



Basic Needs Insecurity Among Undergraduates

Jed Richardson
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Past work

- Student interviews
- *Hungry to Learn*
- Real College 1 & 2
- *Hungry and Homeless in College*

Upcoming

- Fall 2017 survey report
- Real College 3
- Evaluations of interventions

OLDER AND MORE RACIALLY DIVERSE



38 PERCENT
OF ALL TODAY'S UNDERGRADUATES
ARE OLDER THAN 25.

THE VISION THAT MOST OF US HAVE OF
COLLEGE STUDENTS – 18- TO 21-YEAR-OLDS
WHO ATTEND SCHOOL FULL-TIME – ONLY
MAKE UP ABOUT A THIRD OF THE
COLLEGE POPULATION.



ENROLLMENT AMONG
HISPANIC STUDENTS
TRIPLED
SINCE THE MID-1990'S,



**AND BLACK STUDENT
ENROLLMENT GREW BY
72 PERCENT.**

AND THOSE TRENDS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGH 2021, WITH BLACK ENROLLMENT
PROJECTED TO GROW BY **25 PERCENT**, HISPANIC STUDENTS PROJECTED TO INCREASE BY
42 PERCENT, AND ONLY A **4 PERCENT** INCREASE IN WHITE STUDENTS FORECASTED.

FINANCIALLY SUPPORT THEMSELVES... AND OFTEN STRUGGLE TO MAKE ENDS MEET



ALMOST HALF OF **TODAY'S STUDENTS**

ARE ON THEIR OWN FINANCIALLY. HALF OF THOSE STUDENTS (25%) HAVE FINANCIAL DEPENDENTS OF THEIR OWN.

4.8 MILLION

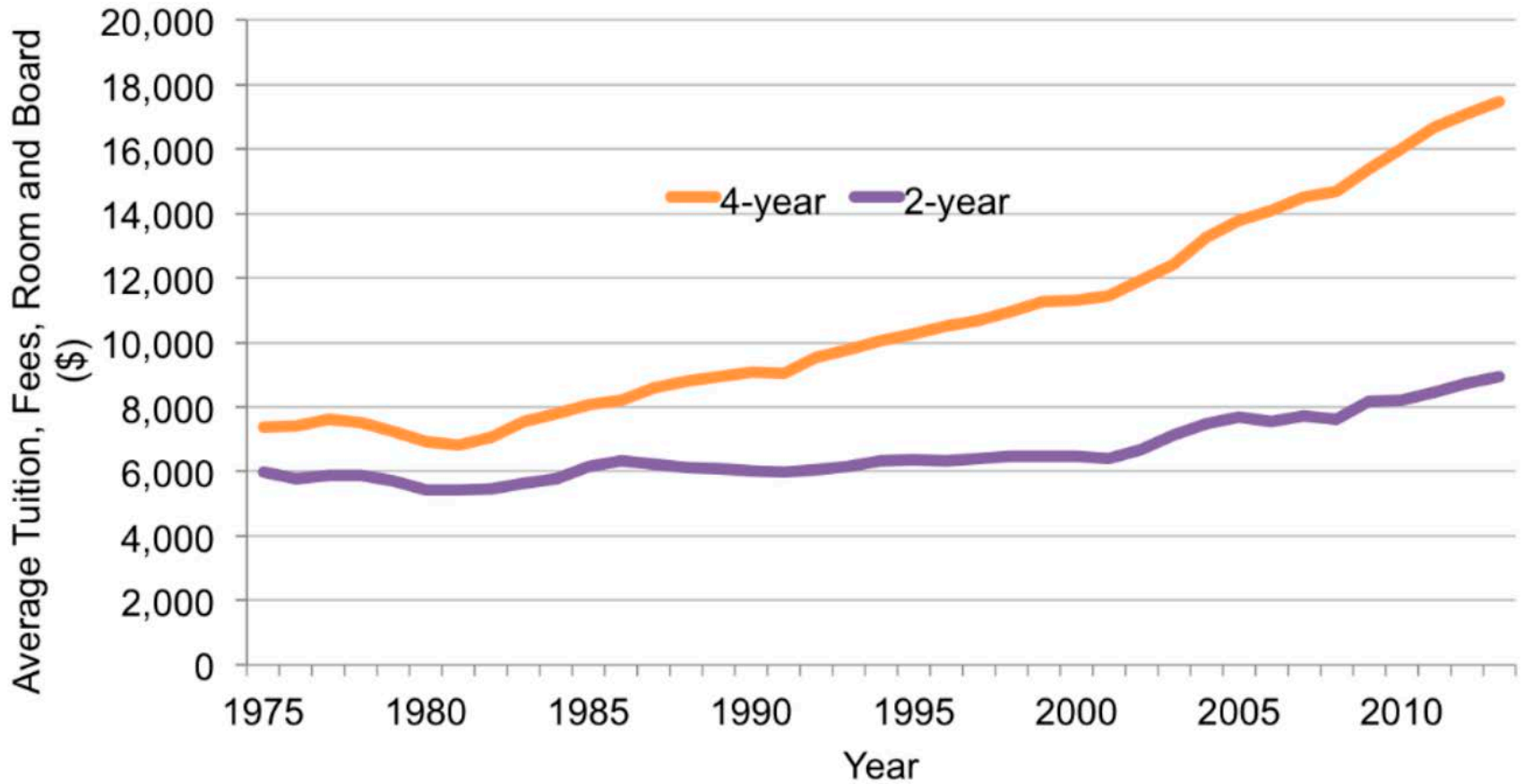
POSTSECONDARY STUDENTS ARE PARENTS, AND OF THOSE, **61 PERCENT** HAVE NO MONEY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COST OF COLLEGE.



