

Student Housing Insecurity in Higher Education

Best Practices for Faculty



Campus Compact

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Homelessness and Housing Insecurity

Homelessness

- No fixed, regular, adequate nighttime residence

Housing Insecurity

- Rent
- Utilities
- Moving frequently

Prevalence



Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America

National Estimates

The first in a series of Research-to-Impact briefs by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago on understanding and addressing youth homelessness.

Missed Opportunities: National Estimates highlights results from a national survey on unaccompanied youth homelessness in America. The study captures youth homelessness broadly, including sleeping on the streets, in shelters, running away, being kicked out, and couch surfing. Overall, findings show one in 10 young adults ages 18-25, and at least one in 30 adolescents ages 13-17, experience some form of homelessness unaccompanied by a parent or guardian over the course of a year. As a nation, we are missing opportunities to ensure that all young people can reach their full potential and contribute to stronger communities and economies across the country.

- 1 in 10 adults ages 18-25 experience homelessness in the course of a year



HUNGRY AND HOMELESS IN COLLEGE:

RESULTS FROM A NATIONAL STUDY OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Sara Goldrick-Rab, Jed Richardson,
and Anthony Hernandez
Wisconsin HOPE Lab

MARCH 2017



- 33,000 community college students
- Over 50% experienced housing insecurity
- 13-14% experienced homelessness

Vulnerable Student Populations

- First generation
- Veterans
- Former Foster Care
- DACA or undocumented
- Families and single parents
- Survivors of domestic and sexual violence
- LGBTQI+

Student Behaviors

What We Have Learned

- Lack of public information
- Staff and administrative personnel unfamiliar with resources
- Not wanting to participate in study

On Campus Interventions



A. TRAINING AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS HOUSING INSECURITY

If yes, how are they publicized?

Does your campus offer training on how to work with students facing housing insecurity? Y / N _____

Are these resources available to all students? Are there extra resources for students facing housing insecurity? Y / N

H. EMERGENCY FUND

Does your campus have an emergency fund for students? Y / N

If yes, is it limited to one-time use only per student? Y / N

If yes, can funds be used toward housing expenses? Y / N

If yes, is there a limit on the amount of money offered? Y / N

DACA/undocumented Y / N _____

Families Y / N _____

Single Parents Y / N _____

Survivors of domestic & sexual violence Y / N _____

LGBTQI+ Y / N _____

Formerly incarcerated Y / N _____

Does your campus have partnerships with organizations serving specific populations?

If yes, list the organizations:

If yes, how are they publicized?

Veterans Y / N _____

Former foster care Y / N _____



Guidelines

The following can be used as a guideline to completing the mapping tool and assessment of the resources available to housing-insecure students on a college campus. Read the following section descriptions for further clarification on the value of the elements included in the mapping tool

security. Specific populations within the student body that are vulnerable to housing insecurity include, but are not limited to, veterans, individuals that were formerly in the foster care system, first generation students, DACA and undocumented students, students with families, students that are single parents, survivors of domestic and sexual violence, members of the LGBTQI+ community, and individuals that were formerly incarcerated.

If the needs of students within these populations exceed the resources available on-campus, colleges and universities refer students to community organizations that may offer additional resources. For example, if a student veteran needed assistance that

Classroom Interventions

Syllabus Statement

“Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable her to provide resources that she may possess.”

<https://medium.com/@saragoldrickrab/basic-needs-security-and-the-syllabus-d24cc7afe8c9>

Student Housing Insecurity Initiative Page

<https://compact.org/student-housing-insecurity-initiative/>



Contact Campus Compact

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Citations

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