Homelessness in Higher Education: Creative Housing Solution

October 5, 2023 | 1:00 - 2:15 pm Eastern
General Housekeeping

- Webinar will last 1 hour and 15 minutes
- Audio is muted - please ask questions through Q&A
- Session is being recorded
- Follow-up email after the session will include the recording, powerpoint, and resources
**Agenda:**

1. Introductions
2. Overview of College Homelessness
3. Overview of Programs
4. Panel
5. Resources/Q&A

**Today’s Learning Objectives:**

1. Learn more about Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter and Jovenes
2. Take away actionable strategies
We provide strategic advocacy and practical assistance in partnership with schools, early childhood programs, institutions of higher education, service providers, families, and youth.

WEBSITE: schoolhouseconnection.org

NEWSLETTER: schoolhouseconnection.org/sign-up

- Federal and state policy advocacy
- Q&A from our inbox
- Webinars and implementation tools
- Youth leadership and scholarships
College Homelessness

Source: The HOPE Center (#RealCollege), *The HOPE Center 2021: Basic Needs Insecurity During the Ongoing Pandemic*

Recent [National Center for Education Statistics](https://nces.ed.gov) data found

- 23% of undergraduate students are experiencing food insecurity
- **8% of undergraduate students are experiencing homelessness**
Overview of Programs
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter provides New Yorkers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with a home, a community, and access to the services they need to thrive. We create innovative solutions and engage community partners to provide housing and support that can transform lives.
Louis Nine House is home to 46 young adults who have aged out of foster care or experienced homelessness and mental illness. On-site supportive services help them work toward independence.
AUGUST 2023

8% of undergraduate students reported experiencing homelessness in the previous 30 days.

MARCH 2019

14% of CUNY survey respondents were affected by homelessness in the previous year.

55% of CUNY survey respondents experienced housing insecurity in the previous year.
NCS Scholars is a pilot program that provides year-round housing and supportive services for NYC college students experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. The program is designed to address the challenges that typically cause or accompany homelessness, giving the residents the best chance to earn their degrees and begin successful futures.
• Single location
• 2- and 3- bedroom suites with shared kitchens and bathrooms
• 23 units currently leased for residents; funding secured to add six additional units when they become available
• NCS Scholars: LIC
• Students come from six of CUNY’s 25 campuses
• Students are referred by CUNY or NYC’s shelter systems
• Admission process
• Program expectations
Who are the NCS Scholars?

**MAJOR**

- Biology: 3
- Psychology: 3
- Business: 2
- Computer Science: 2
- Fine Arts: 1
- Licensed Nurse Practitioner: 1
- Medical Lab Technician: 1
- Nursing: 1
- Occupational Therapy Assistant: 1
- Public Relations: 1
- Science: 1

**AGE**

- 19–48 age range
- Average age: 23 | Median age: 21

**RACE & ETHNICITY**

- 4 Black/Latino
- 12 Black/non-Latino
- 4 Hispanic/Latino
- 1 Native American

**GENDER IDENTIFICATION**

- 15 Female
- 5 Male
- 1 non-binary
This college student was among the 'invisible' homeless. Now, a creative housing fix is helping her stay in school

Athena Jones, CNN Photographs by Laura Oliveno, CNN
Updated 12:25 AM EST, Thu December 08, 2022:

The New York Times
December 18, 2022
A New Lifeline for the Unseen: Homeless College Students

Two privately funded pilot programs are covering the rent for City University of New York students who face housing insecurity.

CITY LIMITS
Opinion: Graduating College is Hard Enough. Housing Insecurity Makes it Harder
By Liz Krueger and Ann Shalef. Published August 4, 2023

Some college students face an extra challenge: homelessness
By Frank Pytel. Published Jan 30, 2023

Helping CUNY students with housing helps their studies
Helping CUNY students with housing helps their studies
New York Daily News
Feb 14, 2022 at 5:00 AM

Isabella is just like any college student across the country. She enrolled at Medgar Ever College in Brooklyn with dreams of earning a degree and becoming a nurse. But like many students, Isabella ran into obstacles that made it challenging to keep up with schoolwork and stay on track to graduate. Isabella was struggling to make ends meet, working as a teaching assistant and living in a studio apartment with four other people. Her housing situation made it unfeasible for her to focus and achieve her goals.
Return on Investment

NCS Scholars costs less

- $30,000 estimated annual cost to house one student at NCS pilot residence
- $50,370 average annual cost for one adult in a NYC homeless shelter in 2021

Source: The Preliminary Budget (New York City Independent Budget Office, March 2022)

CUNY graduates earn more

- $28,781 No Post-Secondary degree
- $55,100 Associate's degree
- $65,165 Bachelor's degree

