

**College/Location:** Cedar Valley College

The Retention Best Practice is primarily supported by what college/location area:

Instruction  X  Student Services \_\_\_\_\_ Administrative \_\_\_\_\_

Combination of areas: (Please list)

Contact Person: (Include contact information)

Jarlene DeCay, Dean, Student Success, 972-860-8071, [jdecay@dcccd.edu](mailto:jdecay@dcccd.edu)

Retention Best Practice Title:

Human Development Course: Learning Framework (HDEV 1300)

Retention Best Practice Area of Focus:

Math \_\_\_\_\_ STEM \_\_\_\_\_ Honors College \_\_\_\_\_ Other:  Student Success Courses

Retention Best Practice Executive Summary: approximately 50 words (Please use additional pages for a detailed description)

Learning Framework (HDEV 1300) is recommended for first time in college students who place into two or more Developmental courses, Rising Star participants and undecided students and students on probation. It is required for students who are part of the Cedar Valley Achievers program.

Please describe the evaluation measures utilized to support this initiative as a best practice.

In December, 2007, Cedar Valley College's Institutional Research department developed a project to assess Human Development 1300 and the impact it has on Cedar Valley students. Data and student satisfaction surveys were analyzed for first time in college students who did not meet TSI requirements on two or more areas using Accuplacer and were also enrolled in HDEV 1300. Data were compared for students in the same category that did not take HDEV 1300.

Provide a summary of the results, including data (such as trend lines over time) to show how it impacted retention and is a best practice.

In general, the data supported several key characteristics that are similar if not identical to national trends. One is that those who take HDEV 1300 and developmental reading, writing and math courses seem to persist longer. Two is that students in HDEV 1300 courses seem to complete their courses at a higher rate (lower withdrawal rates).

What would be needed to replicate the practice at other DCCCD colleges?

A proposal to incorporate HDEV or a similar course in the core curriculum requirements is being proposed as part of the DCCCD Core 2009 Curriculum Committee recommendations. The HDEV 1300 course at Cedar Valley College uses a common textbook (Psychology of Success) and integrates modules and speakers on career planning and financial literacy.

Cost to implement this practice (financial and human):

Additional funds for adjunct or full-time faculty would be needed to support a requirement of HDEV 1300 or a similar course for all first time in college students across DCCCD.

***Please submit this form to Dr. Sharon L. Blackman, DCCCD Educational Affairs by October 24, 2008***