JOHN BURTON Advocates for youth

www.jbaforyouth.org

## BRINGING STUDENTS HOME

Partnering to Address Homelessness Among College Students

December 4, 2020

#### John Burton Advocates for Youth



Technical Assistance & Training



Advocacy & Policy

#### Addressing Homelessness Requires a Multi-Pronged Approach

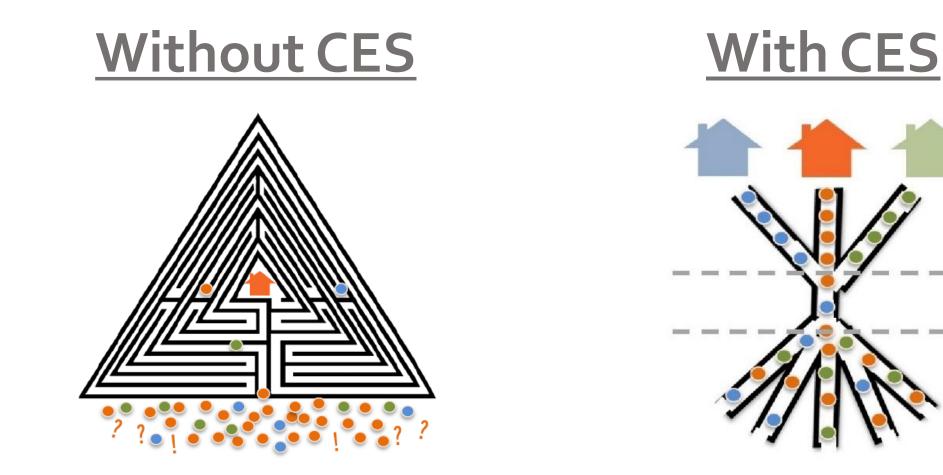


## **Continuums of Care (CoCs)**

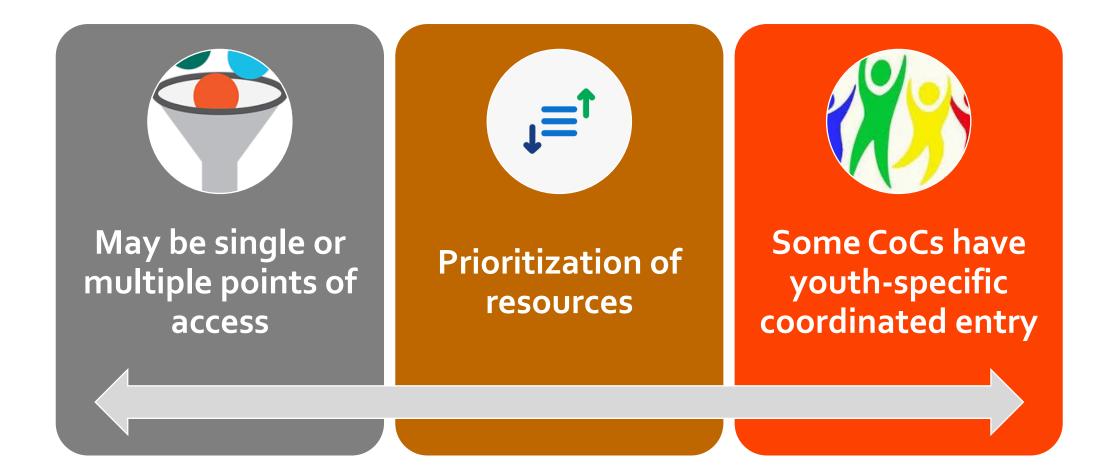
# Entity that receives and administers HUD and state funding

- 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?



