

Efforts to Support Basic Needs

Dr. BJ Snowden

Interim Vice President of Educational
Services & Student Support

WHY

While supporting our students with their basic needs was important prior to the pandemic, the demand for services has become even more critical since the onset of the pandemic. Staff has provided support to students for their basic needs in a variety of ways since March 2020, even as our colleges transitioned to remote services.

Critical Areas of Support



**HOUSING
INSECURITY**



**FOOD
INSECURITY**



**MENTAL
HEALTH**

SURVEYS

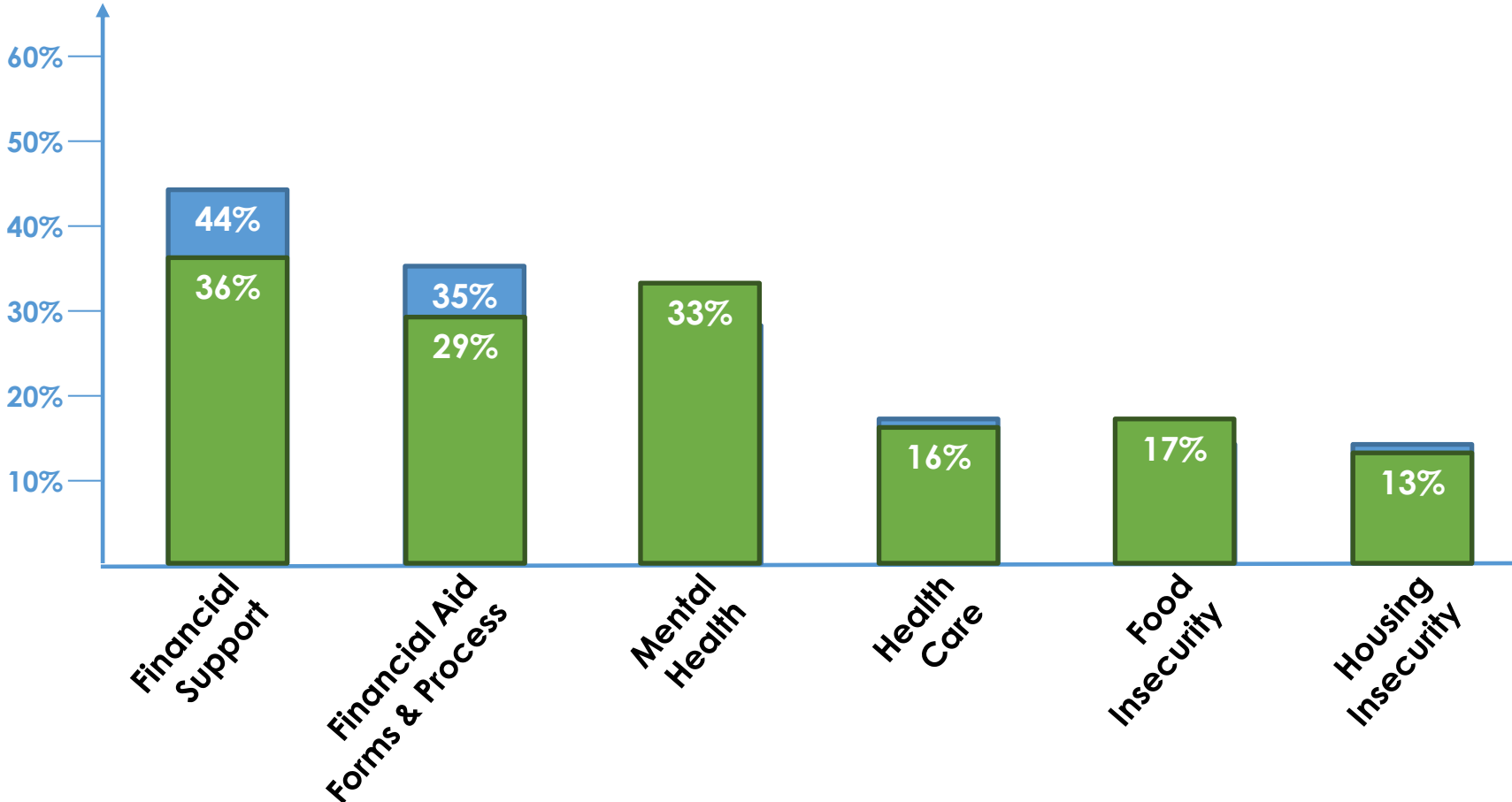
- **Partner with District Office of Research to assess Basic Needs**
- **Integration of Basic Needs questions in student surveys:**
 - Categorical Program Surveys in Fall '20
 - Return to Campus Student Survey
 - Work with College Leads to provide outreach and connect students to programs and supports
- **Hope Center's #RealCollege Institutional Capacity–Building Cohort**
 - Applied as a districtwide team to participate in 2021-2022 cohort
 - Increases the organizational and programmatic capacity of colleges and universities to meet students' basic needs and promote academic success.
 - Members will learn how to assess, analyze, and address students' experiences with basic needs security

SURVEYS: DATA HIGHLIGHTS

Q: Identify areas where you feel you need additional support

Return to Campus Survey in Spring '21

700 of the 2325 survey respondents requested additional support in at least one category



HOUSING INSECURITY

- **Emergency Hotel Voucher Program**
 - 43 of 52 weeks over the year, students benefitted from this program
- **CRC Housing Partnership as a Model**
- **Partnering with Lutheran Services, Opportunities with Community Organizations**

FOOD INSECURITY

- **CalFresh Outreach**
 - Student Ambassadors through Foundation
 - Automated Messaging to Work Study Eligible Students through eServices
 - Funding through State Chancellor's Office: \$94,426 for 2021-2022 efforts
 - CalFresh Promotional Video
- **Partnership with Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services (SFBFS)**
 - Critical partner:
 - Fall '20 through Fall '21: Provision of food kits to ARC, CRC and SCC during remote operations
 - Spring '22: In discussion; planning for re-opening of campuses
 - Finalizing MOU in Summer '21
 - Emphasis on CalFresh Support and Outreach
- **Food Distributions**
 - Number of Food Kits distributed Districtwide each Month: ~1,600
- **Food Lockers**
 - Access to non-perishable items, outside of service hours

MENTAL HEALTH *STUDENT HEALTH & WELLNESS SERVICES*

- **Telehealth Services**
 - 24/7 medical and mental telehealth care for all students as part of the Los Rios Health Services program; funded by the Health Services Fee
- **Other Significant Basic Needs Supports from Health & Wellness Services:**
 - **Provision of Hygiene Kits at all Food Distributions**
 - Include deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, feminine hygiene products
 - **Nurses are on-site at Food Distributions**
 - Support and ensure compliance with safety protocols

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

- **Grants:**
 - Collaborate with Foundation Office to identify and secure grants
 - Exploring ways to regionally support this work
- **Laptops for Foster Youth**
- **Grocery Gift Cards**
- **CARES Emergency Fund**
- **Fundraising for:**
 - Student Emergency Fund
 - Los Rios Cares Program
 - Emergency Hotel Program
- **Recruitment of Volunteers for Basic Needs Efforts**

FUTURE PROJECTS

- **Districtwide Basic Needs Workgroup in 2021-2022**
- **Spring '22 Basic Needs Summit at CRC**
- **Los Rios to partner with SFBFS in contract with Ca. Dept. of Social Services**
 - Allows SFBFS to reimburse Los Rios 35% of CalFresh outreach costs, including salaries, mileage reimbursement, outreach materials and others costs
- **Anticipated Participation in #RealCollege Institutional Capacity–Building Cohort in 2021-2022**