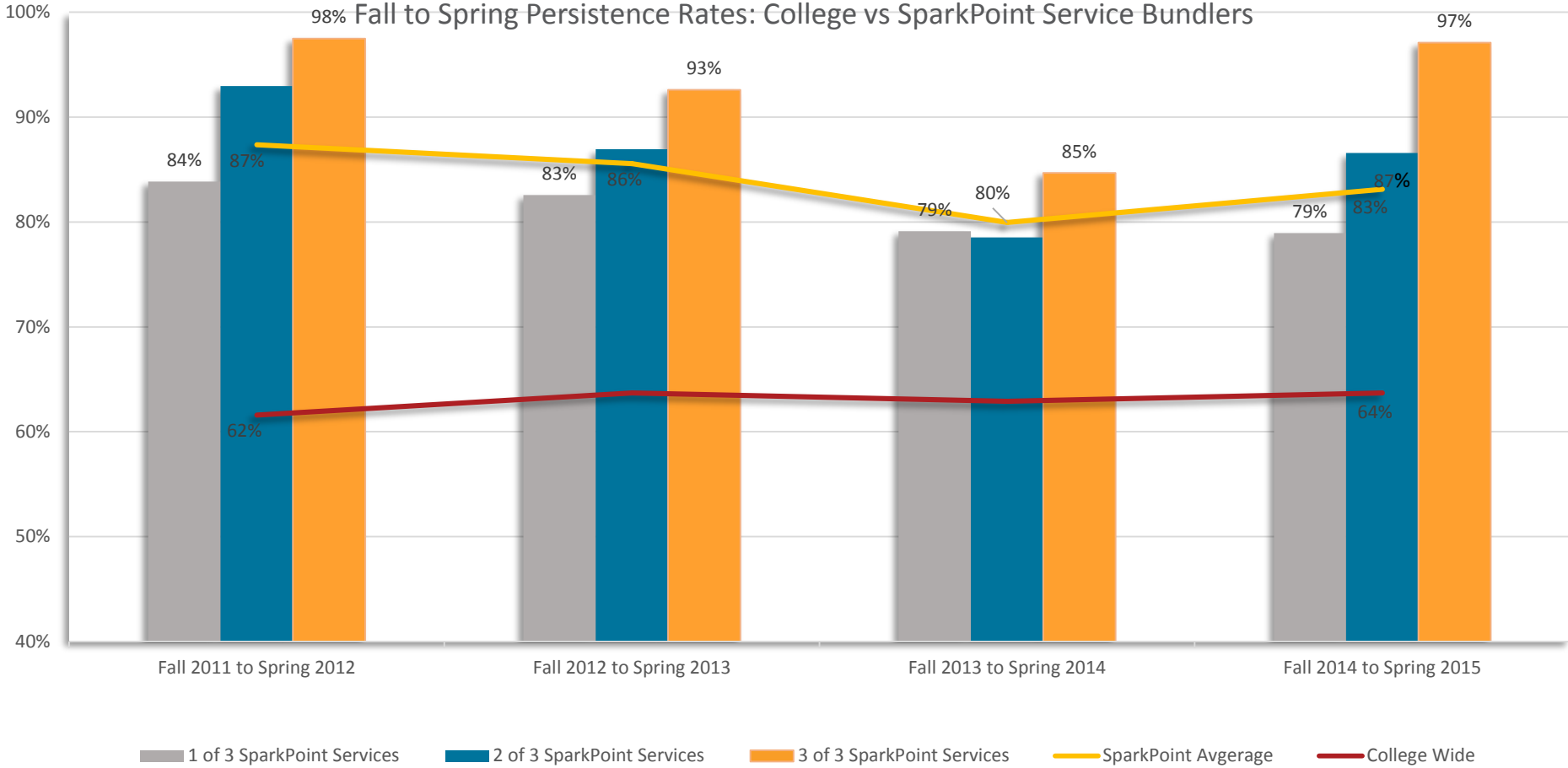
SparkPoint helps clients set personal financial goals, and provides the paths to achieve these goals, *breaking the cycle* of poverty

OUR TARGET



SparkPoint Centers help families achieve long-term financial stability through one-on-one coaching to help clients improve credit, increase income and build assets

SparkPoint Student Persistence



Key Takeaways

- SparkPoint is an access, persistence and completion strategy for Skyline College
- SparkPoint is fully integrated into the college and **supports student success and lifelong financial wellness**
- Clients show better results when taking advantage of bundled services, especially **financial coaching & career coaching** concurrently

Thank You

Chad Thompson

Director

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