



# Homelessness Barriers & Resources

MJC & COMMUNITY

LIZ CAMBOIA

# Identifying Students

- ▶ FAFSA, question 52 will ask them
- ▶ CCC Apply, will ask if them
- ▶ Fee Waiver will ask them
- ▶ Are they foster youth or LGBTQ+?
- ▶ Were they recently incarcerated?
- ▶ Are they a Veteran, and if so, are they connected with resources?
- ▶ You can let them know about housing grant, and that the fee is approved/independent if they list being homeless, Pirate Pantry, RSN, see if they disclose then or ask them If they would like you to refer them.

# Identifying Students

- ▶ You can ask if they have an address to list if they look stuck on this section of applications
- ▶ What time are they coming in, what is their posture like/do they seem tired, are they dressed outside of season, do they have a lot of stuff that they are carrying?
  - ▶ They need to leave shelters early, so are on campus early
  - ▶ Exhaustion is from trying to sleep in shelters, from living in their car, or not having anywhere to sleep.
  - ▶ If they are asking about FLOW in the Pathways center, there could be more to it.
- ▶ \*Start with immediate need (food, shelter, referrals), set follow up, set expectations of what is needed (documentation)

# Barriers

- ▶ Sleeping in car
  - ▶ They are able to park on campus per legislation
    - ▶ Process still being worked out, call campus safety to let them know the student is able to park overnight per [AB 302 legislation](#), as we have had some issues with campus safety
- ▶ Not able to get parental information, so need to be verified for independent status
- ▶ No housing/Limited shelter space, or being kicked out of YNC (temporarily)
- ▶ No computer – Library has limited amount
- ▶ No transportation or money for the bus
  - ▶ Students do not need to have a \$0 balance for the bus pass, only for the student activities sticker
  - ▶ FLOW – if they have class during the first hour, there might not be any food left when they get out. They can line up a half hour before 11 am though, so they are first in line

# Barriers

- ▶ No address
  - ▶ Students can use the post office on Kearny Ave. to receive mail
  - ▶ The pickup address for the mail is 715 Kearney Ave. Modesto, CA 95350.
  - ▶ An ID is required to pick up mail.
  - ▶ The following should be included as the delivery address:
    - ▶ *Student Name*
    - ▶ *General Delivery*
    - ▶ *Modesto, CA 95350-9999*
    - ▶ *United States of America*
- ▶ No access to showers
  - ▶ Shower code can be given out, students need to use during business hours only, and athletics/classes have priority. [ED Code 76011](#)
    - ▶ Men's locker room: 27084
    - ▶ Women's locker room: 18587

# Barriers

- ▶ No access to do laundry
  - ▶ Working on possible options (laundry shuttle, on site through basic needs)
- ▶ Clothes for interviewing – Dejeune has a budget and can help
- ▶ Storing items – Locker room, daily use allowed/need a pad lock and cannot leave overnight
- ▶ No phone or email
  - ▶ Do they have a current case manager already who can help them get a phone?
    - ▶ They will once they check in at a shelter, YNC, with Stephanie Hand, etc.
  - ▶ You may need to help them set up a Gmail account
- ▶ ID, SS Card, Birth Certificate lost or stolen, no tax documents if they filed
  - ▶ Direct them to the resources needed, tax transcript, county records, etc.
  - ▶ Case managers can help them get these things and possibly get the fees waived

# Barriers

- ▶ FAFSA (need to submit documentation for Independent status/homeless status)
  - ▶ Many are missing this step
  - ▶ If previously verified as homeless, can view in SSGD screen
    - ▶ Currently need to be verified each year, that is changing on 2023-2024 FAFSA (will only need to be verified once, and status will roll over unless student indicates otherwise)
- ▶ Pirate Pantry Intake form
  - ▶ Requires an upload of picture and ID
  - ▶ Asks a lot of questions and takes at least 20 minutes, longer if student needs help uploading information
  - ▶ Students may not have an ID
  - ▶ Send an email to Jonathan as well/Pirate Pantry Referral – let him know if there are issues the student had or other barriers preventing them from completing intake

# MJC Resources

- ▶ Housing Grant
  - ▶ Letter from shelter staff, high school homeless liaison, LGBTQIA+/2S Collaborative, Jonathan Arias/Garett from LSS, Stephane Hand, Center for Human Services Case manager (current MJC contact)
  - ▶ Personal letter, and any supporting documentation, medical bills, eviction notice, police or accident report, etc.
  - ▶ Working on current students without a high school GED (so no FAFSA), to be apply to apply
    - ▶ Jose and Aurelia
- ▶ Lutheran Social Services (LSS) referral – Refer student to Jonathan Arias to start process (Up to age 24)
- ▶ Stephanie Hand – Center for Human Services, YNC Case Manager (temporary MJC contact while they fill Housing Navigator position)
- ▶ Bus pass/shuttle between East & West
- ▶ Pirate Pantry & food vouchers they can get daily if they go in

# MJC Resources

- ▶ Micro Grant (when funds available)
- ▶ [MJC Housing and Homelessness page](#)
- ▶ I have access to limited funds through a JBAY grant for 2022-2023, for foster youth and homeless youth, if there is a small immediate funds need and we still have funds for the semester, I might be able to help.
- ▶ Priority level 1 Registration (up to age 25)
  - ▶ Make sure if you submit housing grant, or help the student with FAFSA that if student has a letter to verify, they should also be getting priority with Enrollment
    - ▶ Process being worked out still, so make sure fin aid, or enrollment has entered student in SSGD screen, and that student has met core steps.
- ▶ Career Services should be a follow up as well, once immediate needs are addressed
- ▶ MJC Counseling – Let Terri know student needs an appointment (Matthew has approved for these students to get an appointment as an exception even during walk in only times)

# Community Resources

- ▶ [Youth Navigation Center](#)/ Marlene Marron, 209-526-1441 (Up to age 24)
  - ▶ You can submit referral form to YNC as well
- ▶ [Stanislaus County Housing & Homeless Access Center](#)
  - ▶ 912 D Street Modesto | 209-272-8800 (No age requirement, but is impacted)
- ▶ [211 Stanislaus County](#)
- ▶ Heart Team Modesto (assistance & may be able to help them get a hotel if shelter is full - call them, do not give number out to students)
  - ▶ Veda 209-750-8334 | Randy 209-614-5050
- ▶ Call shelters and ask if they have room, especially younger students are not as familiar with shelters
- ▶ Help student apply for [Cal Fresh](#)
- ▶ Direct student to EDD, if they may qualify for unemployment
- ▶ Full list of resources I have come across on the [MJC Housing and Homelessness page](#)

# Updates for 2023-2024 FAFSA

- ▶ Students will not need to disclose more than once that they are homeless or verify status, it will roll over
- ▶ MJC Financial Aid specialists will be able to/required to make the determination for the student, if the student cannot get an outside letter to verify.

Questions?

