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# Target Demographic

## Focus Group: Parents, Legal Guardians, and Foster Parents with children under the age of 18.

Total **Recorded** Responses: 509

Total Responses with **100%** Submission Progress: 366

Total Responses with **less than 100%** Submission Progress: 143

Total Responses from **Focus Group**: 246

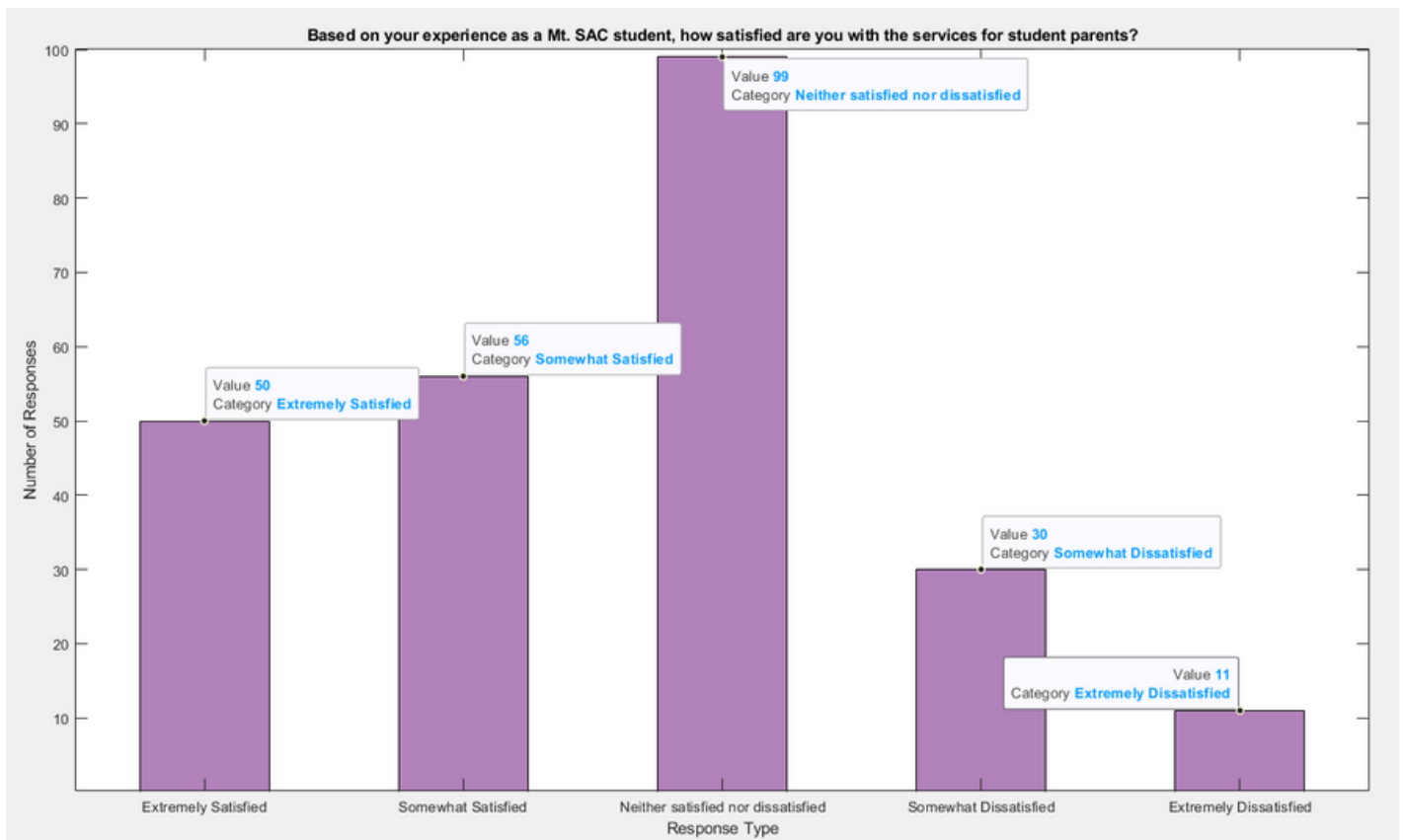
Total Responses from **non-Focus Group**: 120

} 509

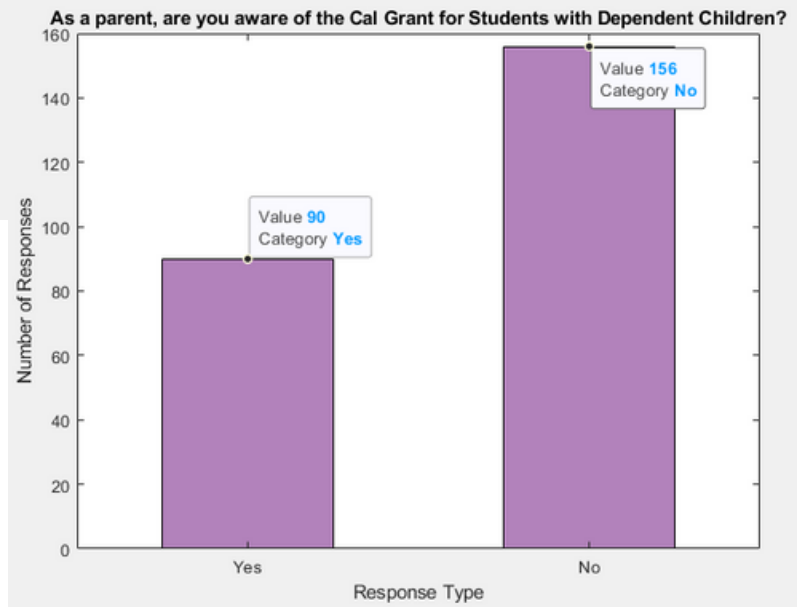
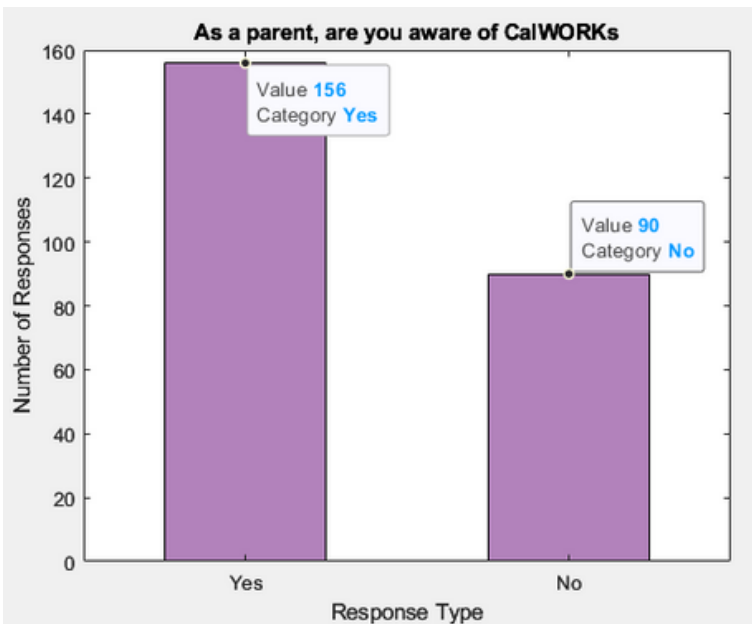
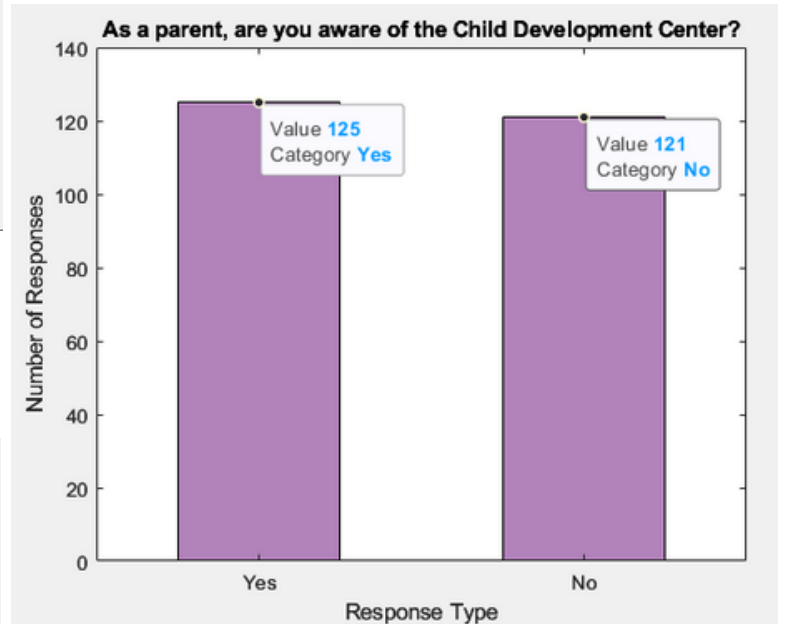
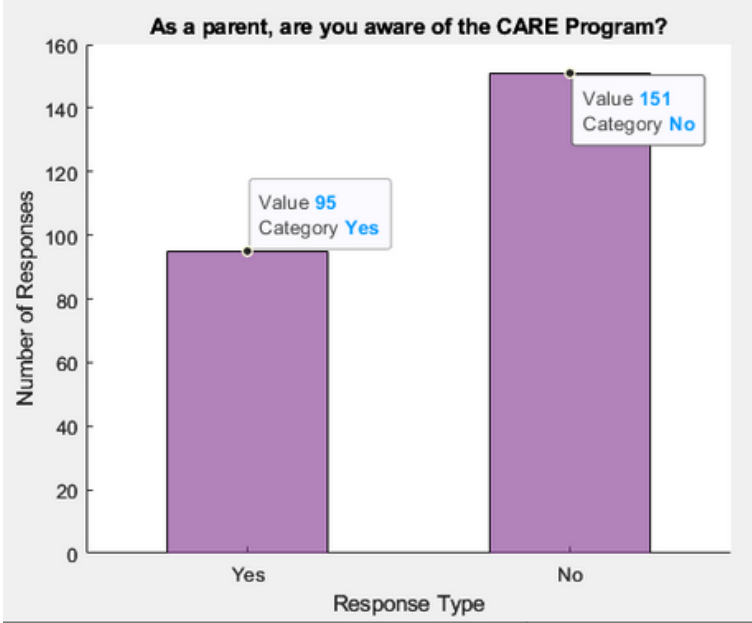
} 366

This survey data analyzed **246** responses from participants who have children under the age of 18 and completed 100% of the survey questions.