#### **Coordinated Entry**



## **Five Strategies for Campuses**

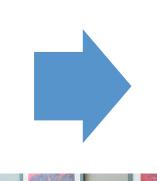
## **1. Make Referrals to CES**

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

Housing navigation	<ul> <li>recruitment of landlords</li> <li>identification of shared housing opportunities</li> <li>support with housing application processes</li> <li>credit counseling</li> </ul>
Financial assistance	<ul> <li>rental subsidies/security deposits</li> <li>utility payments</li> <li>moving cost</li> <li>interim housing assistance</li> </ul>
Housing stabilization services	<ul> <li>case management</li> <li>employment support</li> <li>life skills training</li> <li>referrals to other resources</li> </ul>

#### HOMELESS HOUSING, ASSISTANCE, AND PREVENTION (HHAP) PROGRAM – 2019/2020

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

#### HHAP IMPORTANT DATES

HHAPTIMELINE	
Round 1 funds awarded to jurisdictions	April 1, 2020
Jurisdictions must apply for round 2 funds	Jan 31, 2021
Deadline for round 1 program funds to be contractually obligated	May 31, 2023
Round 1 funds must be fully spent	June 30, 2025

# 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

#### Large City

CoC

Anaheim, Bakersfield, Fresno, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Ana, and Stockton.

County

\*Visit <u>https://www.jbaforyouth.org/hhapp/</u> to find a contact for your CoC, County and Large City

#### HHAPP Considerations

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



- Continuum of Care (CoC) Roster: <u>https://www.jbaforyouth.org/coc-roster</u>
- Point-in-Time Count CoC Roster: <u>https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/pit\_count\_coc.pdf</u>
- 10 Practical Strategies for Campuses: <u>https://www.jbaforyouth.org/practical-strategies-for-</u> <u>campuses</u>



- 5 Guides to Help Homeless College Students (California Homeless Youth Project & SchoolHouse Connection): <u>https://www.schoolhouseconnection.org/5-guides-to-help-</u> <u>homeless-college-students-in-california</u>
- FAFSA Visual Guide for Homeless Youth (JBAY): https://www.jbaforyouth.org/ca-fy-financial-aid-guide/
- THP-Plus roster for former foster youth: <u>https://www.jbaforyouth.org/thp-plus-provider-roster</u>

## 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 <u>https://bit.ly/CAbasicneeds</u>

## **Contact Info**

JBAY Technical Assistance

- AB 2416 implementation
- HHAPP partnerships
- College-focused rapid rehousing implementation

