HAWK CARES PROGRAM

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Kate Hutchinson - Deputy Director, Lutheran Social Services
The Issue

• In 2019, nearly 167,000 students responded to the #RealCollege survey:
  • 39% of students were food insecure in the prior 30 days
  • 46% of students were housing insecure in the previous year*
  • 17% of students were homeless in the previous year

• In 2019, more than 23,000 parenting students responded to the #RealCollege survey:
  • 53% of parenting students were food insecure in the prior 30 days
  • 68% of parenting students were housing insecure in the previous year
  • 17% of parenting students were homeless in the previous year
Setting College Priorities

• Started off small, grass roots efforts
• Conducted surveys
• Joined #RealCollegeCalifornia Network
• Discussed resources needed to address issue (space, funding, staffing)

Student Leadership Involvement

• Student Ambassador Projects
  • Housing Insecurity
  • Food Insecurity
• Associated Students of CRC committed to basic needs advocacy
Pre COVID-19

• The Hawk Spot (Food Pantry)
  • Partnership with Sac Food Bank
  • Open three days a week
  • Fresh produce on Thursdays

• The Hawk Swap (Clothes Closet)
  • Provided access to new or gently used clothing to students in need

• Gowns for Grads
  • Created by the CRC Alumni Association to provide students with access to graduation caps and gowns
During COVID-19

- **Grocery Gift Cards**
  - March: $25 grocery cards sent to 100 students ($2500)
  - Mid-August: 440 e-cards sent to 295 students (Hunger Free Grant)

- **Emergency Hotel Program**
  - Established relationship with Extended Stay America

- **Home for Hawks**
  - Partnership with Lutheran Social Services and Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency

- **Food Distribution Drive-Ups**
  - Our last day on campus, before the closure, we provided nearly 100 bags of food to students
  - On November 6th, we plan on providing nearly 400 bags of food to students
Re-opening plans

- Ribbon Cutting for Hawk Cares Center: Opening Fall 2021
- CRC to host Basic Needs Summit: Summer 2021
- CalFresh Collaboration with CSU Chico’s Center for Healthy Communities
- Continue connections with #RealCollegeCalifornia and The Hope Center for College, Community and Justice for resources
• Through partnership, created LSS Case Manager/Hawk Cares Advocate
  • Housed at CRC

• Provided 10 housing vouchers to CRC students between the ages of 18-24

• Provides case management for three years
• Provides expertise in locating housing and service provision to students

• Provides assistance with navigating the housing voucher process

• Provides assistance with finding housing

• Provides assistance with setting goals for school and housing, along with maintaining personal wellness

• Provides information and coaching on how to be a good tenant
I wanted to thank you so much for the assistance! It has helped me and my family especially at this time.

- Sherie (CRC Student/Received gift card)
Awesome, thank you so much! I appreciate your help through these hard times. Have a blessed day!

- Marisa (CRC Student/Received gift card)
Questions?
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