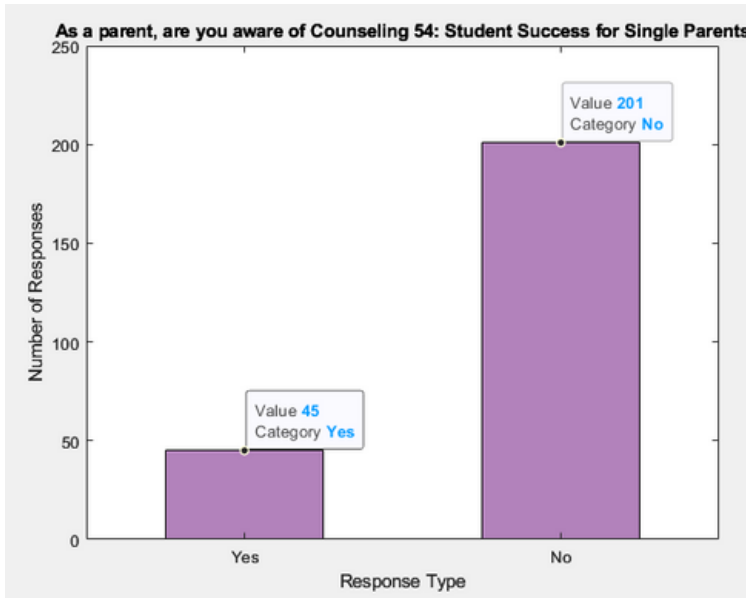
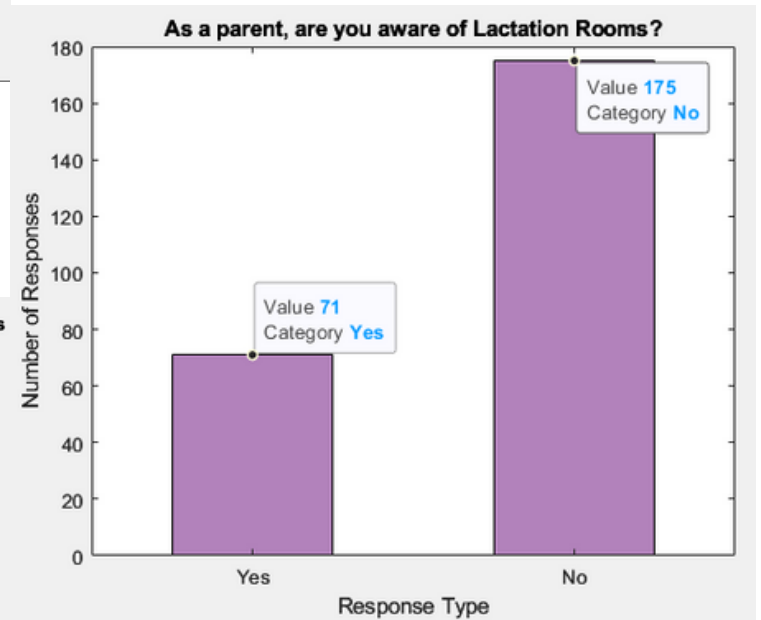
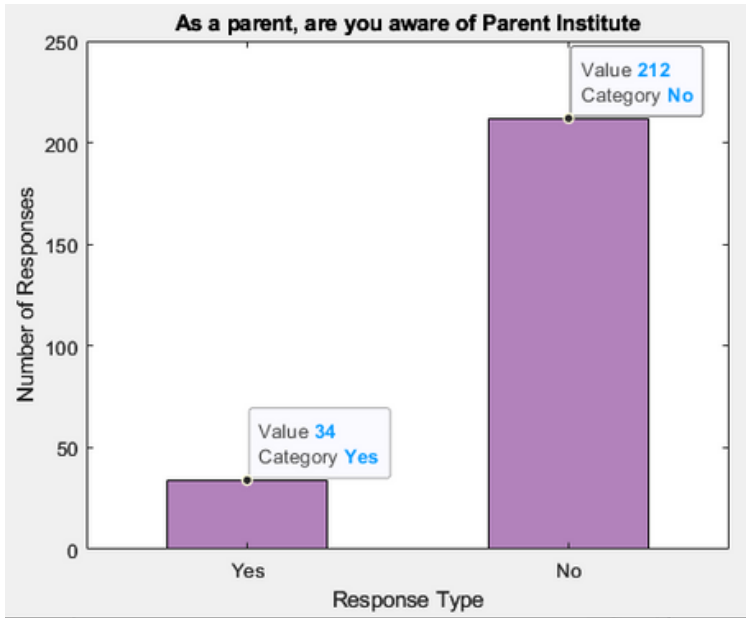
## Satisfaction



# Awareness



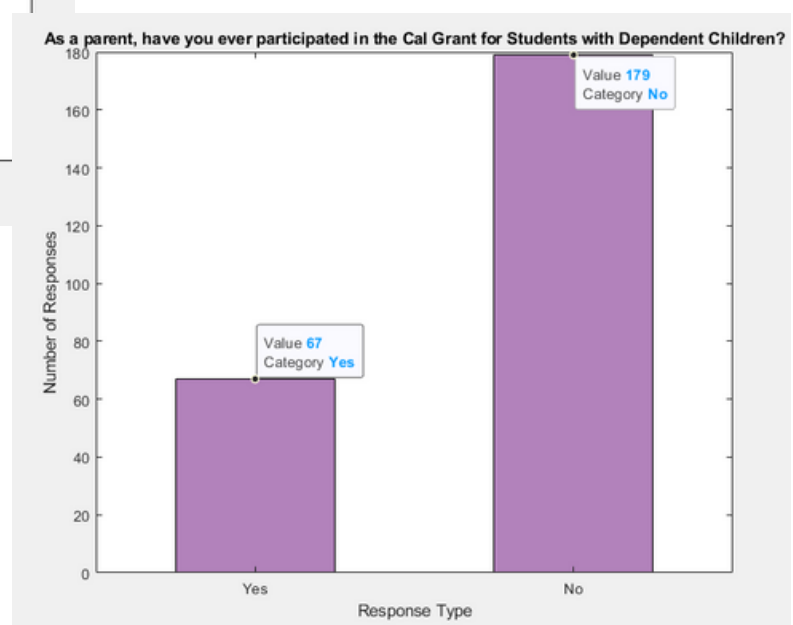
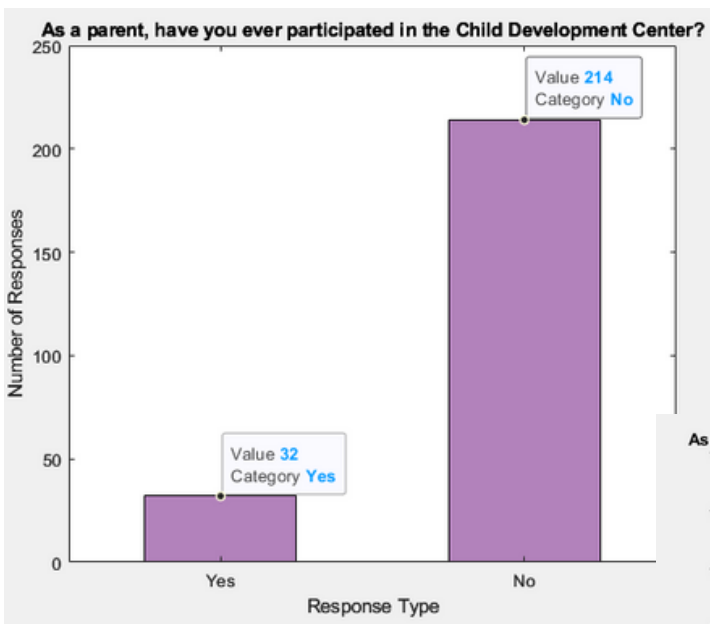
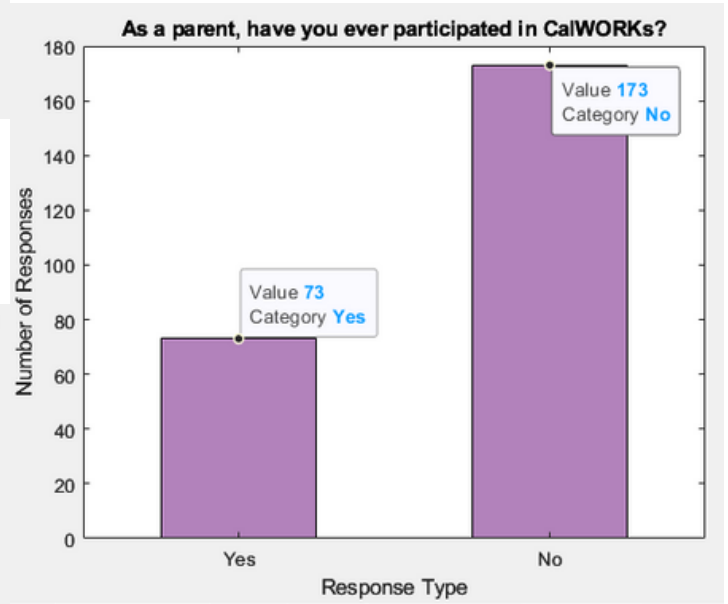
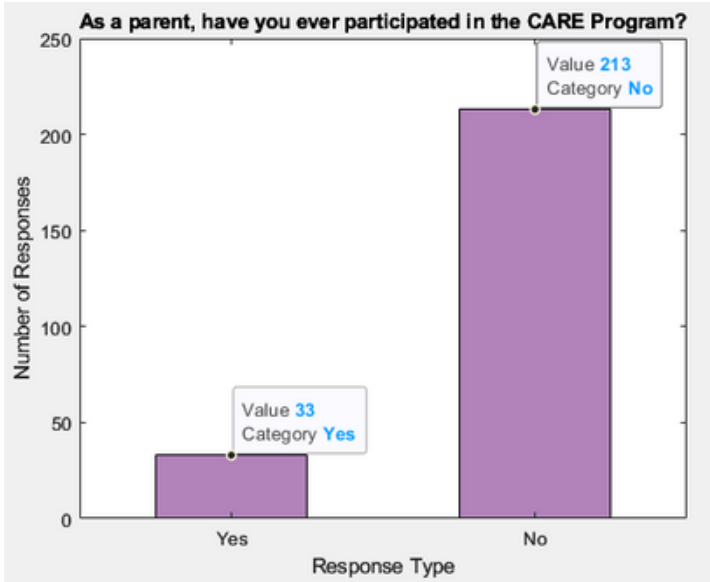
# Awareness (Continued)