88 PERCENT

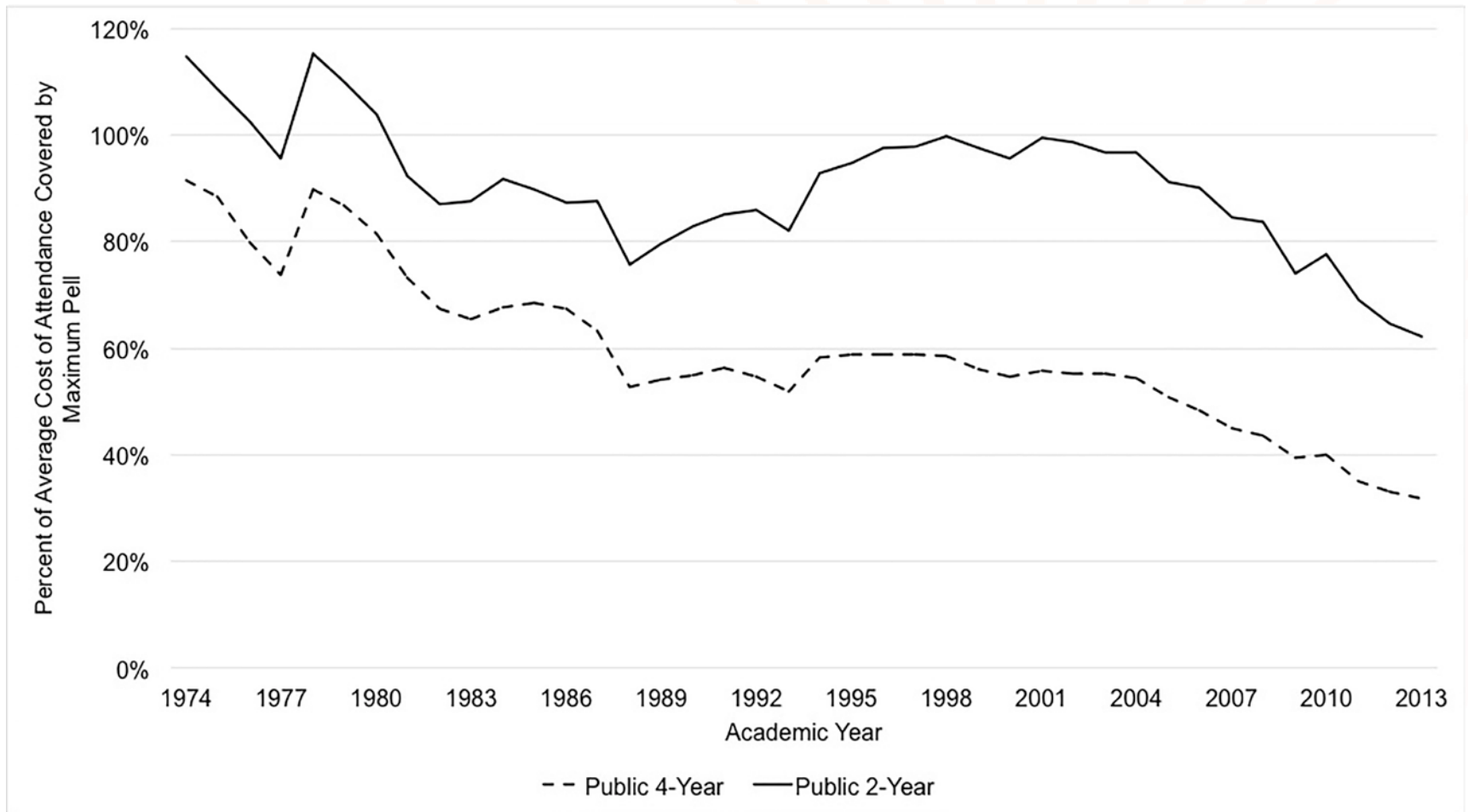
OF SINGLE STUDENT-PARENTS HAVE INCOMES **BELOW 200 PERCENT** OF THE POVERTY LINE.

