

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Weekly Newsletter

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National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

We wanted to use this week's newsletter to recognize that it is National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week.



Did you know?

⇒ 13% of students attending community college experience homelessness.

⇒ 22% of college students experience food insecurity.

According to the *College and University Basic Needs Insecurity: A National #RealCollege Survey Report* published in April of 2019 by the Hope Center at Temple University:

⇒ 48% of Community College Students experienced Food Insecurity in the last 30 days

⇒ 60 % of Community College Students experience Housing Insecurity

⇒ Seven in 10 community college students responding to the survey experienced food insecurity, housing insecurity, or homelessness during the previous year

What does this mean?

If you, or any of your friends have struggled with housing, being able to afford food, or afford balanced meals, You Are Not Alone. We hope that you feel comfortable here at MassBay reaching out for help and are utilizing a wide array of resources that can support you while you do the hard work of earning your degree. The *College and University Basic Needs Insecurity: A National #RealCollege Survey Report* also indicated that a GAO report written in 2017 found that 57% of students who were eligible for SNAP benefits were not utilizing them.

This week, we encourage all of our students to explore more of the state and local recourse that may be available to you!

- MassBay has a food scholarship program that provides healthy food delivered to your door.
- There are programs and resources in your community to assist with housing and employment support.
- SNAP and other state and federal programs exist to help support students and families with food and housing insecurity and these applications have been simplified during the pandemic. [Link to SNAPP](#)



My name is **Marybeth Fletcher** and I am **The Case manager and Resource Specialist** at MassBay. This is my first fall semester at MassBay and I am working hard to meet as many students virtually as I can. I am available to every student with any questions or concerns about accessing food and housing resources or who have any problems that interfere with their success at MassBay. My "door" is always open and I would love to meet you.

My email address is mfletcher@massbay.edu and my phone number is 781-591-0612.

If you need help accessing these resources or would like more information about any of these programs, I can help you!

Find Local Community Resources:

Follow this link to explore local options for assistance with Food, Housing, Cash Assistance and other local charities, and organizations that are helping their communities through these difficult times. If you need help accessing or understanding these resources and programs, please reach out to MaryBeth Fletcher who is happy to help!

[Link for our Guide to Local Community Resources](#)

**Look for MassBay's food scholarship application in December for the spring semester*

SNACC and Campus Food Insecurity Efforts:

MassBay Student Food Scholarship Application

Since we will continue to be virtual for the Spring 2021 Semester, our SNACC (Student Nourishment & Care) committee will continue to offer a Grocery Delivery Scholarship to help support our students who are experiencing food insecurity. The SNACC Committee has partnered with Imperfect Foods to provide something convenient, safe and nutritious, delivered right to your door. Students will be able to apply for the Student Food Scholarship for the Spring semester starting in mid-December. Students will receive an email from the committee when the application opens and more information can be found on our website: [SNACC Website](#)

[SNACC Website](#)

***Many of the scholarships, funds, and resources we provide our students come from amazing donors who generously support MassBay. If you or anyone you know would like to contribute and support our efforts, you can [Donate Here](#).**

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