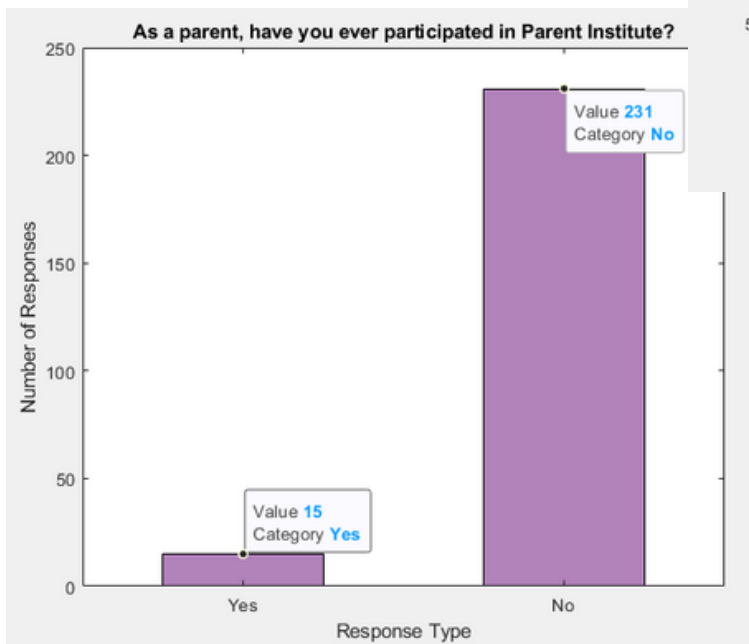
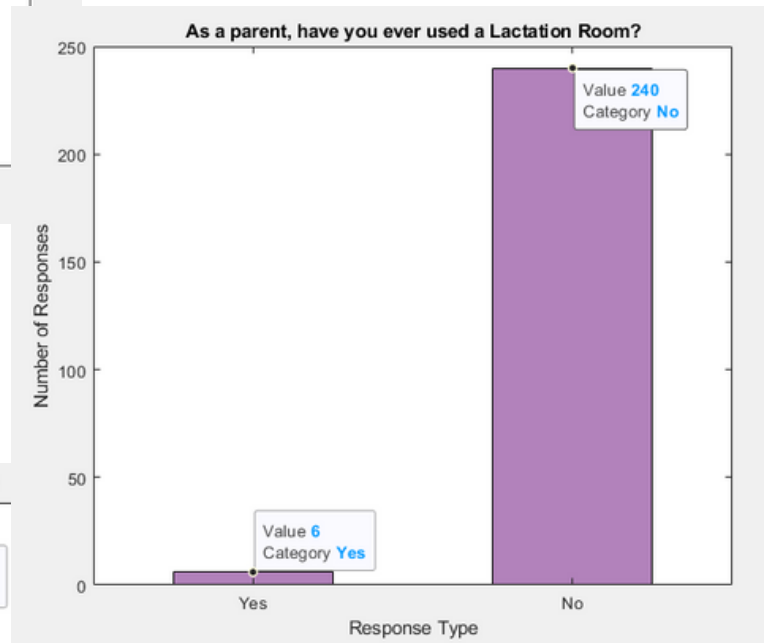
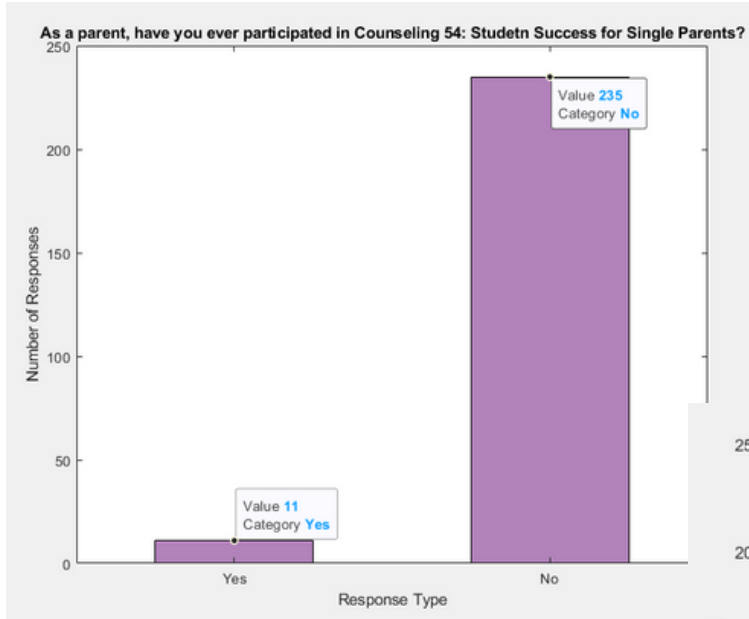
## Awareness: Self-specified Responses

- Food pantry to help with groceries
- CalFresh
- I am aware of the daycare at the school
- There used to be a Parent Club.

# Participation



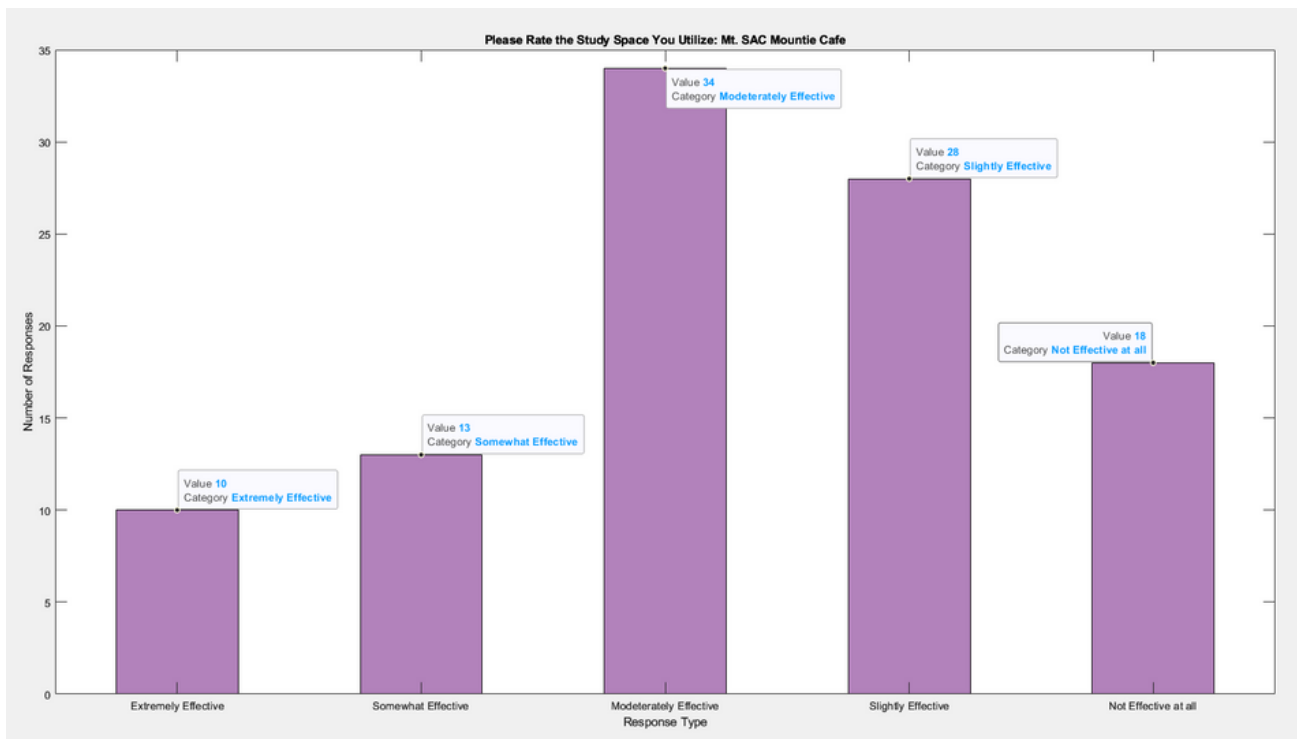
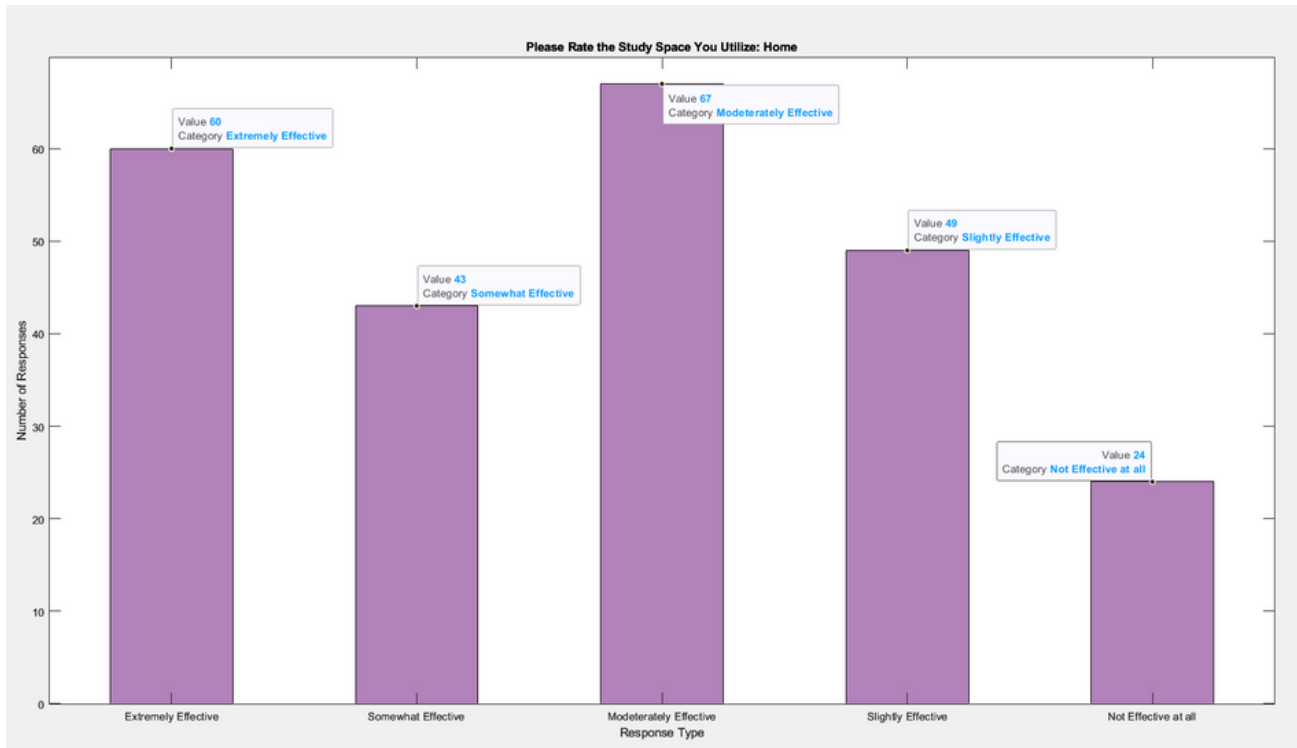
# Participation (Continued)