Source: Lumina Foundation, 2015 Infographic



Source: Baum and Ma, *Trends in College Pricing 2015*

Purchasing Power of the Pell Grant



Source: Baum and Ma, *Trends in College Pricing*, 2014



WISCONSIN
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Assessing food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness

- Hungry to Learn – 4,000 undergraduates at 10 community colleges
- Hungry and Homeless in College – 33,000 undergraduates at 70 community colleges
- Fall 2017 – undergraduates at ~65 2-year and 4-year colleges

USDA definitions:

- High— no access problems or limitations
- Marginal— typically, anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage
- Low— reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet, possible reduced intake
- Very low— multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake

USDA Food Security Survey Mod (6-item, past 30 days)	HtL	H & H
The food that I bought just didn't last, and I didn't have money to get more.		
I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.		
Did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?		
3 or more days: Did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?		
Did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?		
Were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?		

USDA Food Security Survey Mod (6-item, past 30 days)	HtL	H & H
The food that I bought just didn't last, and I didn't have money to get more.	39%	52%
I couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.	43%	60%
Did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?	28%	46%
3 or more days: Did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?	22%	32%
Did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money for food?	26%	43%
Were you ever hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food?	22%	36%

USDA Definition	HtL	H & H
High security (score = 0)	48%	33%
Marginal security (score = 1)	13%	12%
Low security (score = 2-4)	19%	23%
Very low security (score = 5-6)	20%	33%

Housing insecurity

- High cost relative to income
- Poor quality
- Instability
- Overcrowding

Homelessness – far end of spectrum

Housing Insecurity

Measures of housing insecurity (past 12 mo)	HtL	H & H
Housing insecure (any of the below items)	52%	51%
Didn't pay full amount of rent or mortgage	18%	21%
Didn't pay full amount of utilities	22%	28%
Moved 2 or more times per year	12%	14%
Doubled up	11%	17%
Moved in with other people due to financial problems	14%	18%
Difficulty paying rent	22%	-

Measures of homelessness (past 12 mo)	HtL	H & H
Homeless (any of the below items)	13%	14%
Thrown out of home	5%	6%
Evicted from home	2%	3%
Stayed in a shelter	1%	2%
Stayed in an abandoned building, auto, or other place not meant as housing	3%	4%
Did not know where you were going to sleep, even for one night	1%	8%
Currently, does not have a home	1%	2%

How do these national data reflect your institution?

- What do you know about basic needs insecurity on your campus?
- If you don't know, how could you collect data?
- How can you find students like Mary Baxter at your college?

What can we do?

- Provide resources
- Promote and simplify access to resources
- Eliminate stigma

Provide resources:

- Local supports and partnerships
- Benefits access – all \$ is green
 - SNAP
 - Housing/utility supports
 - Health care
 - Child care
 - Transportation
 - Veteran's benefits
- Emergency aid
- Campus food pantries – College and University Food Bank Alliance

Type of Assistance	Food Insecure Students
SNAP	29%
WIC	6%
Receive free food or meals	23%
Housing assistance	13%
Utility Assistance	5%
TANF	4%
SSI	4%
SSDI	4%
Medicaid or public health insurance	26%
Child care assistance	5%
Unemployment compensation	3%
Transportation assistance	4%
Tax refunds	24%
Veterans benefits	4%

Promote and simplify access:

- Provide faculty and staff with information on resources available in the community (syllabus)

“Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable doing so. This will enable her to provide any resources that she may possess.”

