National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

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

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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 being able to pay your bills, 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.

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!

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MassBay Student Engagement