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Michaela Kubacki* (mkubacki@middlebury.edu), Warner Hall, 303 College Street, Middlebury, VT 05753. *Building Community and Improving Equity through Small-Group Collaborative Learning*. Preliminary report.

The Small-Group Collaborative Learning Sessions Program is a new resource that endeavors create a more inclusive and equitable calculus experience for students in their first semester of college. In its pilot implementation, first-semester students in two sections of Calculus II had the option of signing up for Small-Group Collaborative Learning Sessions. In these sessions, students met weekly in small groups of 3-4 classmates, along with an experienced peer leader, for one hour. These small-group meetings served to help build a sense of community and belonging, while also providing a non-judgmental setting for asking and answering questions. This type of resource promotes a more inclusive classroom by facilitating positive relationships amongst students on a more personal level, while also exposing students to a diverse and excellent set of role models as peer leaders.

At the end of the semester, students filled out an anonymous questionnaire regarding their experience in these sessions. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. We will discuss the organization and implementation of this pilot program, as well as observations of its impact in the classroom. We will also present the results from the student questionnaire and future plans for this endeavor. (Received August 09, 2019)