WHICH STUDENTS ARE HOMELESS OR HUNGRY?
It's not always easy to know!

Homelessness

According to data collected through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) there are estimated to be 58,000 homeless students on campuses nationwide. The actual number is likely much greater!

- Sexual, physical, or mental health issues
- Traumatic life events
- Conflict due to blended family issues
- Discharge from the foster care or juvenile justice system with no housing or income support
- Lack of space in shelters or doubled-up living arrangements
- Complications with parents or guardians due to issues such as:
  - Substance abuse in the home
  - Student’s pregnancy
  - Student’s sexual orientation

Some signs of homelessness

- Lack of continuity in education
- Erratic class attendance
- Experiencing difficulties in school
- Paperwork and documentation challenges
- Social and behavioral concerns
- Poor nutrition and/or health
- Poor hygiene
- Lack of a support system
- Statements made by the student

But homelessness may not always be obvious. Many students go to great lengths to blend in and hide the fact that they are homeless.

Hunger on Campus

Hunger often goes hand in hand with homelessness. It is estimated that nationally as many as three out of five college students go hungry. Food insecurity is often a symptom of life insecurity. These often invisible college students may skip meals to save money.

Lack of nutrition is an additional source of stress for those who may already be struggling.

Source: National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH), 2007

What can you do?
Know the resources
Help our students to succeed!

Make sure your students are aware of available campus resources

- Make a “general” announcement of services available on campus
  - Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS)
  - CalWORKs
  - Financial Aid
  - Counseling
  - Student Health Services
  - Transitional Services

Also contact the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) for additional suggestions for ways to assist students.

Provide information about other resources

- Inland Empire United Way, dial 211
  - Referrals for vital health and social services such as food, shelter, utility assistance, crisis counseling, health care and many other critical services

- The CalFresh Program, federally known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), helps low-income individuals and families buy food.
  - Students age 18 to 49, who attend higher education at least half time, may be eligible for SNAP
  - [http://www.calfresh.ca.gov/](http://www.calfresh.ca.gov/)

Don’t forget to support the campus Panther Pantry program!

The Panther Pantry provides free basic food supplies to Chaffey College Students who need access to emergency food and information about additional resources to address long term needs. For more information contact (909) 652-6504 or equity.support@chaffey.edu.

Information brought to you by the Chaffey College President’s Equity Council