BRINGING STUDENTS HOME
Partnering to Address Homelessness Among College Students

December 4, 2020
John Burton Advocates for Youth

Foster youth

- Education

Homeless youth

- Housing
- Health

Technical Assistance & Training

Advocacy & Policy
Addressing Homelessness Requires a Multi-Pronged Approach

- Campus-based emergency resources
- Referral to community homeless services
- Develop on-campus housing resources
- Partner with housing providers
Continuums of Care (CoCs)

Entity that receives and administers HUD and state funding

- 44 CoCs in California (mostly county-based)
- May be managed by county agency or CBO partner
- Allocates funding to local partner agencies
- Does not administer Section 8 or Public Housing
What is a Coordinated Entry System?

Without CES

With CES
Coordinated Entry

May be single or multiple points of access

Prioritization of resources

Some CoCs have youth-specific coordinated entry
Five Strategies for Campuses
1. Make Referrals to CES

Know your community’s coordinated entry access points

- Familiarize key campus staff with
  - Locations & phone numbers
  - Eligibility and referral process
  - If there are youth-specific access points
- Post contact information in key campus offices
- Identify additional referral sources for current or former foster youth (THP-Plus)
2. Co-locate with a provider that assesses for coordinated entry.

Partner with the Continuum of Care or local provider to bring coordinated entry assessment on campus.

Provider with CES contract can assess students on campus and refer to housing and services.
3. Get involved with local CoC

• Opportunity to influence community priorities

• Participate in the Homeless Point-In-Time Count
  ➢ Ensure homeless students are included in PIT Counts
  ➢ Volunteer for the count
  ➢ Help to ensure homeless students complete surveys
4. Ensure your campus’ financial aid policies address student homelessness.

- Ensure financial aid staff understand federal guidance regarding making homeless determinations
- Reevaluate Cost of Attendance based on individual circumstances
- Prioritize special populations in timing of disbursements
- Fully implement AB 2146 – Requires modification of SAP appeals policy to include homelessness as an extenuating circumstance
5. Develop college-focused rapid rehousing partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing navigation</th>
<th>Financial assistance</th>
<th>Housing stabilization services</th>
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| • recruitment of landlords  
  • identification of shared housing opportunities  
  • support with housing application processes  
  • credit counseling | • rental subsidies/security deposits  
  • utility payments  
  • moving cost  
  • interim housing assistance | • case management  
  • employment support  
  • life skills training  
  • referrals to other resources |
## Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program – 2019/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Overview</th>
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<tr>
<td>• $650 million one-time grant to address homelessness in 19/20</td>
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<td>• $300 million in 20/21</td>
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<th>Funding Mechanism</th>
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<td>• Funds distributed to 43 Continuums of Care and 13 Largest Cities and 58 Counties</td>
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<td>• Each local agency developed a system to distribute funds to providers</td>
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<th>Key Elements</th>
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<td>• Can be used for rental assistance and a variety of other uses</td>
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<td>• At least <strong>8%</strong> of the allocation MUST be used to address the needs of <strong>youth</strong> experiencing homelessness</td>
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### HHAP Important Dates

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<th>HHAP Timeline Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Round 1 funds awarded to jurisdictions</td>
<td>April 1, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jurisdictions must apply for round 2 funds</td>
<td>Jan 31, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for round 1 program funds to be contractually obligated</td>
<td>May 31, 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Round 1 funds must be fully spent</td>
<td>June 30, 2025</td>
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Step 1: Connect with a housing provider that can apply for HHAPP

Consider partnering with organizations that have contracts with the CoC, County or City

- Getting a contract for the first time is difficult.
- May 2019 study found few HEAP recipients were first-time CoC grantees.
Step 2: Make contact with your local Continuum of Care, county and large city

*Visit https://www.jbaforyouth.org/hhapp/ to find a contact for your CoC, County and Large City.
HHAPP Considerations

- Move quickly: Funding processes are being determined NOW
- Expect to have to educate your CoC, County and Large City on college student homelessness
- Visit JBAY web page on HHAPP implementation - www.jbafor-youth.org/hhapp
Resources

• Continuum of Care (CoC) Roster: https://www.jbaforyouth.org/coc-roster
• 10 Practical Strategies for Campuses: https://www.jbaforyouth.org/practical-strategies-for-campuses
Resources

• 5 Guides to Help Homeless College Students (California Homeless Youth Project & SchoolHouse Connection): https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/5-guides-to-help-homeless-college-students-in-california


• THP-Plus roster for former foster youth: https://www.jbaforyouth.org/thp-plus-provider-roster
Advocacy 2021

