Office of Equity - Center for Equity and Social Justice Allegra Kabukapua Kalombo Submitted by Alondra Lazaro Gonzalez

As an international student, Allegra has a unique perspective and set of experiences that are instrumental in her role at the Center for Equity and Social Justice (CESJ). Living in the US while her family lives in another continent, has motivated her to be involved in various clubs and organizations. This has allowed her to find a home away from home. This spring 2021 semester Allegra has gone above and beyond in being a leader amongst her peers. She brainstormed the idea of holding a virtual space for students to join and have a conversation, she named it, "Virtual Hangout". She holds these meetings weekly where she hopes to give other students a safe space and sense of home.

Allegra's Words of Gratitude

Firstly, I want to thank the SBCC community, for all the opportunities you have offered me. Sometimes when I think about how far I've come, I feel more than lucky. This award means everything I've hoped for when I came here. It represents the hard work, the passion, the patience, and the hope I walked with throughout my entire journey. I want to take this opportunity to also thank my mentor and moral support. Thank you Alondra for being such an inspiration and a mentor for me. Your advice kept me going when I was literally down mentally. Sometimes I would come to work sad, but I would be so inspired and feel better by just talking and working with you. I feel honored to have you by my side. Thank you.