Source: CUNY’s Contribution to the Economy (New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer, March 2021)
Housing for Homeless Students

Jovenes’ College Success Initiative
About Jovenes

We are a non-profit housing provider that focuses on Youth and Students, providing a variety of housing resources:

- Leadership within LA’s Coordinated Entry System
- Innovations II & TAY Outreach
- Emergency & Bridge Housing
- Transitional Housing
- Host Homes
- Family Reconnection
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Affordable Housing
- Rapid Re-Housing (rental subsidies)
- **College Focused Housing**
Timeline & Campus Partnerships

- Jovenes launched College Success Initiative in 2016
- Our model was used as the foundation for AB74
- Currently partnering with Community Colleges & CSU’s throughout LA County:
  - Cerritos College
  - Long Beach City College
  - LA Southwest College
  - Mt. San Antonio College*
  - East LA College*
  - LA City College*
  - LA Trade Tech*
  - Cal State Long Beach
  - Cal Poly Pomona
  - Cal State Northridge

* Utilizes different funding source than AB74
Housing Types

- **Bridge Housing**
  - Shared apartments and bedrooms where students don’t pay rent or program fees

- **Affordable Housing**
  - Students pay a program fee ($95-300) for an individual room in shared housing. Payments are held as savings and returned to students when they move out

- **Rapid Rehousing**
  - Students sign a lease and Jovenes provides a rental subsidy directly to their landlord

- **Prevention**
  - Students are provided with financial support to prevent them from experiencing homelessness and case management to help them overcome their challenges

- **Motel Support**
  - Students are provided stays in a local Motel as longer-term housing options are developed
Housing Spotlights

The Village at Cerritos College
- Purchased by Cerritos
- Opened in 2020
- California’s first housing project dedicated to unhoused community college students
- Up to 26 students housed in Bridge & Affordable Units

College Success: Long Beach
- Series of master-leased apartments and townhomes
- Up to 40 students in Bridge & Affordable Housing
- Shared between CSU Long Beach & Long Beach City College
Campus Partnerships

- Consistent meetings with Campus to develop MOU, review referrals, share resources, monitor progress
- Work with Campus to determine overall eligibility criteria
  - Homelessness status
  - Financial need
  - Academic Considerations
    - Number of Units Completed/Enrolled
    - GPA
- Partner together for evaluation and learning
Referral Process

● Basic Needs Center provides application for students experiencing housing insecurity
  ○ Conducts initial screening
● Submits referral to Jovenes care team
  ○ Completed housing screening tool
  ○ Determine student needs & the best housing option
  ○ Goes over program requirements and expectations
  ○ Enrolls student into program and begins housing navigation
● Ongoing Case Management & Support
Impact

- 301 Students housed in most recent Fiscal Year
  - 96% of Students maintained college enrollment, graduated, or transferred from a community college to a CSU
  - 80% of students are maintaining a course load of 9 units or more

**Spotlight on Cerritos College**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMIC SUCCESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>0.2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average GPA gain, compared to GPA at program entry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>41%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded Degree/Certificate in first 2 years (campus rate 15%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing = Success!

Over 40 Graduates in 2023!
Panel Discussion
Resources

- SHC Higher Education Page
  - Tips for Housing
- FAFSA Page
- Youth Leadership and Scholarship Program
- Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter
- Jovenes
Strategies to Support SMOOTH TRANSITIONS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, Oct 20 · 1-2:15 pm Eastern

This webinar will highlight Georgia’s EMBARK program and Kennesaw State University and participants will learn strategies for how K12 and higher education partners can support active recruitment of homeless and foster youth, and help ease the transition.

Link to register: https://bit.ly/3q6zNWB
KNOW ANY COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENTS WHO'VE EXPERIENCED HOMELESSNESS?

Help them apply to the SchoolHouse Connection Scholarship Program.
The scholarship includes:
- $2,500 Award
- 1-on-1 Support
- 3 All-Expenses-Paid Trips!

APPLY NOW AT SCHOOLHOUSECONNECTION.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP
Let’s Connect!

Facebook: SchoolHouse Connection

Facebook Group: Homelessness & Education - A SchoolHouse Connection Group

Instagram: @SchoolHouseConnection

X: @SchoolHouseConn

Linkedin: SchoolHouse Connection

YouTube: @SchoolHouseConnection
Questions
Jillian Sitjar
Director of Higher Education Partnerships  jillian@schoolhouseconnection.org

Ann Shalof
Chief Executive Officer, Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter  AShalof@ncsinc.org

Mary Jacobs
Program Director, Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter  MClark@ncsinc.org

Eric Hubbard
Director of Development & Strategic Partnerships, Jovenes  EHubbard@jovenesinc.org