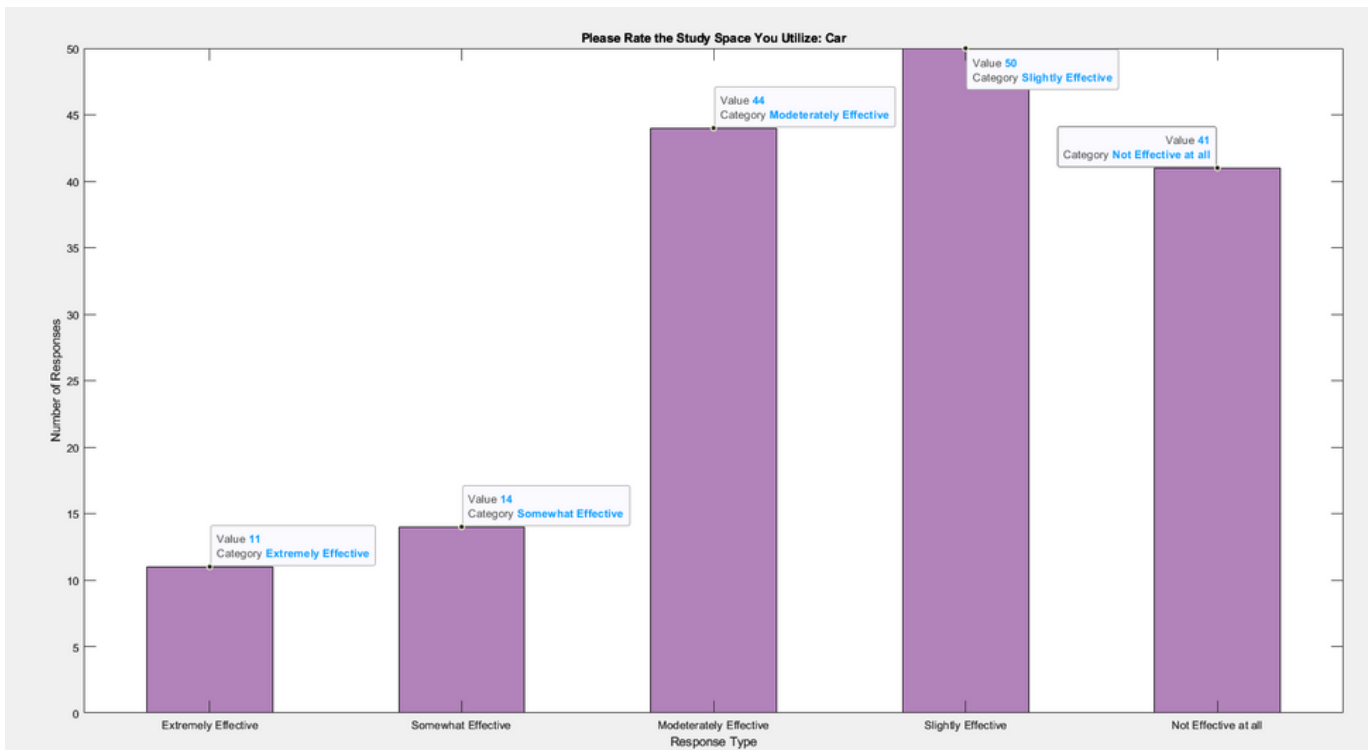
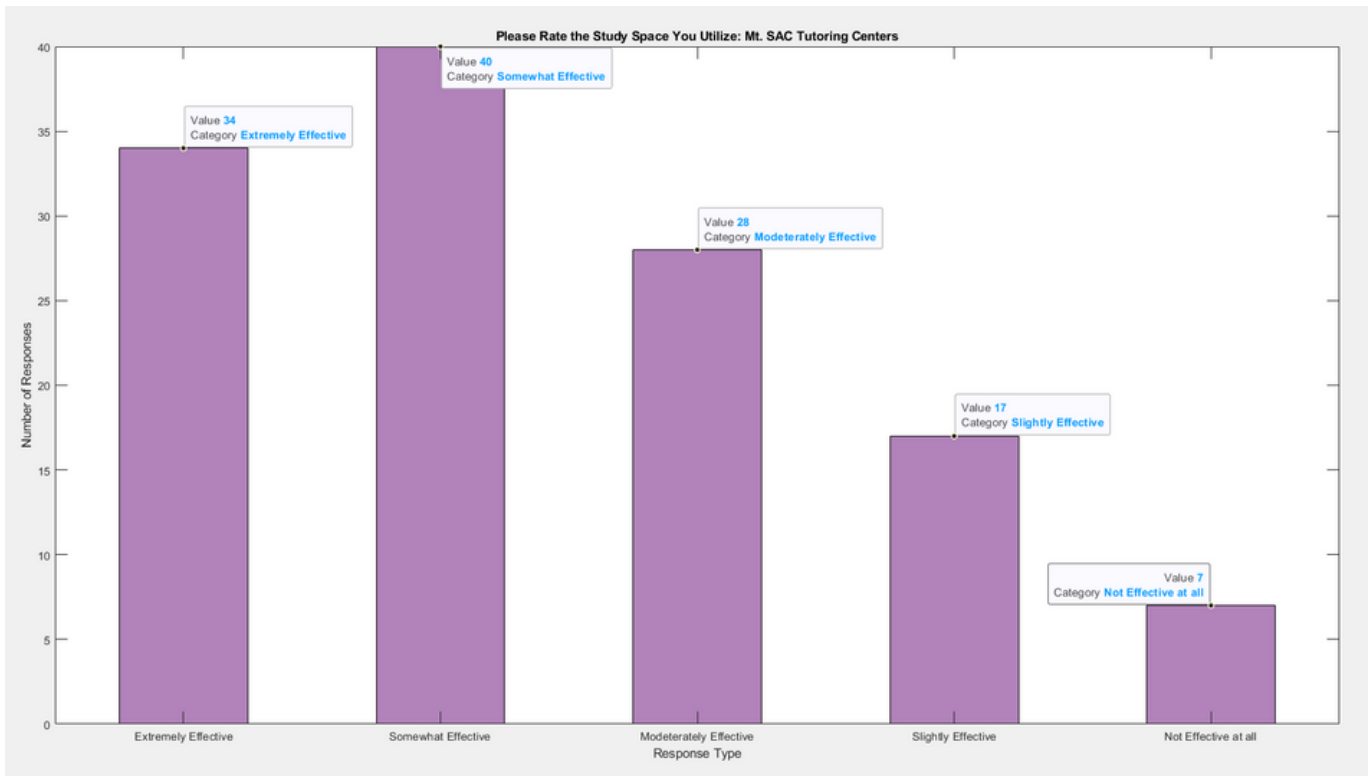
## Participation: Self-specified Responses

- Food pantry
- EOPS

# Where Do They Study?

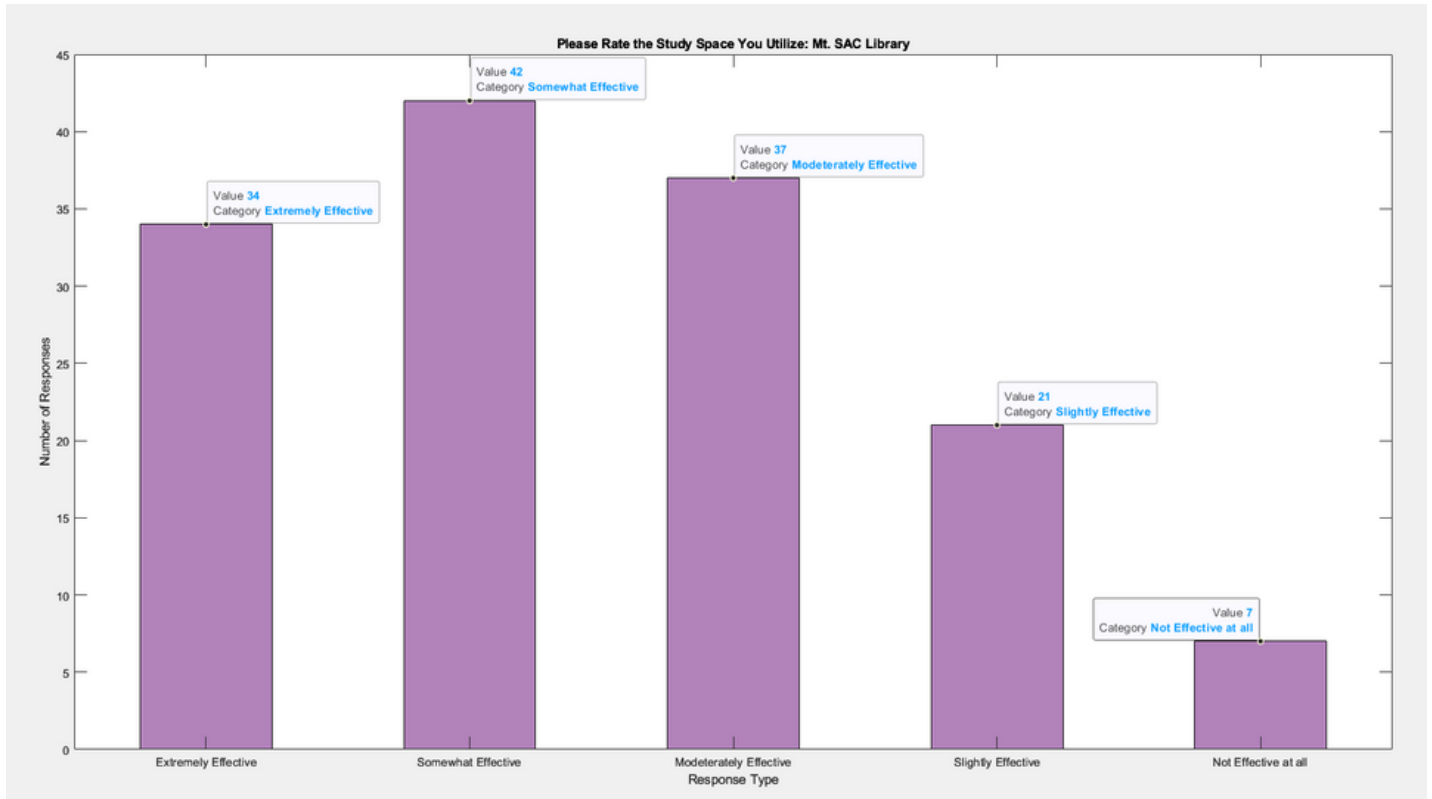


# Where Do They Study? (Continued)





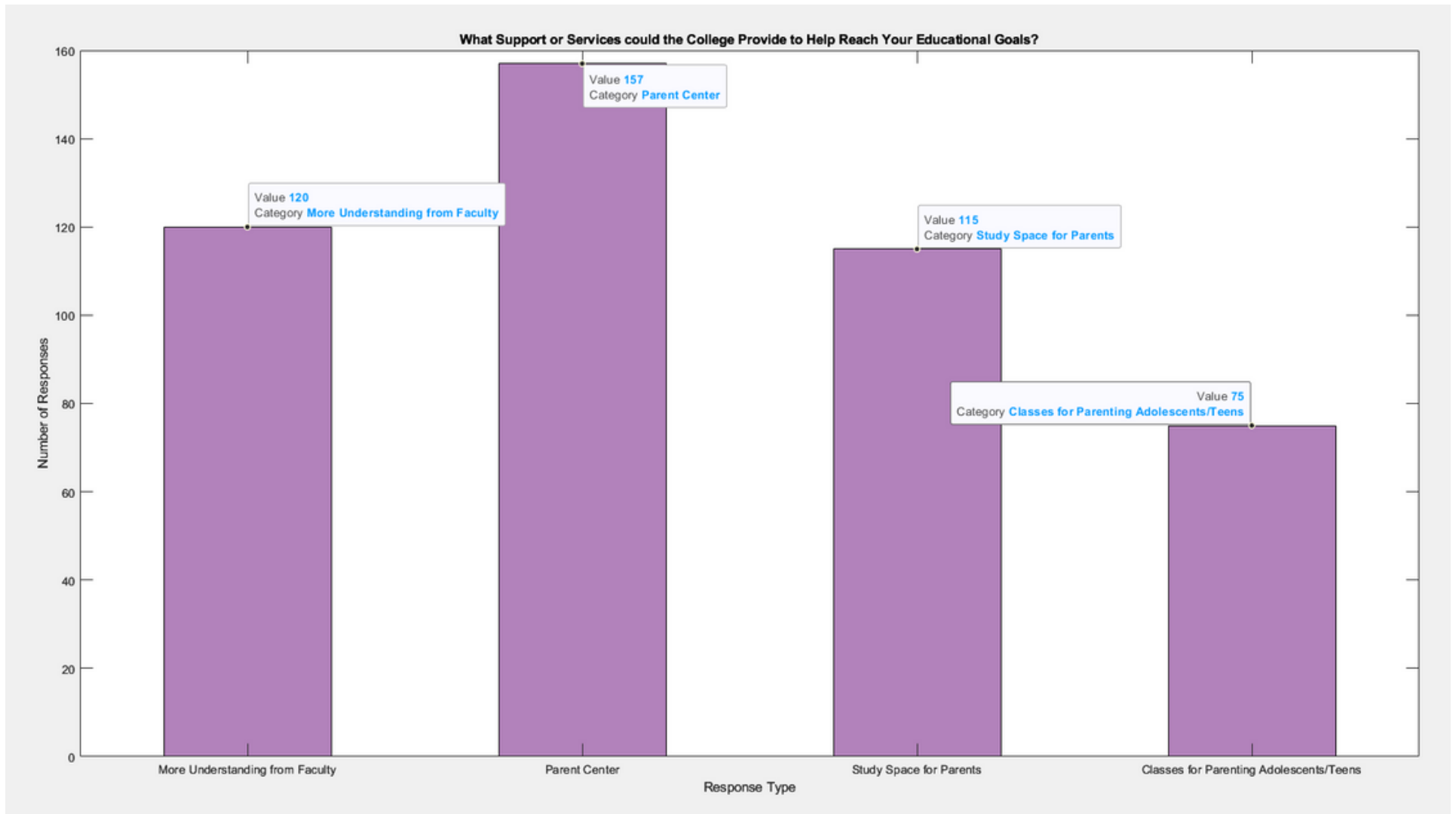
# Where Do They Study? (Continued)