## Debbie Raucher



(510) 593-8382

#### **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



Homeless & Housing Insecurity Program



#### **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





#### Immediate Student Need

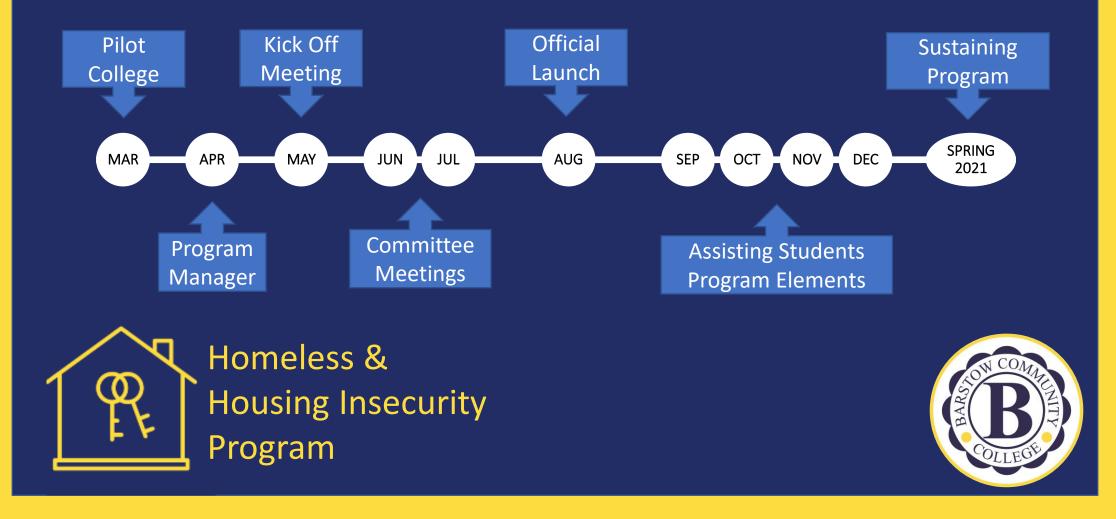








#### **Implementation Timeline**



#### **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





#### New Hope Village, Inc.



Angela Pasco Ortez Executive Director New Hope Village



• Move in Assistance



Rose Beardshear Housing Navigator New Hope Village



Cindy Rosales Case Manager New Hope Village

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







#### 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



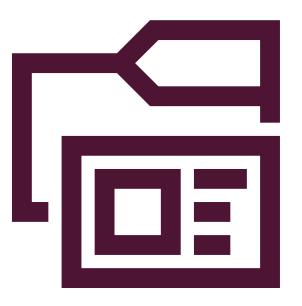
#### **Beyond the Basics**

- 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









#### LSS PARTNERSHIP WITH SAN JOAQUIN DELTA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**DURING A PANDEMIC** 

#### PROCESS



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

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

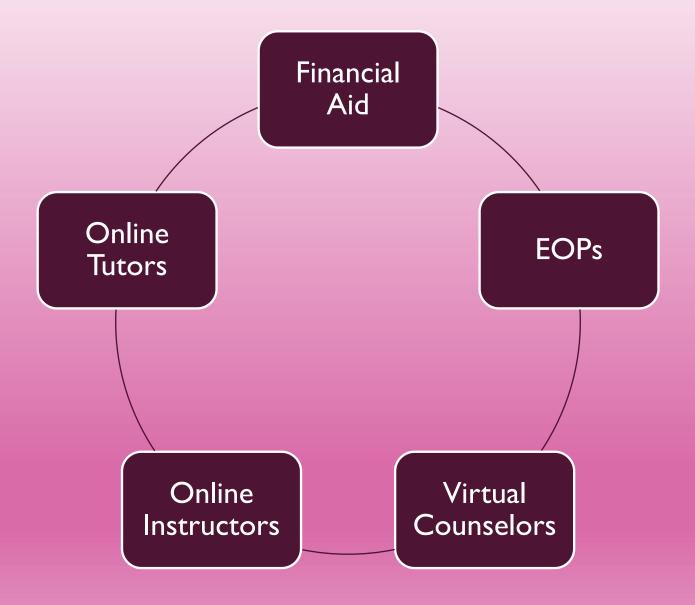
Utilize Release of Information (ROI) to build partnership with Financial Aid, EOPS, Counselors, Instructors, Tutors, Coaches, etc. to create wrap around services for youth at home

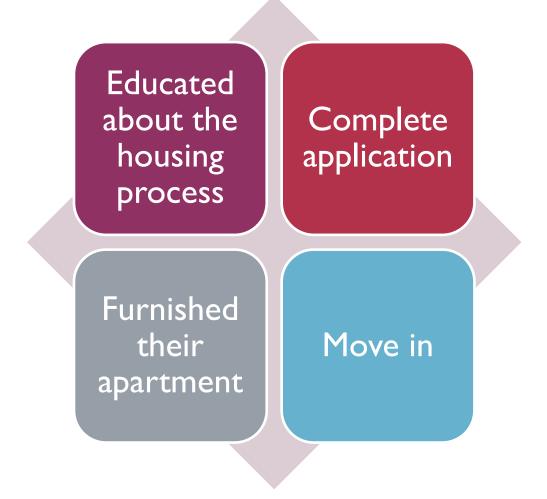
Communicated with established and new property managers about vacancies

Established procedures to intake youth for housing while remaining safe

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

#### Cycle of Support





CREATING STABILITY Survival mode to comfort to fear of the unknown back to comfort Other issues surface: mental health, selfesteem, bullying, lack of financial awareness, physical health concerns, lack of a family unit, and losing their voice

#### VULNERABILITY

#### WRAP AROUND SERVICES

6 Referrals and Being available Team to listen approach resources