Promote and simplify access:

- Provide faculty and staff with information on resources available in the community (syllabus)
- Single point of contact model
- Expand availability of support personnel – case managers and social workers

Eliminate stigma:

- Resources available at center of campus
- Offered with other student services
- Stigma reduction efforts – Oh SNAP!, Single Stop

How is your college addressing basic needs for your students?

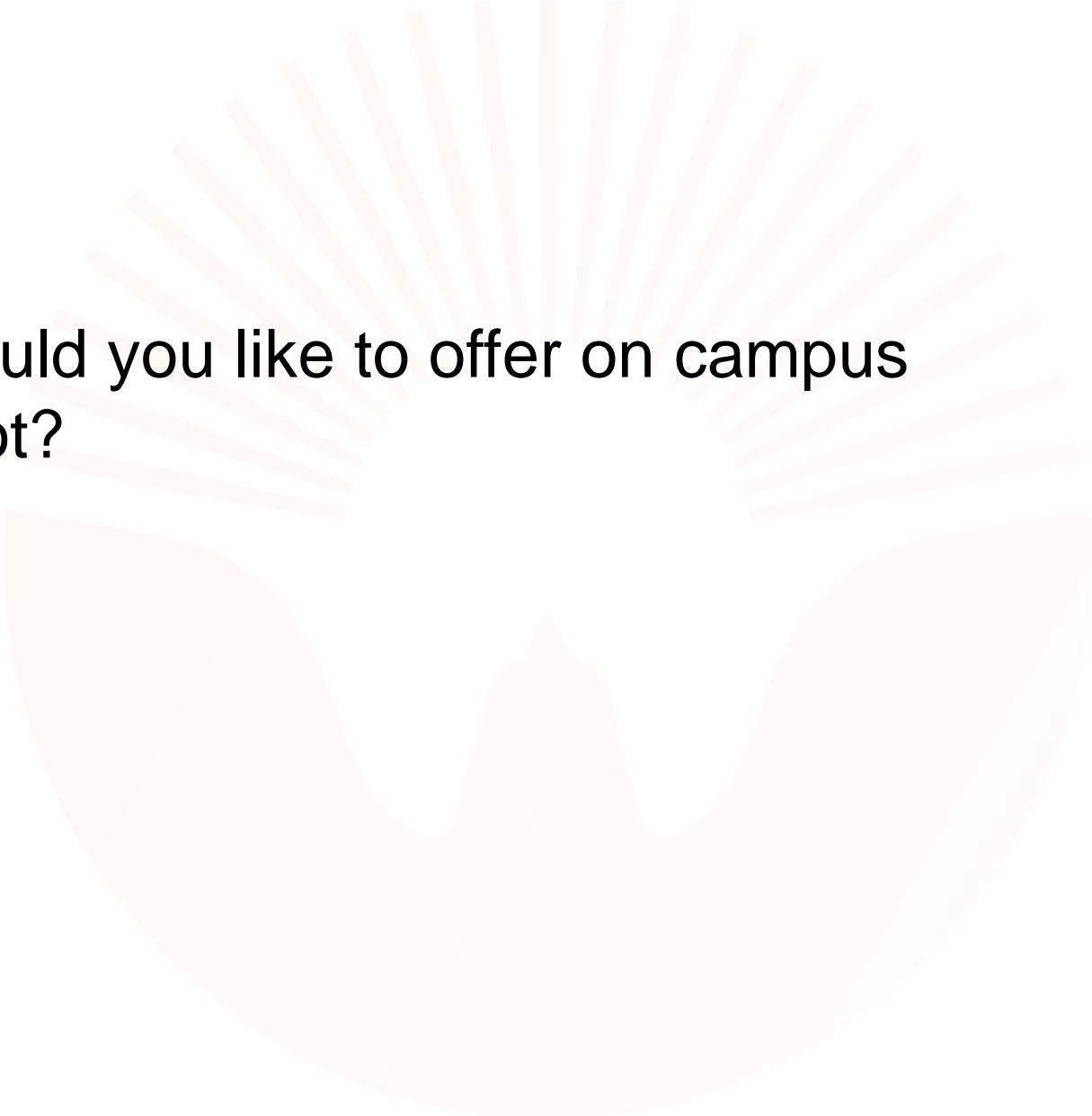
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Students' basic needs are about success.

