Supporting the Whole Student by Attending to Basic Needs Insecurity

Newcombe Conference, Rider University

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The Hope Center at Temple University

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Dedicated to college affordability and removing barriers to student attainment and success through an equity-centered systemschange approach.



The Hope Center at Temple University

We are researchers, scholars, advocates, policy advisors, and storytellers who envision a world where basic needs insecurity is no longer a barrier to pursuing and completing college.

3 in 5 students experience basic needs insecurity.

Creating the conditions that foster whole student success has never been more important in higher education

we support the "whole student" when we create equitable conditions for student success



when we say "the whole student"

we often mean including "outside the classroom" variables

engagement in co-curricular activities

belongingness

wellness and well-being

experiential learning





Students Are Humans First

Social, Skills + Competencies, Academic, Financial, Environmental, Demographics

Cultural + Institutional Context Identity + Intersectionality Wellness + Well-being Student Basic Needs everyone knows its hard to do most things when you don't have a roof over your head and your stomach is empty

it's easy to forget this when it's not your life

Academic Self-Self-fulfillment needs actualization: outcomes goals achieving one's full potential, including creative activities Esteem needs: prestige and feeling of accomplishment **Belongingness and love needs:** intimate relationships, friends Safety needs: security, safety **Physiological needs:** food, water, warmth, rest

Psychological

Basic needs

needs

basic needs are not that basic – but they are foundational

two students from the same town with the same test scores can have very different joureys

"It is very rewarding to know that I took the steps to provide a better life for me and my son. As a single parent I face many difficulties with finances, time, transportation, and also being able to juggle being a parent, student, and fulltime employee. I am willing to go through whatever I have to so that I can finish and have a better life and less financial worry."

basic needs security means there is an ecosystem in place to ensure that students' basic needs are met

food housing transportation childcare health services emergency aid textbooks digital access

basic needs insecurity (BNI) is a structural characteristic – there is not an ecosystem in place to ensure students basic needs are met

addressing student basic needs insecurity is aninstitutional responsibility

Hope Center Student Basic Needs Survey



Barriers to Accessing Supports

Experiences with Childcare

NEARLY 3 IN 5 STUDENTS EXPERIENCED BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY





There is no "traditional student"





Student BNI is an equity and justice issue



Black and Indigenous students experience basic needs insecurity at rates >70%.

64% of firstgeneration students experience basic needs insecurity.

Nearly 2/3 of LGBTQ+ students face basic needs insecurity.

Academic Impacts



Basic needs insecurities interfere with academics







14%

of students were late to class or work due to transportation access

17%



of students reported emotional or mental difficulties hurt their performance

Reasons for stopping out



Financial concerns caused students to stop out of college. Over half of students cited **physical or mental health concerns** as a reason for stopping out.

Financial concerns	61%		
Health concerns	5	6%	
Work/career	46%	6	
Access	30%		
Dissatisfaction	26%	29% of students had stopped out or were considering stopping out in the next	
Other	26%	academic term.	

MOST PARENTING STUDENTS (70%) EXPERIENCE BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

FIGURE 1 | RATES OF BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY AMONG PARENTING STUDENTS, BY RACE/ ETHNICITY AND GENDER



RATES ARE 85-90% FOR ASIAN, BLACK & LATINX SINGLE PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY FOR PARENTING STUDENTS IMPACTS CHILDREN & FAMILIES



25% BIPOC STUDENTS WITH CHILDREN REPORTED INABILITY TO FEED THEM BALANCED MEALS



1 in 4 BLACK FATHERS IN COLLEGE EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS



2 of 5 PARENTING STUDENTS EXPERIENCE EXTREME STRESS





Campus Supports

Among students experiencing BNI

Wi-Fi hotspot/laptop	19%	41%	40%
Food pantry	16%	49%	35%
Emergency grant	<mark>14%</mark> 2	1%	65%
Public benefits app asst.	<mark>13%</mark>	50%	37%
Transportation/bus pass	<mark>11%</mark>	52%	36%
Health clinic/counseling	<mark>7%</mark>	49%	44%
Emerg./affordable housing 2	2 <mark>% 39</mark>	%	59%
Used Heard of building	t not us	ed Not	heard of

Campus Supports: Barriers



Awareness interferes with accessing campus basic needs supports. Nearly one in four students are worried **others need the supports more**.



Barriers to Student Support Service Use

Transportation Prefer to deal with on my own Difficulty finding available... Not sure where to go Class, work, other obligations Not enough time **Financial**



Hope 2023 Survey early preview

0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000









Student basic needs survey

Data dashboard

Training & advocacy

Student Basic Needs Survey Data Dashboard




Using the Data

Documenting Students' Experiences Advocating for Resources, Policies Writing & Submitting Grant Applications **Creating** Resource Guides for Students, Stakeholders

Developing Partnerships

structural transformation

Hope Impact Partnership Institutions Collaborate to Transform Data into Actionable Change

- Establish a Basic Needs Task Force
- Gather and evaluate student data and talk with and listen to students
- Assess the landscape of existing supports
- Establish institutional and community partnerships
- Create resource guides for students, faculty and staff
- Connect students to supports in ways that resonate and impact them

Use Existing Data to Support Students: FAFSA Example







Bunker Hill Community College Food Pantry

> Delivering Information, Sustenance and Health



DISH Food Pantry: Dish and Dash Lockers

Bunker Hill Community College

Boston, Massachusetts



HIP Partners In Practice



Del Mar College offers students and the surrounding community free tax preparation services through their Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.





Orange Coast College partners with the Orange County Transportation Authority to provide all students with unlimited, free bus passes.

The Community College of Vermont builds on its emergency grant program with Life Gap Plus—a simple application that connects students to resources like SNAP.





HIP Partners In Practice

BCC Receives Grant to Address College Campus Hunger

Berkshire Community College launched a program to hire a full-time Student Services Navigator, a shared position created to make the institution's food pantry and food security programming fully sustainable. They used their results from the 2023 Hope Survey to secure funding for the program through the American Rescue Plan Act.





Improving the quality of life for single parents and their children through post secondary education and comprehensive supportive services.

THE 2GEN APPROACH

Two-generation (2Gen) approaches build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives *together*. 2Gen approaches center the whole family **to create a legacy of educational success and economic prosperity that passes from one generation to the next.**



Pittsburgh Scholar House offers educational, motivational, and family-centered support for single parents seeking a college degree while raising their children.

We position families to achieve their educational goals, access employment opportunities in high-growth industries, and develop the knowledge and skills needed for physical, mental, and financial well-being

Pittsburgh Scholar House WayFinders Anticipated Economic Mobility Shift (Theory of Change)



SCHOLAR H

if your campus is focused on supporting the whole student... make sure that addressing student basic needs insecurity is part of your institution's whole student success plan

The Hope Center is here to help anne.lundquist@temple.edu



