

# Contextualizing Students in California's Housing Crisis

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# The Landscape of the CA Housing Crisis

The California Housing Crisis is a statewide issue

1 in 10 Students in the CSU System experience homelessness during their time in college

1 in 5 LA Community College District experience homelessness during their time in college

Study by University of Chicago's Chapin Hill found 1 in 10 young adults between 18-25 experience homelessness over the course of a year

Approximately a third of all the nation's unaccompanied youth live in CA and most are unsheltered

Among Californians in general, 1 in 3 state residents cannot afford their rent



# Housing 101

## Terms

- ▶ **Homeless** describes a person who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence
- ▶ **Sheltered Homelessness** refers to people who are staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, or safe havens
- ▶ **Unsheltered Homelessness** refers to people whose primary nighttime location is a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for people (for example, the streets, vehicles, or parks)
- ▶ **Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (18-24)** are people in households without children who are not part of a family with children or accompanied by their parent or guardian during their episode of homelessness, and who are between the ages of 18 and 24
- ▶ Causes
- ▶ A note about “predatory housing”

- ▶ AB801 - Success for Homeless Youth in Higher Education Act
- ▶ SB1068 - Requires Homeless Educational Liaisons to receive informational materials and professional training to assist in effectively serving youth facing homelessness.
- ▶ AB1747- College Student Hunger Relief Act, calls for campuses to increase easier access to food assistance by:
- ▶ AB1995 -Community colleges now allow students facing homelessness daily access to shower facilities.
- ▶ AB1840 - State Agencies must now give hiring preference to students facing homelessness and formerly incarcerated youth (up to age 26), when filling internship and student assistant positions. State agencies must allow applicants to identify their eligibility without defining it as a requirement to disclose
- ▶ SB85- 2.5 Million Dollars to the CSU System for “hunger-free” campus
  
- ▶ Why legislation is important

## Current Legislation

# Telling your story

- ▶ What is your current demographic of students experiencing housing insecurity?
- ▶ What percentage of your students are eligible for Pell/Cal Grants?
- ▶ What is the landscape of your local housing/rent market and where are the majority of students living?
- ▶ How does rent:resources ratio impact their ability to afford living expenses?
- ▶ How many students stay and work in the area, how many are leaving the area due to housing affordability?
- ▶ Who are local stakeholders who have companion goals of addressing housing insecurity?
- ▶ Use of data + student stories in preparing for your collaboration

# Solutions

Partnerships (SHA, Tenant rights classes, hosting legal clinics)

Advocate targeted legislation

Sit on local coalitions

Reach out to local advocates, see where the interest overlaps with the local community and student demographic

Workplan  
Template

# Helping your campus

- ▶ What are the housing challenges unique to your region?
- ▶ What are the partnerships you can develop who are working on this already?
- ▶ Who is someone on your campus you will approach to help get this started, or if you are the contact, what is your plan to contact partners?

# Questions and Discussion

Share successes  
Share challenges  
Share thoughts  
Ask questions

# Thank you!

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