# Where Do They Study?: Self-specified Responses

- At a relative's house sometimes or at a park. - Not effective at all
- Traveling - Extremely Effective
- Lunch area at work - Moderately Effective
- Library - Slightly Effective
- Access center - Very Effective
- Rec room - Extremely Effective
- Work after hours - Moderately Effective
- I enjoy studying at indoor coffee shops and drink coffee while I study. - Very Effective
- Work office - Moderately Effective
- Work classroom - Very Effective
- MARC and outdoor tables when available - Moderately Effective
- Workplace - Extremely Effective
- VRC - Slightly Effective
- I use the veterans center or the TERC to study - Moderately Effective
- at work, where there is down time - Slightly Effective
- Public library, parks, or home when kids are in school - Extremely Effective
- Starbucks - Extremely Effective
- ASAC - Extremely Effective
- Quiet outdoor space - Slightly Effective
- stem center is the best - Extremely Effective
- City library and Starbucks - Extremely Effective
- LLC lab. - Extremely Effective
- I study on my breaks at work - Extremely Effective
- At work during downtime. - Extremely Effective
- TERC Center - Very Effective
- At work during night shift. - Extremely Effective
- School lab - Extremely Effective
- Public library - Extremely Effective
- Ontario city library - Extremely Effective

# Support and Services Needed From the College



# Support and Services Needed From the College: Self-specified Responses

- Daycare
- Child friendly study areas, child friendly student events such as workshops etc because it is so hard to attend any student events when you don't have a sitter, grants for student parents.
- Having more online classes for parents who work and go to school and have more resources for books and supplies.
- The hardest week is Thanksgiving week because kids don't have school. Could we have a Fall break too?
- do not know of any resources.
- Additional Lactation rooms in every other building. There is only one lactation room currently and depending where we are on campus it is about a 10-15 minute walk and then 20-30 minutes of pumping then to walk to our classroom or back to class in general we have spent almost an hour to go to point A to point B and back.
- Daycare assistance , current day care highly impacted
- More awareness of the existing resources for parents. I didn't know the college had these programs.
- Not changing the schedule format.
- My kids are teenagers so I don't need childcare. However I am in the nursing program and it has been a major issue for other parents because class starts at 7am sometimes 630 and the childcare opens later. They have gotten in trouble for being late or had to have other people drive to school to drop them off. When my kids were little and I was at a different school in a program I found it difficult to get study time approved for childcare or childcare at night, which was when my program was. I needed a flexible schedule because I need a lot of time during finals week and no study time the first week of school. I also needed sick care so I wouldn't miss class. What I need is more financial resources. I don't qualify for fasfa or gain or wic because i used up my time or my kids are older. I am a single parent and in a full-time program and I receive 0 resources. The only thing I can get is the free food box... But its a bunch of unhealthy junk full of sugar and wo6 not want my kids eating that.
- A childcare center (open on Saturday's and until 8pm) for parents who are studying, or taking a test.

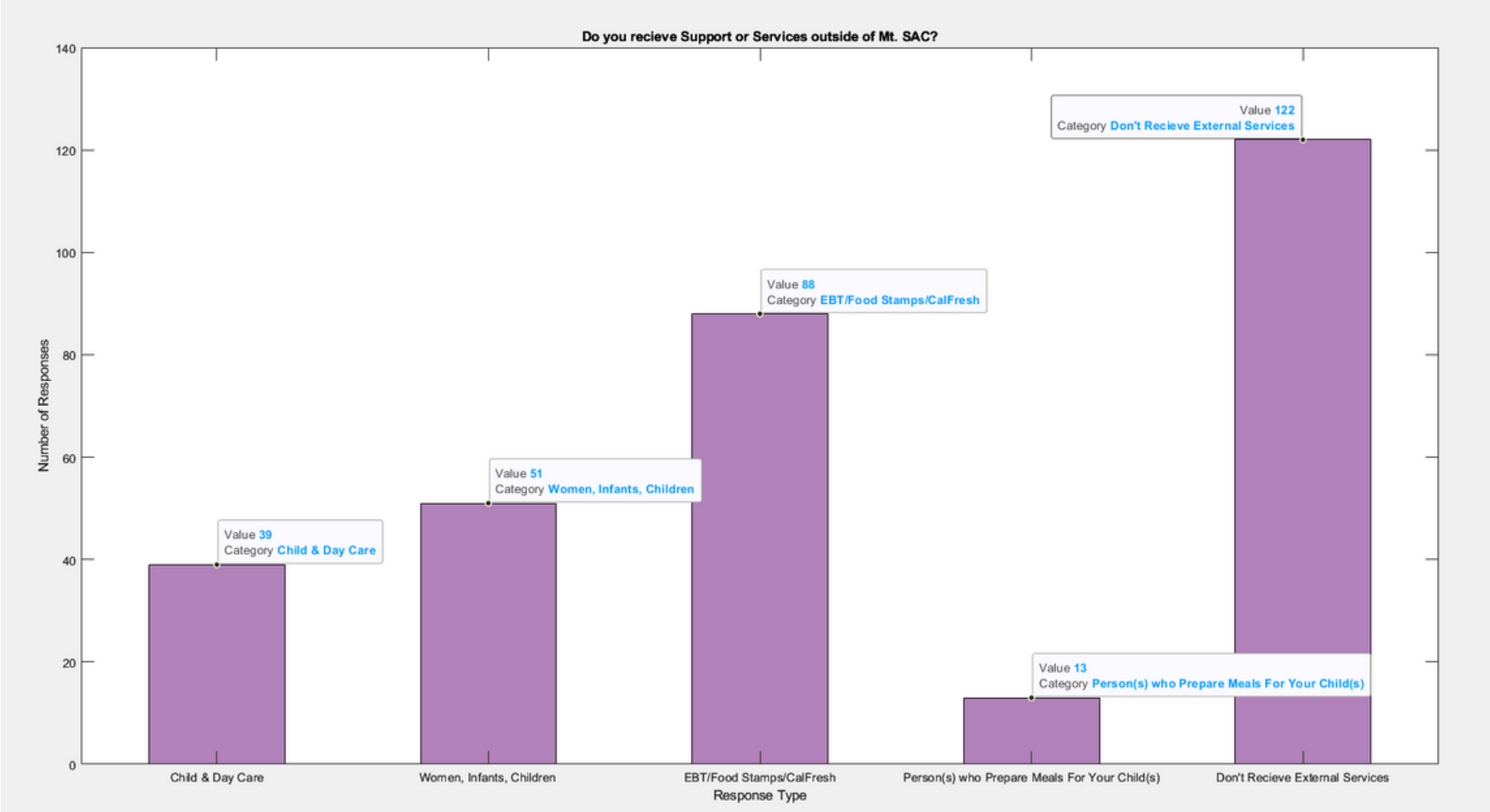
# Support and Services Needed From the College: Self-specified Responses

- Greater availability of nighttime or online classes, especially offered for the whole degree or certificate.
- In my opinion I really believe that parent student should get financial support as college it's expensive and you have to support your children
- More opportunities/spots for daycare/childcare
- Increased availability of online classes allowing flexibility for single working parents to be able to take classes during non normal school and business hours
- I would adore it if we provided study spaces where parents may leave their children for up to two hours while they pursue their own studies or catch up on their schoolwork without interruptions. particularly if daycare is insufficient. A parent like myself who struggles with quiz taking due to anxiety from having so much on my plate would also like to see more workshops outreach programs that assist parents deal with the demands of having so much on our plate. Quiz taking strategies how to deal with anxieties,tips on how to study effectively.
- Learning
- Remote classes that don't require specific attendance times would be a great help because then I know I can just fit that class into my hectic schedule wherever I happen to be able to fit it into for that week. Often I don't sign up for a class because I'm worried that I can't commit to that class's weekly schedule for an entire semester
- More information for high school students
- More of the activities that we can bring our children to and if not, and they are after hours, be able to provide child care for them
- Most events, workshops, and help are offered during the early hours. I would love to have some workshops offered at night, even if they are on zoom. I feel like I've missed so much information and help because I attend night classes. Maybe have a centralized page for working parents.
- Maybe have a child care at school
- Childcare during night classes
- Help with elementary-aged kids childcare for holiday weeks when they are off of class but I still need to attend class.
- I think that Mt. sac provided a variety of support services for us parents to reach those educational goals.

# Support and Services Needed From the College: Self-specified Responses

- Professors letting use her offices to pump a few years ago when I needed it. Equity center for studies.
- Child Daycare
- More asynchronous classes, or dedicated slots in online classes for parent students
- Something that would be very helpful would be to let student parents know about all these areas where they could receive help from because I wasn't aware that Mt Sac provided all that help.
- Longer hours for child development center. I am in the nursing program and our classes start at either 7am or 630am so it would be nice to be able to drop my son off before school starts since I am the only one that can drop him off in the morning. Everyone else in my house leaves before me. Also, he's been on a waitlist so it would be nice to expand the classes so he can have a seat.
- I believe it would be of benefit to us to be able to get priority registration so we can register for classes during their school time, I am lucky enough to get early registration dates but others might miss out on the opportunity to take courses because of this, mind you I am aware that is not an easy thing to give out.