“If students do not have a safe place to live, food to eat, or a way to get to school, they cannot do their best in the classroom.”

- College President

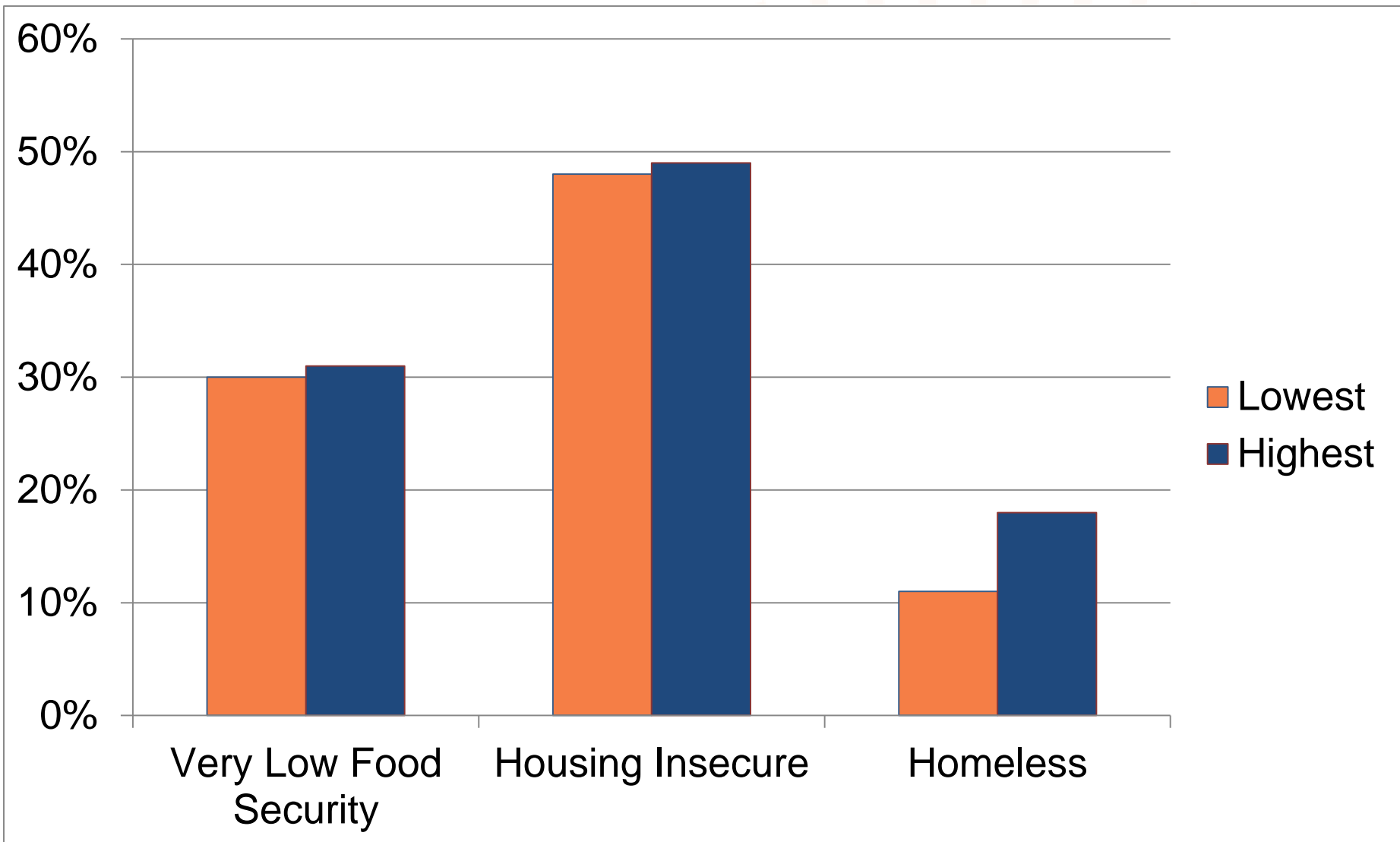
What services would you like to offer on campus but can't? Why not?

