

HOW TO HELP STUDENTS IN A FINANCIAL CRISIS



Nationally, over 40% of college students will become food insecure or unsheltered at some point during their education. Learning to identify and communicate with these students can help connect them to important resources.



Reduced access to food and stable housing is correlated with poor academic performance .

640

Rowan is one of 640 universities in the USA with a food and resource pantry.

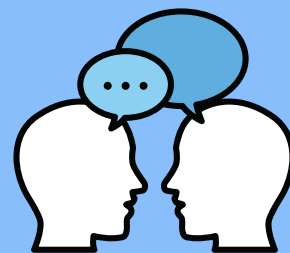
WHAT TO LOOK FOR:



1. Students spending long periods of time in one space
2. Repeated outfits without laundering
3. Continuous use of free food or resources
4. Asking questions about resources on campus (scholarships, aid packages...)
5. Late to class or appointments because of walking/transportation issues

WHAT NOT TO SAY:

1. “Everyone experiences money problems.”
2. “What did you do to get yourself into this mess?”
3. “I can’t believe you did that?”
4. “Why did you buy that if you’re short of money?”
5. “Here is exactly what you need to do.”



HOW TO TALK TO A STUDENT WHO MIGHT BE IN CRISIS

- Keep food easily available for student use in office
- Keep brochures and flyers available for student browsing in waiting areas
- Speak directly
- Listen carefully
- If comfortable, share your own experiences
- Use “tell me more”
- Refer to appropriate resources