# External Services Receieved

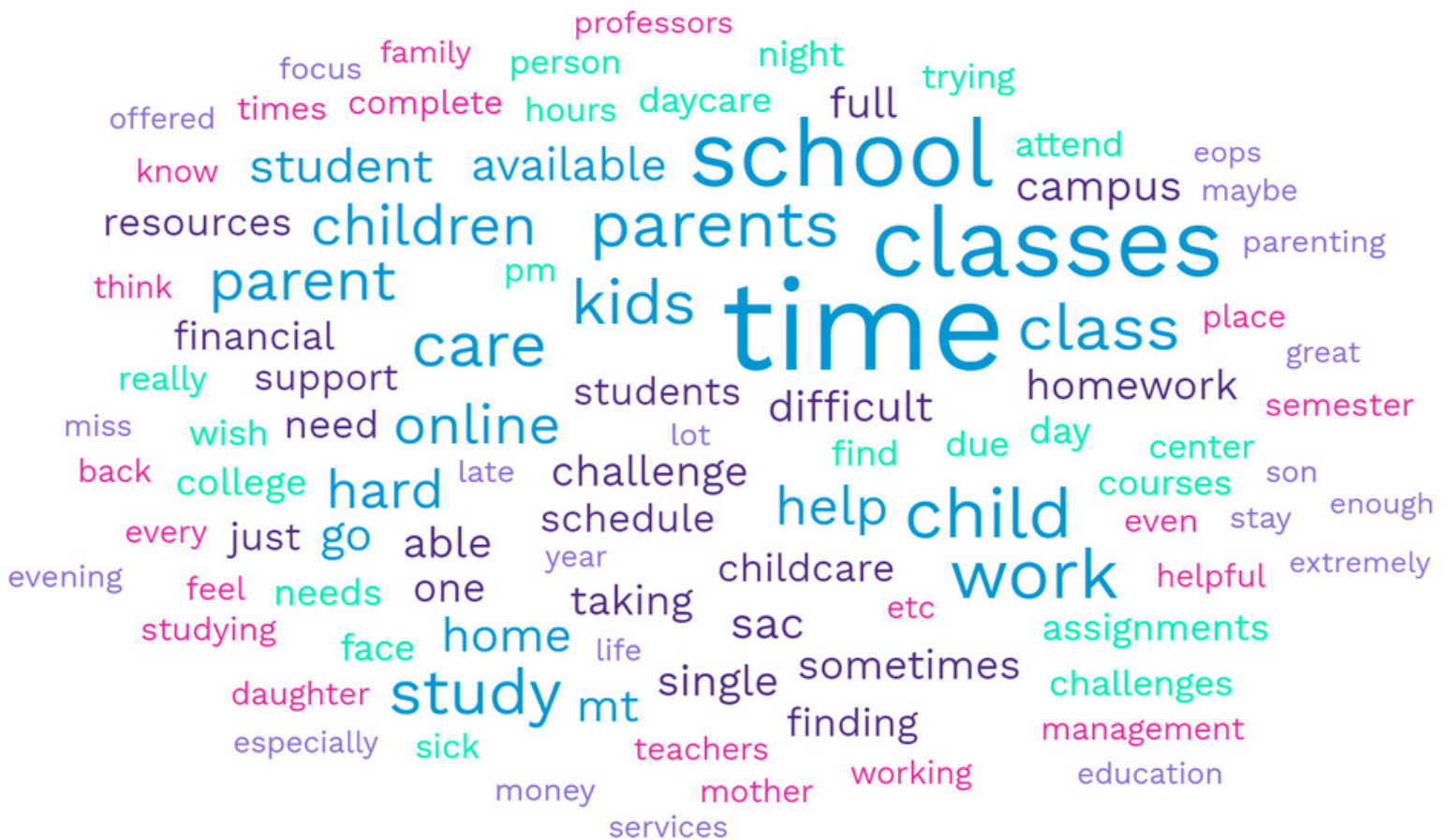


# External Services Received: Self-specified Responses

- CalWORKs and donated items.
- My mother is helping me right now with childcare when I work
- Babysitter
- VRC
- Sometime
- support from co-workers and other students
- I do not get any support, my husband is working two jobs to sustain our family of six and to put me through school. I do get the financial aid that I use to ration food. My son's medical bills are high so I try to get professors that do not require books to save money. I would love the school to continue offering and expanding its online programs classes.
- Medical



# Final Question: What challenges do you face as a Mt. SAC student parent with children? What would you like campus leaders to know about your challenges?



Time appeared **112** times  
Classes appeared **87** times  
School appeared **83** times  
Child appeared **55** times  
Work appeared **55** times

# Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices

- "I did lack moral support from family but I am So thankful for EOPS AND CARE programs because of you all I am able to come and just be myself and you all support my in ways I never thought we're possible Thank you"
- Science classes that fit my ideal schedule ( during children school hours) they are either too earlier or too late. Ot enough day care options on campus
- Post covid, children are not allowed to go to school with any symptoms that could be covid related. This includes allergies, asthma, etc. This prevents parents from attending class in person. Having a better understanding of these conditions could help teachers understand why some students with children miss days.
- More spots for daycare
- A challenge I face would be getting quality study time at home.
- Time is limited, there are a lot of household duties outside of schooling, so we are often doing our schoolwork while a toddler or child is trying to type on our laptop. It would be nice to have a childcare center that can help us by watching our kids while we do our schoolwork.
- "I have to take care of my kids while I'm going school, I used apply for the child development program, but I have no chance to get into the program, till my kids go to public elementary school, an other boy need daycare right now, but we still have 0 chance "
- As a full time student, I struggle to pay for childcare but cannot find any other way where to leave my daughter other than day care. I pay at least 1k a month to send her to day care in order for me to be a full time student. It is hard but it helps me concentrate more with studies. I wish there's any daycare center for the kids of the students or any subsidized amount that could help pay day care. So far no one told me if there's any so I'm not sure.
- As a single parent I would like campus leaders that I play every role, doctor, nurse, teacher, etc while raising my daughter. Regardless of age, children require a lot of attention and sometimes as a parent I lose track of time because I am helping her.
- Finding time to study and do assignments. To be able to go to campus at any time to study, do assignments, and receive help if we have any questions.
- It is very hard to focus on school kids and still work to pay off some school stuff
- Managing time and having a quiet place to study is difficult
- Our availability is not set and challenges will be thrown at us with no warning and sometimes professors don't understand. We are far different from regular students and sometimes things don't always work in our favor. I just hope people see how hard we try to be on top of our classes while caring for our kids.
- Children come first and sometimes it is difficult to do the classwork when you have to be a parent first.

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **Perfect attendance is extremely difficult. Would be nice if all professors posted PowerPoints on canvas**
- **Our availability is not set and challenges will be thrown at us with no warning and sometimes professors don't understand. We are far different from regular students and sometimes things don't always work in our favor. I just hope people see how hard we try to be on top of our classes while caring for our kids.**
- **Children come first and sometimes it is difficult to do the classwork when you have to be a parent first.**
- **As a parent you always have to be available for your child in case you get a call from their school and you need to pick them up or in case they get sick and you need to miss school to care for them. Definitely more understanding from faculty and professors that sometimes as parents things like that are out of our control and assignments will have to be turned in late. Many professors have a zero late policy. Also having the option of more online courses since these are more flexible for parents. Since Covid the online course availability has dropped significantly for courses such as anatomy, chemistry, physics. Having campus events be child friendly is another one because I can never come to any of the events since I don't have a sitter. I've only been to 2 events from calworks and that's because they were child friendly and that was amazing to me.**
- **I am a single mother of 2 boys. My challenges are not having enough online tutoring resources. The TERC use to be online and they were very helpful for me and so many others**
- **It's hard finding classes that not only work with my work schedule but also allow me to time for pick up or drop off for my kids**
- **"I appreciate all the opportunities I have received at Mt. SAC, especially through EOPS! If EOPS was not on my side, I do not believe Mt. SAC would be as good as it is to me. I found support, resources and advocacy at EOPS.**
- **To Mt. SAC leaders, I would ask to provide more on-line courses that meet the need of parent and especially single parents with minor children.**
- **I am told there are evening courses, however a 4pm/ 5pm/ 6pm are NOT PARENT friendly hours. We must work full time (I do) pick-up my child from daycare (very expensive) then get my child home for dinner and evening chores (bath, homework, etc) and then to get to the class I must travel further (from work to child's school to home to campus)**
- **Parent friendly courses on-line are much better to avoid travel to campus. Traveling can take another 30-60 mins especially with evening traffic. Real evening courses for parents should start around 7pm. OR BETTER just offer on-line courses that start 6pm/ 7pm. I can attend a 6pm on-line course because I do not have to travel**

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- I am speaking candidly and openly. These are conversations I have had with other parents. However, we do not have the forum to state our needs.
- I love Mt. SAC and all I have learned here. With EOPS guiding me, I see how great Mt. SAC truly is. I have learned where to find resources for my needs and I am grateful of having the opportunity to achieving my goal of a college degree.
- The struggle to decide to continue my education. Due to the feeling of being held back because of all the struggles we face as parents. Especially single parents who have to figure out everything on their own. I tend to feel like I am not getting very far but the reassurance from counselors makes me confident that I can reach my goals. Slowly but surely.
- that we are very busy and sometimes its just hard to study
- "Hello, I am a 31 year old student. It is my first year at college. I do however, have a son who is 13 years old. I pick him up from school but he ether stays in my car or wait for me outside my classroom. I wanted to ask or even see if there is a ""teen"" room. Somewhere my son can be in a safe place and do his homework. Other then so, My first year has been amazing. It is hard for me to study with exams at home as I am a single mother."
- As a single parents its really hard commit full time classes. To pick and drop the kid at school and specially if your college is far away and you have classes with lab. Mother like me who did not have have kid support. Sometime I have to skip the classes until I figured out something. Delay in my education making my life more challenging. I wish there is school for kids near to Mt.SAC.
- EOPS needs a study area or room.
- It can be tough being a single mother there's so much on you're plate that you get overwhelmed. It's hard to keep up with assignments.
- Covid19 when one of my kids get sick we all have to miss class
- As a single parent I am struggling with everything at the moment. I am in need of information on how to better manage my time and money.
- "Some challenges I face as a student parent are finding opportunities to study and complete projects, meeting deadlines, and feeling isolated as a student parent.
- Having a baby makes studying difficult. My husband and other family members are usually working so I have a hard time studying and meeting deadlines.
- I'd like to find opportunities to socialize with other parents such as the class for single parents, but I'm not a single parent so it doesn't seem to apply to me."
- Ot only as a parent but as a working adult that doesn't have the choice to not work. Even if I can get daycare for work, I then have to find daycare for the time I'm at school and even when it comes time to do homework or study since I never have time alone.
- The CDC needs more staff and to operate longer hours

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- I face the challenge of finding the time for meaningful study. There just doesn't seem to be enough time in the day when you have multiple children to care for. I don't know what could be done perhaps make more staff available for one on one sessions to address specific areas of difficulty with certain subjects. This particular semester was quite challenging for me and I believe it is due to trying to tackle in person classes with such an extremely busy schedule
- The hardest week is Thanksgiving week because kids don't have school. Could we have a Fall break too?
- Sometimes it's hard to make it to class on time and you live in this fear/pressure of being dropped because you're late or miss a class due to kids being sick, etc.
- I would like there to be more classes that can be available for working parents that attend primarily afternoon classes/ potentially even more weekend options as well.
- As a student parent, challenges are 100% inevitable on a daily bases. For example, you can send your child(ren) to school well but they can return home sick. A parents our responsibility is the well-being of our child(ren) and family first. I would like the campus leaders to understand and have compassion for student parents. Mt. SAC would be a great support if they offered empathy, parenting workshops, different types of helpful resources.
- Flyers for parents resources older parents going back to school
- **CONSTANTLY DEALING WITH FINANCIAL ISSUES**
- We have busy and full days especially with multiple children, and when were single parents. We need a space where we are able to study in peace. I can be choatic with children interrupting you while your trying to study for an exam or complete homework assisgnments. Personally I am not at my best unless I have complete silence to be able to focus.
- food
- Having to go to school and work and have no time for my children and also not having enough for supplies
- Balancing work, school and son's work and school and afterschool activities
- Sometimes I lack time to fully focus on homework, having teachers that understand and will help to encourage and up lift you really helps.
- A club were other students that are parents can gather and communicate with each other and feel a sense of community. A club were parents can share their challenges and share tips on how to get through life, parenthood and school.
- The financial burden and time constraint that we go thru is unfathomable if you've never been in this situation.. The pressure and stress to succeed and be an example to your children that are also students themselves is off of the charts...
- My biggest challenge is time management

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **This will be my 5th year at Mt. Sac previously I was at school for a semester back in 2011 but took a long break to work and take care of my son. I couldn't get him into the child development classes so I had to work full time to pay for childcare. I went back to school in 2017 I was taking evening classes and a few times I didn't have a baby sitter so the professors allowed me a few times to let my son sit in class with me I was eternally grateful for that. I didn't really feel connected to college life because taking night classes and resources weren't sent much. Spring of 2022 I took a bold move and stepped away from the work field to finish my Associates in Addictions Counseling. I graduated in the spring of 2022 within that semester I connected to two clubs on campus and really experienced college life in the 5 years I've attended Mt. Sac the resources and community I experienced made me feel like I was apart of a college campus finally. But if I would have never took that step back in the work field and continued taking college night classes I would of never gotten that opportunity. A lot of parents are taking night classes and don't get the experience of college, just the major stressors, work, school and parenting. It's very difficult and sometimes overwhelming, I think having professors or even club administrative coming into the classes and talking to night students would be so beneficial for those who want community but don't really know where to start. Overall my experience with Mt. SAC has been beautiful and I'm so appreciative of my Journey here.**
- **For me personally I am a single mother with little support for my children, when my children get sick or I don't have anymore to which my children I am not able to attend class I would like to find child care for all ages and maybe for just for the hours that I am in class. Also as a single mother financial I have a hard time I would like to have grants that can help me.**
- **My biggest challenge has been being keeping a good attendance. Whenever the kids get sick or have no school, I have no option but to miss class and that has affected my grades.**
- **I am finding it hard to pay rent and be a full time student. Mainly because I have to spend money on gas and food which eats up some of my rent money. I feel a bit intimidated to enter the CalFresh bungalow because I feel embarrassed with all the signs.**
- **The struggle of time for myself to study once I'm done making dinner, helping my kids with their homework, getting them ready for the next day (showers etc), also fitting in quality time.**
- **The challenge that I face is finding a permanent home for my child and I. It's hard living with others and have a child while going to school.**
- **Classes that can't be taken online is a challenge for me because I have to juggle working a 9-5, being a mom, being a wife, and managing study time in between. So the little classes that are not offered online are hard for me to fit into my schedule.**

