



On Point for College

Changing Lives Degree by Degree

*From application through
graduation and beyond!*

Supporting College Access

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onpointforcollege.org

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On Point for College Services

Core Beliefs:

- Make students feel welcome
- Try to find a way to say “YES”
- Don’t just refer to a “place”
Make a call to a caring person
- Feel like a family





About On Point for College

- Ginny Donohue, Founder
- Sam Rowser, Executive Director
- Open Enrollment Program – 7,000 students enrolled in 216 colleges/univ.
- In 27 community Centers
- Over 50% are not in high school when they join
- 30% have no parent in their life
- 2/3 start at a community college
- Over 70% return to college for 2nd year



Unique Elements of On Point for College

Access->Success->Transfer->Re-enrollment-> Transition to workforce

- Campus tours
- FAFSA and college applications
- College orientation supplies
- Transportation
- Campus Angel network
- On campus visits
- Job placement, resume, soft skills and interview techniques
- Certificate programs
- Help with eye glasses, winter coats, dentistry
- Limited funding for housing deposits



Our Presentation will Cover:

- Housing Challenged/Unaccompanied Youth
- Youth at Risk
- The Homestretch
- Introducing Housing Challenged Youth to College
- Academic Programs & Financial Aid
- Non-Academic Resources On Campus and in the Community
- Supporting College Access Checklist



Housing Challenged Youth

The legal definition of housing challenged/homeless youth includes youth who are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons...
- Living in motels, hotels or campgrounds
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, bus or train stations or abandoned buildings...



Housing Challenged Youth

In Conversation...

- Avoid using the word “homeless”
- Try...“transitional housing” or “housing challenged”
- Exercise sensitivity when talking with youth
- Respect student privacy – do not interview individual in front of others

Youth at Risk – Risk Factors

“Youth at Risk: are placed at risk by a problematic condition for a poor or harmful outcome”

- Poverty
- Racism
- Substance abuse
- Bullying
- Unqualified teachers
- Sexual assault and harassment
- Community violence
- Parental abuse
- Kicked out due to sexual orientation or pregnancy
- Exited from foster care without adequate housing or supports
- Immigrant parent returned to homeland
- Parents lose their living arrangements
 - Foreclosures
 - Unemployment
 - Lack of health insurance
 - Natural disasters
- Family dysfunction

Tips from Making the American
Dream a Reality for All Youth

Tips from NAEHCY

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Introducing Housing Challenged Youth to College

- Connecting Students with local college access programs
- Provide students with opportunities to attend college tours
- Help housing challenged students identify teachers/staff who can assist with letters of recommendation, essays, etc.



Introducing Housing Challenged Youth to College

- Assist students in obtaining fee waivers for SAT and ACT Exams
- Provide students with opportunities to complete career assessments
- Help students “make the most” of their college applications and fee waivers
- Help students prepare for Placement Tests, particularly for two year colleges



Academic Programs & Financial Aid

- Assist students with applying to EOP/HEOP/SEEK/CSTEP Programs
- Assist students in completing FAFSA & TAP applications appropriately
- Encourage Students to stay in touch with you for subsequent year determinations of housing challenged status
- Explain Financial Aid Award Letter to students



Non-Academic Resources to look for on campus and in the Community:

- Food Pantry
- Clothing
- Shelter
- Childcare
- Legal
- Counseling
- Employment
- Transportation
- Immigrant and Refugee services
- Veterans Administration
- Organizations supporting foster care youth
- Social workers
- Churches
- Teachers



Supporting College Access Checklist

Jennifer Pringle



Questions?

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Resources and References



National Association for the Education
of Homeless Children and Youth

P.O. Box 26274

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F: (763) 545-9499

www.naehcy.org

Making the American Dream
a Reality for All Youth

<http://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1014&context=nyar>

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