Housing Peer Navigator Job Description

Job Description:

The Housing Peer Navigator will play a crucial role in supporting students who are experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness by providing peer-based navigation assistance. This position is designed for students enrolled at the community college who have lived experience with housing insecurity, making them uniquely qualified to provide empathy, guidance, and support to their peers. The navigator will help students access on-campus and off-campus resources, collaborate with community organizations, and promote a supportive environment for students facing housing challenges.

Key Responsibilities:

- Serve as a knowledgeable peer resource for students experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness.
- Assist students in navigating campus housing resources, financial aid, and support services related to housing.
- Provide guidance on navigating the local community's coordinated entry system for housing, including shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing options.
- Build relationships and collaborate with off-campus community organizations, housing agencies, and nonprofits to maximize support for students.
- Address the stigma associated with homelessness within the campus and broader community, fostering an inclusive and supportive environment.
- Assist in educating students on housing rights and options available through local programs and the college.
- Work closely with college staff and departments to improve awareness and access to housing resources for students.
- Track student interactions and referrals, ensuring accurate records of assistance provided.
- Help plan and coordinate workshops, events, and outreach activities to increase awareness of available housing resources.
- Support students in balancing housing challenges with their academic pursuits, offering encouragement and resource referrals.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Strong knowledge of on-campus and local community housing resources and services.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to connect and empathize with peers.

- Ability to maintain confidentiality and work with sensitive student information.
- Strong organizational and problem-solving skills.
- Commitment to advocating for students facing housing and food insecurities.
- Ability to work collaboratively with diverse student populations, college staff, and community organizations.
- Experience in student leadership or peer mentoring.
- Knowledge of housing rights, affordable housing programs, and food insecurity services.