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- I study at home so my only thing is to multitask with parenting and being a full time student
- My only challenge is organization of time. Having a teenager requires a lot of commitment to her activities and most of mine are secondary. So sometimes I spend more time with her activities and making sure her homework is done leaving me to study late at night.
- I struggle with the work load teachers give and don't care if your have kids or not
- EOPS needs a study space to work and connect.
- N/a
- One
- Less time to devote towards classes. Having to schedule around parenting duties. Less money to spend towards education.
- I would like a space where I can bring my children to study with me. A more private, safe area for children. Where they can access book/computer ls while I'm studying will be nice. I usually go to a public library but it is usually further out.
- Mt. Sac's winter session overlaps with RUSD's winter break, and since Mt. Sac does not do Spring Break, that also causes scheduling issues with class attendance and finding care for my children.
- Time management is not easy
- Taking online classes while having children is extremely difficult when you're a single parent.
- It's extremely hard to focus on my school work and trying to focus at my sons schoolwork, meanwhile working a full time job.
- I experience financial stability at time because I go to school when my daughter and my younger brother are at school and when I get home they are home and it's difficult to find work that works around all out schedule
- Maybe that online courses shouldn't require video camera being on for tests. As a parent it's hard to remain sitting down for a test without my child needing my help for something and I cant help them. I don't have someone to watch my child while taking these tests so it's frustrating.
- Gas and transportation issues.
- Watching my kids while trying to study
- The campus is very difficult to navigate when carrying two children and all of my school supplies, it is very difficult for me to get from the child care center to the bus stop on grand or vise versa. I wish there was an after school program for my children to go to for the times when I desperately need to finish something. I wish student parents could get vouchers for food on campus for the times when we don't have money and can't be excepted on ebt.

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- It's very difficult to find the time to study between school, work and childcare. It's a combination of financial stress and finding the time to study for class
- Daycare, too expensive to afford
- Not having someone able to help while I'm doing homework or studying at home
- Trying to manage all the house and child needs along with school needs
- Not having help for emergency like if child is sick or evening having a tantrum
- Time
- Show me the resources available
- Trustworthy care of dependents, ability to pump/breastfeed in every building without disrupting class time.
- My biggest challenge in school is not finding classes that work with my kid's school schedule. It's hard to plan a semester when classes are only being held from 1-4pm, when I have to pick up my kids from school during those times. I'd like to see more morning classes, especially for in person classes that can't be taken online.
- The biggest challenge is class times. Offering more remote classes would be ideal.
- Time!
- Some popular courses like Computer science is extremely difficult to register. Hopefully, there will more classes like Computer science will be provided to avoid student in waiting list for few semesters. Thanks a lot.
- Disabled veteran with children. Hard to make it to class sometimes.
- Having to juggle schoolwork and parenting all at the same time, having a set schedule and working around taking care of my child. Having more online classes helps a lot.
- Coming from a distance to school makes it difficult when my child needs assistance when I'm at school since it takes me 2 hours to get back home.
- Time for studying, assignments, attending scholastic events, on campus classes, work, etc. The requirements the state has set for assistance is set at a financial level so low, many students do not qualify because they don't meet the low financial income threshold. Those who do meet the requirement are likely not in the financial position to continue their studies as a student.
- I don't face any challenges I help my parents who are very busy and need help caring for my younger siblings.
- Weekend and early morning or evening childcare
- Lack of childcare after work and on weekends. Lack of weekend classes and services (like Student ID, Bookstore) when babysitters are available.
- Available early classes more parking space
- Mt Sac has a lot of help for student parent. I'm happy to be studying at Mt Sac because they give us a lot of help.



# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **More information on the existing services would be helpful . More core evening classes would also be helpful while trying to complete school while working**
- **NA**
- **I think the challenges I deal with are managing my time with my school schedule as well as my children's schedule and just having that place where I don't have to worry about where will I leave my kids today to be in class.**
- **It's hard to balance work, kids and classes. So maybe if it was easier for single parents to be able to have more time to complete assignments**
- **The main challenge I face is trying to juggle my work, my kids and finding time to study/do my classes online. It would be so much better if I could go in person to the class at Mt. sac to be able to focus on my class; but I have no one to help me take care of my kids.**
- **Schedule.**
- **The main challenge I face is finding time to spend with my child, due to work load, and transportation to class. Sometimes it's hard to keep up with gas and food, I've chosen at times not to go to class so that I may feed my daughter.**
- **Timelines can be tight when balancing my school with the kids school but that was expected when I started school**
- **Is there any childcare for children for the ages of 8+?**
- **Well as for me it's kind of hard most of the time because I have two jobs and been a single mother of 3 children's when I try to attend my online course I have one of the children asking for help with there school work...**
- **But I would love to have an virtual online with an instructor for US History like I did with my other courses I found it a little more easier and faster to finish my courses I did Economics, Language Arts with Mrs. Landry Chaplot she was my instructor I loved her and I would love for her to do US History so I could finish my course because it's taking me a little longer then what I thought**
- **Having an instructor here and there it's a good thing**
- **0t being able to attend class due to childcare issues such as illness or no school**
- **On certain days when kids have activities or sickness, I can't attend school or study for exam on that day. Maybe if they can give us an excuse to retake the exam without point deductions.**
- **That we all have other difficulties outside the classroom. We also have other responsibilities with parenting and school work. Remote learning and hybrid classes help alleviate some of the difficulties with transportation to/from school while drooping off or picking up our child. Covid has helped the education system think outside the box when it comes to learning. Ex: Tele-visits, Zoom, condensed courses or just on-line learning resources/availability.**

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **It is difficult to complete assignments on time occasionally due to child care as I do not have have child care as a single parent & cannot afford another source of childcare. The most difficult is completing testing that requires my camera to be on during the testing. This is difficult because I complete testing with my baby nearby & looking away from the screen is already a violation to the testing but I have no choice to do so.**
- **time and resources**
- **It is very challenging to do a lot of homework while being a parent because you want to spend as much time as you can with your babies but cannot do that because we are focused on so much homework.**
- **Day care at night cause I go to night school**
- **A specific place to integrate and find all resources for parents in one place.**
- **Otifications of resources available for parents.**
- **Being late to class because we have babies who have accidents or need more time in morning for feedings. Some classes deduct points for being late making it harder to pass the course.**
- **not yet**
- **Time for studying while being a working mom and student**
- **I face problems at home such havind the kids doing there homework and afternoon home care so I can come to my night classes**
- **I would like flexibility / accommodations if and when I can't make it to class or turn in an assignment. Being a parent we never know when an emergency can happen.**
- **0 challenges .**
- **Timing to get to class. I feel the college should continue to have online options for prerequisite or general education and classes needed for transfer**
- **Cannot attend in-person class if I am the only one who needs to take care of my little baby. For example, I recently have a newborn and have to stop all my credit classes to take care of her.**
- **Financial Support through scholarship**
- **Time management**
- **The biggest challenge I face is getting my class schedule to align with with my childcare schedule.**
- **Finding the right amount of time for classes that have an extreme amount of study time that needs to be dedicated for it**
- **Stay at home moms (parents) usually take on most if not all of the housework, childcare, meals etc. for the entire family. It would be wonderful if schools can offer additional help so parents can have time to study and do school work.**

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **As a parent it is difficult to balance career and parenting, I wish to take my daughter to college sometimes when I have to study for the term or doing projects, but there is no place for her to distract without electronics. I would be great there will be a space for kids, in which they can learn and do activities, while their parents are studying. I know it is not responsibility of the college, but It will be of a lot of support for parents who want a career and a better future for our kids. Thank you in advance for thinking about us.... Parents**
- **Children need to be picked up to go to school, time is a problem.**
- **It is really hard to study as I work full time and I attend school over nights also. However, it'll be really helpful to get financial support for students who have kids at home because school expenses such as textbooks as well as car gasoline went up this days.**
- **We need to extend the hours of the child development center. As a student I had classes ending at 6:30pm but the center closed at 6pm before pandemic. Now they close at 5. Also, the start time use to be 7am now its 8. Cant take morning classes that start at 8.**
- **Financial pressure and time management.**
- **Balancing my time with school and my children and maybe we could be offered more time on quizzes and exams**
- **I think the challenge is more or less about multitasking, with work and household**
- **Time and money is invested in raising a a child or children that diverts time and money to attending school. This does not even include the time working a full time position adding to the challenge to even register for classes and complete certificates or an AA. Thank you for doing the survey.**
- **Money support**
- **Time management and resources are limiting**
- **Flexibility and support resources**
- **My challenges are with the field trips because they are usually during the time frame of my work schedule. And not being able to get assignments done ahead of time.**
- **Transportation**
- **Online classes should not require observations on campus it defeats the purpose when you chose the class online because you dont have anyone to look over your kids**
- **I find it a challenge to be able to find time for both being a parent and studying or doing assignments and homework. I have trouble being able to find a healthy balance. It is even more difficult when teachers have only specific allotted times for certain assignments to be available. I also think that it is hard to be able to sit and complete one task uninterrupted which is why retention of the material is hard sometimes. Teachers should be more understanding and take the into consideration when giving workloads to students.**
- **The unexpected happens and although they sound like excuses, there's no way to really provide proof, but the proof is in the failing assignment or missing assignment**

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **I work part time (just under 30 hrs/week) and have 3 kids, ages 10-13. My husband works full time as well, so life can get very busy. I have been attending school full time, but this semester have decided to bump down to part time. It's too much. I do wish teachers would be a tiny bit more understanding. I have all As and 1 B. I show up every day and never complain. I think I have asked for 2 or 3 allowances in the past year involving family, and it was pretty clear that allowances would not be made. Thanks for listening.**
- **Money. Having to buy multiple textbooks for classes every semester that are hundreds of dollars and still having to afford raising a child during a time when prices for food and necessities keep rising can be a huge struggle.**
- **Daycare working hours should adjust to meet the class schedule.**
- **Biggest challenge is childcare for my son while I am at school. Close second is finding time and a quiet location to study.**
- **Having to work 2 jobs in addition to going to school to provide for my daughter whilst trying to further my education.**
- **Parent students should have more leeway when it comes to tardiness for on campus classes as they could arrive late due to child care challenges.**
- **It is difficult to study**
- **day care**
- **Asked to stay home because the child has a cold, no time for class**
- **Hope for financial and medical support**
- **Sometimes kids feel sick or need to be quarantined at home during close contact with covid. One of my kids has to stay at home for two weeks due to covid testing positive. My husband has to stay at home to take care of them. We also have a financial challenge during this period. Sometimes I cannot focus on my study.**
- **It really comes down to time. I do well in online classes because I can wake up well before my daughter to work on assignments. I am the main caretaker for her, so the more available online courses I can take, the better. In fact, if it weren't for the online classes, higher education would not be an option for me. Student parents need flexibility because children are unpredictable.**
- **I would like help income wise if possible. As a single mother going through the nursing program with a child who has sensitivity struggles it's hard to keep up on rent, food, bills etc. so getting help from the school like grants or scholarships etc would help ease the pressure so I can finish school fast and can afford things on my own.**
- **Daycare**
- **I face Financial issues as a full time student and a parent**
- **As an older adult parent some required class are only available in person, which makes it harder on those of us who not only work a full time job but have minor children at home.**

