2004–2009

Demonstration Years: Creating Proof of Concept

Learning Foundation and 41 founding partners, American Association of Community Colleges, Community College Leadership Program, Community College Research Center, Institute for Higher Education, Jobs for the Future, MEC, MIBHE, Public Agenda Launching the Dream: Community Colleges Count to enable change in community colleges, policy and practice, so that more students, particularly low-income students, are supported during their college experience and able to move smoothly from high school to college.

Planning study supported by leadership coaches who help build data capacity, while peer learning promotes institutional innovation and test the capacities of the emerging learning community.

Disaggregating data, colleges discover significant differences in student success and completion among student groups and design interventions to address these challenges.

Research partners discover that fewer than one in 10 developmental education students at ATD Network colleges earn the credentials within eight years colleges respond with diverse re-forms, orientation, support courses, and other low-barrier support models.

2010–2014

Creating the Infrastructure to Support and Sustain the National Reform Network

ATD is now in its second decade of work. The network grows to 110 colleges and more than 200 policy teams. The ATD network includes 37 colleges who earned Leader College status.

The network grows to 110 colleges and 158 new policy teams facilitated by the ATD network. More than 1,000 colleges participate in the ATD network.

New learning initiatives test innovative approaches to improve student success, including evidence-based decision making, equity and holistic student supports, in addition to leadership and data coaching. The coaching cadre continues to grow and diversify to help colleges.

2015–2020

Reframing and Reinvesting in the Dream

Dr. Karen A. Stout, President of Montgomery Community College and Network Chair, advances the ATD model to their new missions and cultural traditions and teaching at what it means to work with and learn from everyone.

ATD is working with colleges to develop an equity vision that describes the experience they want for their incoming students and to establish strategic approaches for implementation on their campuses. While many of the colleges in the ATD Network are using an assessment gap to close the equity gap, many campuses are focusing on providing opportunities and access to help students develop a deeper understanding of what equity means, what it looks like in practice, and how it is manifested or stifled on their campuses.

ATD will continue to help the philanthropic community, identify future investments that will accelerate the pace of change, align the work, and expand the reach of its impact to address the needs of underrepresented students. The organization will build on its role as a conduit for innovation, helping colleges in its network implement fresh approaches to accelerate their objectives for student success, and for communities, providing a breadth of opportunities through peer-to-peer learning and networking.

2020 and Beyond

Continuing its progress from publishing its first organizational equity statement in 2016, ATD has been challenging its colleges to take approaches to increase success for all students and to eliminate equity gaps.

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