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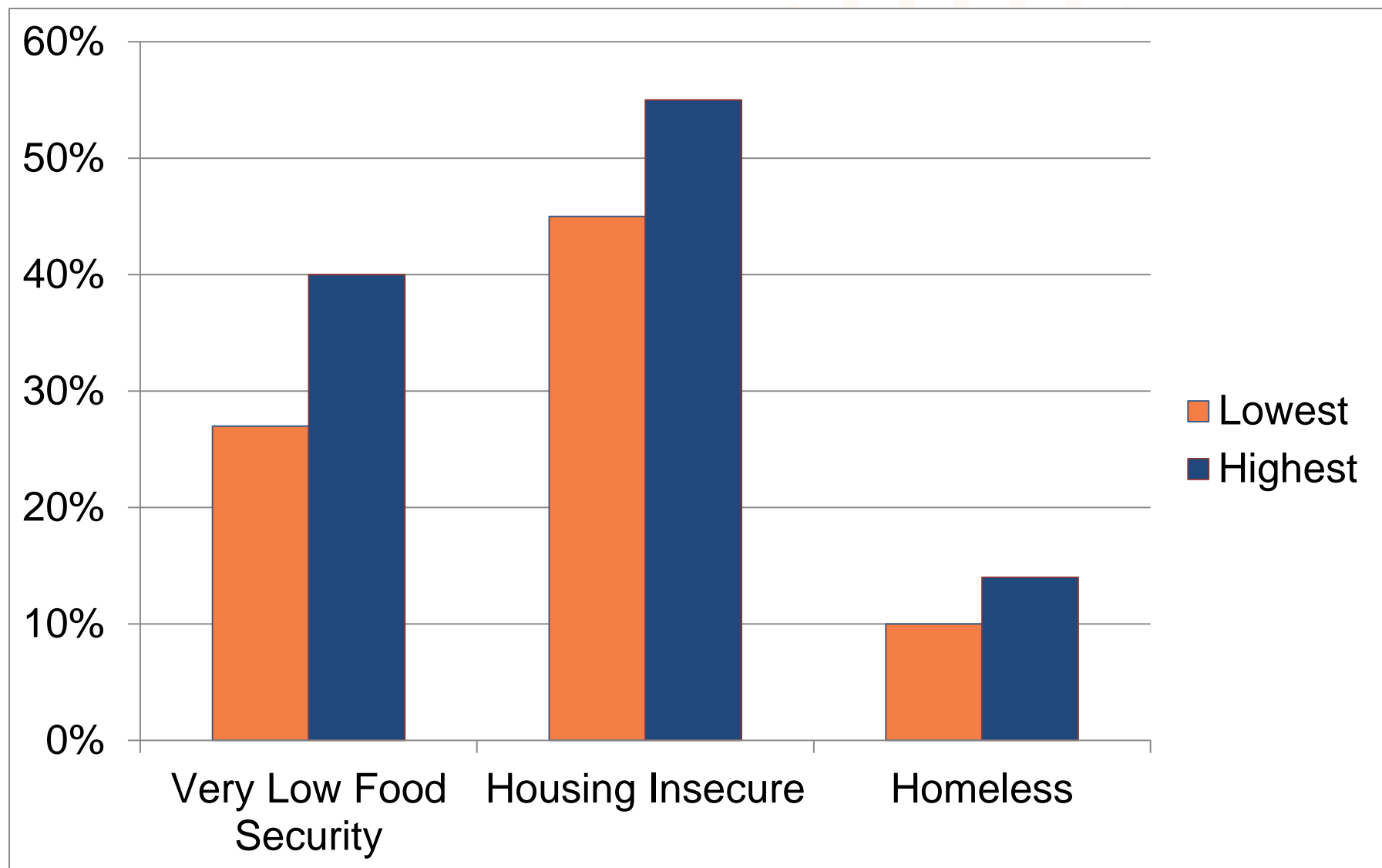
What are strategies you might use to encourage students to ask for help?



Cost of Living Differences in Basic Needs Insecurity



County Unemployment in Basic Needs Insecurity



% Pell Difference in Basic Needs Insecurity