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- I have to be mindful of when my kids get out of school when selecting classes. It would be awesome if there was some priority given for parents needing classes during k-12 education hours.
- It is hard to balance taking a full class load whilst raising kids when there is so much homework. I try to find a happy medium of being able to run around picking them up, taking them to their activities, doing homework with them, helping out at their school, actually doing fun things with them, and concentrating on my schoolwork. Pretty much 90% of my free time is dedicated to reading, lectures, studying, and homework.
- I have trouble arranging transportation for my school age child since my classes start earlier than their school. I wish mt sac has affiliation with daycare that provide transportation to school.
- Time management and finding childcare
- maybe some sort of low fee child care for kids ages 7-15 just so you can study or take a test. Parents will still have to be on campus.
- finding time to study, schedules should be more flexible, with students who are parents, more time to turn it homework/assignment's
- Time management
- time slots for classes, not all classes are online or at east hybrid and it is very hard to make in person classes
- NONE
- I wish there were more resources that could explain what opportunities are available to me as a parent. For the longest time, I thought Cal Poly Pomona was the only transfer option available to me, especially after having counselors imply this on several different occasions when in reality so many 4 year universities offer child care. I also think that being a parent, and an older student at the same time, is really isolating.
- There needs to be some sort of resource, like a parent center, to help inform us of the possibilities and opportunities available to parents.
- Just being aware of things offered. When it came to the child development center it was hard to get information or even have anyone respond in that department when trying to enroll my child so I could attend classes on campus. So I opted for online classes so I wouldn't have to stress about childcare. As well as what services are kid friendly. For example, I recently went to the transfer center but due to having my child wasn't sure if I would be able to attend a workshop being held. I had to call and ask for the information due to it not being available on the flyer or emails being sent out.
- It is more challenging to study overall, but I appreciate the flexibility of taking online classes. Having online classes available is very helpful.

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **My challenge is no one can help me take care of my daughter when she has a holiday break, but I have to go to my class.**
- **Thank you.**
- **My. SAC's schedule different with my children is big challenge for me.**
- **Child care on campus would be nice for days that you can't have someone watch your child and be able to take them to school with you.**
- **Financial Support**
- **Availability of online classes. It is hard to get classes or be on campus when you are full time parent and full time worker. It is hard between normal work hours and picking up children along with helping them succeed to be able to take classes online during normal business hours. Online classes allow parents the flexibility to attend classes. Silver lining to the pandemic was that more classes became available online.**
- **It would adore it if we provided study spaces where parents may leave their children for up to two hours while they pursue their own studies or catch up on their schoolwork without interruptions. particularly if daycare is insufficient. A parent like myself who struggles with quiz taking due to anxiety from having so much on my plate would also like to see more courses that actually just assist parents deal with the demands of having to deal with so many extra resources.**
- **Same time - Committing to a set weekly schedule for an entire semester is difficult for parents**
- **Time management. I need to balance my school needs with my mother role.**
- **Single mom of 3 with 2 jobs and attending school is very difficult. The hardest part of returning is financial impact.**
- **Housing and picking up my daughter from school**
- **Challenges I face as a Mt. SAC student parent with children is finding time alone to complete homework or have study time.**
- **Childcare was a large issue early on, now with teenagers, its not that much of an issue but getting some extra help and understanding from teachers would be an enormous help. There are many times when my parent duties made me miss classes or miss assignments. I have a good support system now, but when I didn't, it was incredibly hard to keep up with classes and school. Having something in place that helps parents attending college would not only greatly benefit the students, but also Mt. Sac, because that will increase enrollment and set Mt.Sac as an inclusive and supportive institution.**
- **Day care to go to school is really hard to find and is super expensive. I wish mt sac offered affordable daycare for its students. Also, time constricts disable us parents from effectively study. I wish there was make up time to go to class**

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **Finding online classes for one. They tend to fill up quick, the rest of the classes are in person and most of them are during the day. With having to juggle picking taking kids and picking up from school sports we can always make it to in-person classes. So online is a tremendous help. I have a 3.67 gpa and most of my classes were online. I would work during the night times when my kids were asleep. The rest were in person because I had no choice but to go. I live in Anaheim and gas is and continues to be a hardship.**
- **It will probably be best if they give more funds to student parents since some of them are single parents and can't afford to pay for all their essential needs**
- **I have to spend weekends at the tutoring center using a computer to study. If Mt. SAC could offer free laptops or rental laptops, I can study at home while taking care of my children.**
- **Learning about child support custody and child support, or knowing if any of those resources are available. The emotion distress isn't always easy to the point where needing to take a semester off just to get things back in order than return to persevere no matter how hard or the struggle, not taking away the help that we get through Fafsa but providing help in every way just like any other student. Thank you for your time**
- **Trying to meet the deadlines is challenging. Ot enough time between when an assignment becomes available to complete it by the due date.**
- **I just feel there should be only classes made available to parents who are stay at home parents for example maybe zoom video calls from home even though in person class is in session.. I mean, we are still in class but via Zoom..**
- **The online classes are a great help as a parenting student because it allows me flexibility around my children and fiancé's schedules.**
- **Othing**
- **Sometimes our babies need us to just be with them for their emotional and mental well being. It hurts me when my 3 year old son hugs me and asks my to please stay with him while crying although it took him over a month to finally say it. The same way we are excused for sick days I feel we should have mental health days of some sort?**
- **"1. child care 2. having a quite space to do class work 3. lack of sleep 4. Mental stress 5. Not able to take in person classes that work with my schedule. "**
- **Mt. SAC has been a fantastic experience. Every teacher but one has been extremely supportive and great at communicating expectations. I am a mom of 3 kids, that works full time I have to say Mt Sac has been great and I always tell everyone how wonderful all of teachers are. I would have only one suggestion, please make every class have at least one online option. I need one more class and it doesn't seem to be online, in the evenings or a weekend class. It would be impossible for me to take a class before 5. In person would be great but I'd take online. Thank you for taking the time to ask parents how college is going for them. Mt Sac is on track with doing the right thing.**

# **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **The financial aspect is the hardest about being a parent while in college.**
- **I face having so much homework when I am also having to take care of my children and family necessities. If my children are sick I still have to complete all of my assignments and test on time but the professors act as if they don't understand. But when their family members or themselves are sick or down they want us students to understand why our work is taking long to be graded.**
- **"I have none. 0 challenges"**
- **Night classes can be difficult to attend at times due to not having any child services available in the late evening time. The child development center is closed by 5 pm and some night classes, like my lab, are from 7-10 pm.**
- **It's challenging to study at home but it's actually the only place I can be able to care for my kids with out having to leave them. It's not easy but we as a parent try our hardest.**
- **Childcare during night classes is my main limitation.**
- **I feel like I don't have enough hours in 1 day to accomplish all that needs to get done.**
- **I wish I would have been aware of services offered to parents.**
- **Juggling the time you give your child and fitting study and homework time in between is something out of the control of Mt. Sac, its something I have been trying to manage on my own.**
- **As a Student, my challenge is Daycare. I am not aware of any resources on Campus that help students with child care. I would love to learn more.**
- **i would want a motivational coach probably a bit of therapy and a bit of organization**
- **Having to take classes after my child's school start time and be able to pick him up from school. Having a class for my teenager or activity while I am in class could help.**
- **Finding a quiet place to study with tutor who understands a busy mom in different subjects. A place for a parent to seat, relax, unwind with coffee available and free snacks. Accessible gym membership for parents to relieve all the daily stress of work, school, cooking, mothering, parenting, wife, and much more.**
- **As a parent I think college should offer day care for our kids while we are in class**
- **Child care**
- **I felt I was not able to go back to school when I had my daughter in 2011, I did not know of what was available or there to support me to return. I waited until my child was older and then when more became available online I thrived. Ot having to return to campus for every class really made it easier to succeed personally.**
- **When I have classes, I badly need childcare during that period.**
- **It is not always helpful.**



## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- I would like to know any programs for single parents of adolescents and counseling services.
- Having more options for online classes would be helpful when I also have to work full time and there is not class times I am available.
- One
- Studying with my child present
- Day care
- As a student with two young kids, I find most challenging finding info on child care.
- poor
- childcare issues when I have study time and resources for parents
- I face no challenges.
- Our schedules are very tight and sometimes we don't have time like other students. I am a non-traditional student (older student) with a minor at home. It has been a challenge and I mostly work on class work during the weekends. It can be stressful to have so much going on and try to focus on school.
- I am the parent of a child with mental health illness and at times it feels like teachers are unwilling to take this into consideration as to how it might require specific accommodations for me.
- When the family income is a certain amount then I can not apply for Children Center.
- When kids are sick and their school can't take them and I need to go to class, I can't.
- I am a single parent so I never have enough time to study in peace. I take my kids to school then go to school and work on campus and go pick them up and then have to care for them (cook ,clean, showers and bedtime) all on my own. By the time I get to study it's nighttime and I'm too exhausted to focus on learning anything. It would help if I had some understanding when I ask for extra time on assignments it's not that I'm lazy or slacking. I'm just extremely overwhelmed.
- Mostly financial and child care but I have met with a basic needs counseling. that has been very helpful and effective.
- My child is taking classes in K12 program here at Mt Sac while I'm taking my classes. I wish he didn't have to re-apply as a new student every new semester when he returns.
- What I have found I struggled most with so far was having to go to the ASAC Tutor. I called ahead asking if I would be able to bring my 5 year old since I had no one to watch her; I was told I could not take her. I know my child would have sat there and kept to herself, I know it may have been harder for others. My inquiry is if there can be a solution for parents that prefer to go in person for tutor sessions, could there be a designated area for children close by to be supervised. Are there any other options available?
- Please help provide care for school aged kids during holidays when I still go to class

## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

- **Balancing my work life with school life along with family life**
- **Financial status.**
- **I sometimes don't have access to the technology I need to work on my assignments and I can't always stay at school so That's something that I wish could be understood**
- **Time management is difficult when you have to worry about your child's health, care, and safety. It's difficult to make quality time to study for multiple subjects at one time.**
- **Currently, I am not facing any challenges**
- **Classes that aren't available at night during summer.**
- **I deal with not having an opportunity to study more and more effectively as while I am at home I have to care for my son. I understand this is a part of being a parent so I have tried my best to work around the issue. I think it would be beneficial to advertise services more, if it was not because of this survey I would not be aware of the services offered.**
- **Time management**
- **Some professors are not as understanding when it comes to accommodations. Some schedule off campus field trips every week. The process of getting work study and, child care through the college is confusing and unorganized, full of conflicting information that only makes the process more stressful. Students should be given guidance in setting those things up, long before the semester begins, not in the middle of the semester**
- **I would like to know any programs for single parents of adolescents and counseling services.**
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## **Students' Unique Challenges: Let's Hear Their Voices (Continued)**

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- Please help provide care for school aged kids during holidays when I still go to class
- My challenge is no one can help me take care of my daughter when she has a holiday break, but I have to go to my class.
- Thank you.
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