• Dedicated funding for campus basic needs centers
• Co-sponsoring with Student Senate for CA Community Colleges and CSU Student Association
• Extensive support will be needed
• Sign up to stay informed - https://bit.ly/CAbasicneeds
Contact Info

JBAY Technical Assistance
• AB 2416 implementation
• HHAPP partnerships
• College-focused rapid rehousing implementation

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Barstow Community College

Homeless and Housing Insecurity Program Implementation Process

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
Homeless/Housing Insecurity Program

• 1 of 14 Community Colleges to Pilot the Program
• BCC Allocation is $500,000 annually for 3 years
• Funding allows the College to provide:
  • Rehousing services to homeless students
  • Rental subsidies as students work towards affording rent on their own
  • Preventive services in the form of emergency housing assistance
    • One time or short-term assistance depending on the student's individual situation
Steering Committee

- Vested interest in the Homeless and Housing Insecure population
  - VPSS, Director SPS, Homeless Youth Liaison, Basic Needs Student Success Advisor, Academic Counselor, Community Partners
  - Athletic Director, Director Adult Education (FKCE), Community Partner Board Member
- Guide the program manager and staff in establishing policies and procedures
- Build MOU for partnership
- Weekly-Biweekly-Monthly
- Mini workgroups

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
Immediate Student Need

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
Implementation Timeline

- **Pilot College**
- **Kick Off Meeting**
- **Official Launch**
- **Sustaining Program**

- **MAR** > Program Manager
- **APR** > Committee Meetings
- **MAY** > Assisting Students Program Elements
- **JUN** > SPRING 2021
- **AUG** > OCT
- **SEP** > NOV
- **DEC** > Line (Spring 2021)

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
Program Implementation

- Program Eligibility
- Prioritizing Student Cases
- Referral Process (Early Alert, CARES, SPS Application, ARGOS Reports)
- Application/Onboarding
- Tracking Progress (Handbook)
- Financial Aid (Dean of Enrollment Services/Business Office)
  - HHIP Dashboard (ARGOS), Streamline Purchasing Process for HHIP
- Community Partner vs College’s Staff Responsibility
  - Cultivating the Relationship
- Networking

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
New Hope Village, Inc.

- Angela Pasco Ortez
  Executive Director
  New Hope Village

- Rose Beardshear
  Housing Navigator
  New Hope Village

- Cindy Rosales
  Case Manager
  New Hope Village

- Housing identification
- Move in Assistance
- Flexible Rent Subsides (paying for rent)
- Assistance with accessing community resources like Cal Fresh, Medicare, Earned Income Credit, Legal Aid, Mental Health Services, Etc.

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
HHIP BCC Staff

Melissa Meadows
Interim Program Manager

Michelle Bond
Homeless Youth Liaison

Joanna Escalante
Student Success Advisor

Financial Aid, EOPS, ACCESS, CalWORKS, CARE, Veteran Services, Foster Youth Programs, Homeless Programs, Basic Needs, tutoring, etc.

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
Beyond the Basics

- Homelessness/Housing Insecurity Education
- Disciplinary Process
- Expanding Partnerships
  - Resources to overcome personal barriers
- Mental Health Counseling-Small Groups
- Surveying Participants & Collecting Data
- Future Funding Sources
- Secure Additional Housing Units

Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program
LSS PARTNERSHIP WITH SAN JOAQUIN DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DURING A PANDEMIC
Work with CoC for allocated funds for homeless TAY in county

Planned to extend current housing programs for TAY youth

Focused on homeless TAY at San Joaquin Delta Community College

Received funding and implemented program
IMPLEMENTATION

Established referral process with Delta College and establish protocol to connect with youth during COVID-19

Work with case manager to establish new best practices under circumstances of COVID-19 restrictions to ensure youth continue to work toward self-sufficiency

Utilized established relationship with Guardian Scholars (foster youth) program on Delta’s campus
IMPLEMENTATION

Utilize Release of Information (ROI) to build partnership with Financial Aid, EOPS, Counselors, Instructors, Tutors, Coaches, etc. to create wrap around services for youth at home.

Communicated with established and new property managers about vacancies.

Established procedures to intake youth for housing while remaining safe.
Cycle of Support

- Financial Aid
- EOPs
- Online Tutors
- Online Instructors
- Virtual Counselors
CREATING STABILITY

Educated about the housing process
Complete application
Furnished their apartment
Move in
Survival mode to comfort to fear of the unknown back to comfort

Other issues surface: mental health, self-esteem, bullying, lack of financial awareness, physical health concerns, lack of a family unit, and losing their voice.
Wrap Around Services

Referrals and resources
Being available to listen
Team approach