

CSSO Fall Symposium 2022

Strategies to Address Housing Insecurities

Lessons Riverside City College Learned Along the Way

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Objectives for this Session:

- Learn Strategies to Address The Needs of Students who identify as Homelessness or Housing Insecurities
- Steps to Get the Ball Rolling
- Discuss Potential Barriers and/or Roadblock
- ALLOW YOU TO SLEEP BETTER AT NIGHT

What We'll Be Focused On:

- Strategies to Address Housing Insecurities
 - Is There a Need? What is the Level of Need?
 - Community Partnerships
 - Funding Streams
- Implementation
 - Getting the Word Out on Campus
 - Identifying Students and their Needs
 - Referral to Community Partner(s)
- Discuss Potential Barriers and/or Roadblock
 - Internal
 - External

Strategies to Address Housing Insecurities

Determine If There Is a Need

- Survey Your Students
- Have You Been Getting Referrals
- Work with Financial Team
- Check In with Your Associated Students
- Check in with Unified School Districts

Strategies to Address Housing Insecurities

Community Partners

- City and County Resources
- Temporary Shelters
- Hotel/Motel Owners and Managers
- Transitional Housing
- Rapid Rehousing (not always rapid.....)

Strategies to Address Housing Insecurities

Possible Funding Streams

- State Funding
 - HHIP Funding
 - Basic Needs Support
 - One-time Basic Needs
- Associated Student Funds (Emergency Loans)
- Foundation Funds (Endowments, Emergency Funds)
- Federal Funds
- Private Funds (foundation, corporations, non-profits)

What do the students actually need:

- Hotel/Motel Vouchers
- Emergency Shelters
- Rental Assistance (if in arrears)
- Housing Assistance
 - Find a Unit (house, apartment, room)
 - Rental application/lease
 - Down Payment, Utilities, Furniture
 - Background Checks (is a barrier)

Other Potential Things to Consider:

- What type of Assistance Will You Provide?
 - To What Extent Can You Provide It?
 - One Semester? Academic Year? Specific \$\$ Amount/Student
 - Space Limitation/Funding Limitations per category of support
- Who Will Select the Students?
 - Any Priority Consideration (i.e., Foster Youth, Homeless, Single Parents)
 - Individual Selection Based on Criteria?
 - Referrals then Selection
 - Group Decision based on Scoring/Points

Our Experience at Riverside City College



Our Experience at Riverside City College

From Eager Anticipation.....

.....To Total Anxiety

And ALL PHASES IN BETWEEN

From THEN to NOW.....what a difference a Day/Month/Year MAKES!!!!

- Received Notification that RCC was selected for the HHIP Pilot Project
- Reached out to our ORIGINAL Rapid Rehousing Partner (of record)
- Worked with Outside Vendors and Business Services
- Had many Conversations.....Sent lots of Emails
- Prayers Answered.....ALL OF THEM ANSWERED
 - Path of Life Ministries – Riverside (RRH Partner)

Getting the WORD OUT about HHIP/ Educate the College/HHIP Promoted

- Meeting of the Managers (Campus-wide)
- Student Services' Department Leads Meetings
- FLEX Day Presentation to Faculty
- Discussed HHIP with President's Leadership Team (PLT)
- Work with our RCCD Sister Colleges and District Team
- Onboarding Event with New Students
- Specific "Targeted" Events with Certain Student Groups (Guardian Scholars/Foster Youth, Umoja, Athletics)
- Updating out internal Student Services Resource Guide and First Five booklets

Identifying Potential Students (Sample of What We Do at RCC)

- Foster and Homeless Information - From Financial Aid
- Referrals from across the campus (email, referral form, calls)
- Basic Needs Resource Center (case management of student)
- Student Ambassadors (tabling events, Welcome Day, Club Rush)

Once we are notified about a student who is experiencing some type housing need.....

- **Admissions and Reports**
- **Financial Aid**
- **My Administrative Assistant**
 - **The Intake Form and Survey are sent to students by VPSS Admin. Assistant**
 - **They are NOT available on our website. We were just using it in house through emails to students when they qualify for that part of the process.**
- **Seamless flow of the forms.....electronic submission**
- **ORIGINALLY.....As the VPSS, I am the STOP or MOVE FORTH decision maker.**
All exceptions are my final call.
 - **NOW we have a Basic Needs Supervisor in Place!!!**

RCC Intake Form and RCC Intake Survey

- **Determine if a student qualifies for HHIP**
 - follow-up call with the “referring party”
 - Submit Intake Form (electronic routing)
 - Email to student to complete intake survey.
- **If eligible** - student is connected with Rapid Rehousing
- **If not eligible** - student is sent an email with information on external resources

Eligibility Qualifications for RCC HHIP:

- Current RCC student (or registered for upcoming term)
- Minimum of 2.0 GPA (with possible exceptions....depending on circumstances/situation of student)
- Prefer the student to be FULL-TIME student
- Ideally at least 30 credit hours earned

Working with our Community Rapid Rehousing Partners is a REAL PARTNERSHIP

- Soft pass-off of students by email
- Meet to Discuss PARTNER Expectations
- CCCCO HHIP Survey Draft
- Chancellor's Q&A for HHIP Funding (pdf)
- Set up payment plans and reporting requirements
- Month debrief with RCC Team and Rapid Rehousing Team
 - Meet together with a “problem” referral, as needed
 - Show our PARTNERSHIP UNITY when meeting with a student

Lessons Learned:

- This is a FLUID process.
- Developing an onboarding-type “brochure” for selected
 - Updated to include “you break it or charge it...you pay for it clause” for hotel stays
- Definitely a LABOR OF LOVE....but VERY REWARDING
- UNDER CONSIDERATION.....put the HHIP information on our website

