

From: Jan Bernstein-Chargin
Sent: Friday, October 27, 2017 2:38 PM
To: Ryan Shook; Scott Sandler; Annette Gutierrez; Susan Sweeney; mchaterjee@gavilan.edu; Carina Cisneros; Douglas Achterman; Kimberly Smith; Amelia Murphy; Alice Dufresne-Reyes; Sydney LaRose; Veronica Martinez; Denise Apuzzo; Kathleen K. Moberg
Subject: Homeless FIG
When: Tuesday, November 07, 2017 11:00 AM-12:00 PM.
Where:
When: Tuesday, November 07, 2017 11:00 AM-12:00 PM. (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

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Everyone—We had set the next meeting for November 2 but I think we should change it as a number of us have been called away to a training off-campus that day.

Notes from October 20 meeting:

Present: Jan Bernstein-Chargin, Carina Cisneros, Mohua Chatterjee, Scott Sandler

Discussed goals of the group:

- determine how we can identify or quantify homeless students.
- help educate homeless students about resources, on and off campus
- make sure we are in compliance with new legislation requiring priority registration (SB 906) and shower access (AB 1995) for homeless students
- educate faculty about how best to help
- “beat the drums” of justice (for example, why does priority reg stop at age 25 for homeless and former foster youth?)
- fight the stigma of homelessness that may keep students from requesting help or disclosing their situation

Campus Resources:

- Carina Cisneros is the designated liaison to homeless students

Off-campus resources:

- Gilroy Armory: open now through end of March. Intake through Gilroy Compassion Center, space is for whole cold weather season and includes dinner, showers, medical van, connection to other services

Needs and ideas:

- a visible resource page on the website, and also on paper as homeless students may not have internet access (or electricity) off campus.
- Basic Needs resource posters laminated and posted in classrooms
- Information posting inside restroom stalls
- Build partnerships with intersecting groups: athletics, the VRC, Foustier Youth, LGBTQ club, AEC, etc
- Partnerships with Service Learning and Civic Engagement, possible panel presentations

Data collection:

- Mohua found a simple questionnaire that can be customized for Gavilan and made available to students at Food Pantry, Financial Aid, and other likely points of contact

SINCE THE MEETING:

- Jan found out from Veronica Martinez that the FAFSA has a question about homelessness and can be used to identify those students who completed a FAFSA
- Sabrina set up a Canvas classroom for the FIG to share documents

There is so much we can do, and this small group has a lot of energy.