Housing and Homeless Students – Benchmarking

**Bridgewater State** – Eileen Estudante

* They have pilot program that just started in January. It’s actually a pilot with state higher education and they are subsidizing the cost. They have funds to house 5 students (they can be BS students or from the local community college). They have an application process. No GPA requirement but must be fulltime. They have a case manager that meets with the students every two weeks. She is the single point of contact for basic needs at the institution. They also partner with a youth service provider to offer additional resources.

**Kennesaw State** – Marcy Stidum

* 200-300 pantry users per semester (twice a month)
* Textbook support
* Rental assistance is provided with an average of $700-800 grant
* 95-110 students use case management a semester
  + Special access to the pantry – everyday
  + Full assessment with case plan
  + Apartment provided with donor money
  + 14 days in the apartment with an additional 14 available (23 days average)
  + Spring had 14 apartment users
  + Use hotels at a negotiated rate for emergency housing
  + 2 FTE, 4 work study, 3 MSW students, 1 Americorp

**Wayne State University** - High Program – Leslie Wolfin

* 3 apartments, one semester stay
* Must have 2.5 GPA, exhausted all other financial means
* Have childcare assistance and transportation
* Also tuition and books
* 1 FTE, 4 .5 FTE for social media, video, grant writer and a team lead

**University of Central Florida**

* Has a “Homeless Student Committee” <https://scs.sdes.ucf.edu/services/>
  + Screen students who complete homeless waiver
  + Make recommendations to Student Account Services
  + Provide students with resources
* Fee waiver for homeless students- Criteria for determining eligibility for homelessness waiver are monitored by Student Account Services. Additional information about tuition eligibility requirements is found under Florida Statutes Chapter 1009.25(2)(f)
* Has a helpful FAQ resource on Website <https://scs.sdes.ucf.edu/faq/>
* Has a button on website for people to “report accessibility barriers”
* Has online training modules and an employee resource toolbox for faculty/staff
* Hosts a National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week <https://scs.sdes.ucf.edu/nhhaw/>
* Define homelessness as “According to the Florida state statute, a student can identify as homeless when that student “lack[s] a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence or whose primary nighttime residence is a public or private shelter designed to provide temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or a public or private pace not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.”

**DePaul University**

* <https://us.depaulcharity.org/dax-program-chicago>
* DePaul University estimates that 50 students are homeless or housing insecure in a given academic quarter.
* Dax program- To address the issue of college homelessness in Chicago, Depaul USA established the Dax Program in 2014. This innovative program provides housing, case management, counseling referrals, transportation, food, textbook assistance, and educational reimbursements to homeless or housing insecure college students. The program's theory of change is that education is the gateway to future independence and personal fulfillment. The program is therefore designed to provide supports to move students towards graduation.
* Program started by matching students with host families
* Gradually, the program evolved to include more housing options to fit specific students’ needs including an apartment and dorm room. In October 2017, Depaul USA opened its first Dax House. The house provides six (6) students and a house manager a place to call home. Students pay minimum rent of $150 per month and are asked to work ten (10) hours a week. Upon graduation, students remain in the Dax Program for an additional three (3) months to ensure a smooth transition into the workforce and market rate housing. A second Dax House will open in 2019.

**North Carolina State University**

* **Background:**
  + Location: Raleigh, NC
  + Residential Population: 403,892
  + Urban area
  + Student Population: 35,479 (undergraduate and postgraduate students)
  + 4-year public institution
* **NC State University Program: Pack Essential**
  + Food pantry, community kitchen, temporary and emergency housing (case-by-case basis), there are presently 2 shelter options

**San José State University**

* **Background:**
  + Location: San José, CA
  + Residential Population: 945,942
  + Noted as an affluent area in Silicon Valley
  + Student Population: 32,773 (undergraduate and postgraduate students)
  + 4-year public institution
* **San José Program: Guardian Scholars**
  + The program works with students who were in foster care, wards of the court under legal guardianship, or emancipated from foster care
  + Provides students with campus, community, and financial resources such as academic advising, workshops, and career prep
* **Qualifications of the Guardian Scholars Program**
  + Must be a US citizen or permanent resident
  + Must be a California resident
  + Certified as homeless
  + Admitted to SJSU
  + Must be a student who was in foster care, a ward of the court under legal guardianship, or emancipated from foster care
  + Must submit a personal essay and documentation from the foster care system

**UCLA**

* **Background**
  + Location: Los Angeles, CA
  + Residential Population: 4 million
  + Urban, metropolitan area
  + Student population: 45,428
  + 4-year public institution
* **UCLA Program: Students 4 Students**
  + Provides academic year-round housing and food services to university students between the ages of 18-24
  + The goal of the program is to help students transition into stable and permanent housing
  + Student volunteers run the services provided by S4S and the program receives help from the local community
* **Students 4 Students Services:**
  + Grab-and-Go breakfast, hot dinner, bed with linens, laundry and shower facilities, a safe place to leave belongings, and monthly travel stipend
  + Case management
* **Qualifications for the S4S Program:**
  + There is an application process, however, I could not see the questions or prompt for the application because as of March 2019, the building is at full capacity and there is a waitlist that requires a university email

**UMass Lowell University**

* **Background:** 
  + Location: Lowell, MA
  + Boston Metropolitan area
  + Residential Population: 106,519
  + Student Population: 17,849 (undergraduate and graduate students)
  + Noted as an emerging College Town
  + 4-year public institution
* **UMass Lowell Basic Needs Programs:**
* Navigators Club
  + Student and faculty organized
  + Food pantry with non-perishables and personal care items
  + Monthly food drives
  + Currently working to create a community connection in order to sustain supplies yearly
  + Hosts a free annual Thanksgiving Dinner that requires an RSVP and name
* Support Our Students (SOS)
  + SOS is a meal donation program where students can either donate leftover meal swipes, or purchase a meal for other students who are fooScholarshipsd insecure
  + Food insecurity is determined by a 12-month question model
* Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC)
  + There are 4 designated buildings (funded by the state and grants) on-campus for students who are 25 years old or younger and in good academic standing to occupy if they cannot afford housing
  + Provides meals, emergency housing, and transitional housing to those who are hungry and/or homeless
  + The program also supports those who need assistance in remaining in a home
  + Case managers help students become self-sufficient and acquire stable food and housing resources

**West Chester University**

* **Background:**
  + Location: West Chester, PA
  + Residential Population: 18,461
  + Student Population: 17,005 (undergraduate and graduate students)
  + Classified as a College Town
  + 4-year public institution
* **West Chester Promise Program:**
  + Supplies year-round on-campus housing accommodations
  + Pantry: Non-perishables, fresh produce from university community garden, personal care items, school supplies, and clothing (winter and career attire)
  + Amazon wish list established to replenish pantry with needed products
  + Members of the Promise Program are granted priority campus employment opportunities
  + Scholarships are designed explicitly for students within the program
  + Monthly dinner and mentorship meetings
  + Community supporters are all local food bank organizations