

SURVIVING SCHOOL: VOICES FOR CHANGE



My work and the content of this newsletter frequently look to the research, ideas, projects, and actions of the Wisconsin Hope Lab and founder Sara Goldrick-Rab, and I am excited to share information about their newest campaign **#REAL COLLEGE: Voices for Change**. Launched in April as a “*national call to action for today’s college student to share audio stories of what life is really like balancing academics and a lack of money,*” students are invited to share their stories to raise awareness, impact policy, and support broader efforts of systematic change.

Do you or a student you know have stories about the struggles of balancing life and attending school? Some ideas include but are not limited to: finding housing, not having enough to eat, experiencing homelessness, being a first-generation student, low-income student, undocumented student, or previous foster youth. **Students interested in participating can submit a 3-8 minute audio recording of their story or a 200-600 word written story!** The stories will be compiled into an open-source educational resource for students, faculty, administrators, policy-makers, and others working to address student need.

Some students will be invited to come and share their stories in Washington, D.C. with policy-makers or the **#RealCollege Convening** happening this September 29th-30th in Philadelphia! Interested in this year’s convening? This event will bring together perspectives, experiences, and insights from “students, practitioners, policymakers, researchers and activists,” to learn about and develop policy and programs that can help address food and housing insecurity on college campuses. You do not have to be a student to apply, but registration is limited to the first 500 applicants!

To learn more about Voices for Change or submit your story visit:

<https://realcollege.org/voices-for-change/>

To learn more about the #RealCollege Convening or register to attend visit:

<https://realcollege.org/convening/>



HAPPENING NATIONALLY:**POOR PEOPLES CAMPAIGN**

The "Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival," has been partnering with hundreds of organizations across the country focused on issues related to economic justice to engage in 40 days of national action. Building from the ideas and spirit of Martin Luther King's Poor People's Campaign and March on Washington in 1968, this contemporary movement is focused on economic justice for all peoples. Understanding that issues of "systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, and the war economy and militarism," are all connected, a broad network of groups have been engaging in non-violent direct actions over the past 4 weeks. The actions have focused on issues ranging from the Flint water crisis, to Indigenous sovereignty, to issues of health care access (amongst many others). With arrests associated with the actions in the thousands, mainstream media coverage or lack thereof is noteworthy. There will be a national day of action at various State Capitols across the country on **June 11th**. Learn more at :

<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/>

RESOURCE OF THE MONTH:**DENVER HOUSING RESOURCE GUIDE****Summer Energy Assistance (July 1– September 30)**

Contact: 720-944-4347

Landlord-Tenant Guide

Contact: denvergov.org/housing

Low-cost legal resources

Contact: 303-996-0010

coloradoaffordablelegal.com &

303-837-1313 or coloradolegalservices.org

Affordable Rentals

Visit: ColoradoHousingSearch.com

Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8)

Contact: 720-932-3000

Access Modification for Qualified Disabilities

Contact: 303-534-3872 or renewdenver.org

You might be wondering who is sending this newsletter! My name is Coby Wikselaar. I am a graduate Political Science student at CU Denver serving as the Harding Fellow on Student Hunger and Homelessness. My position was created to identify and expand services, conduct research, and engage in advocacy that can help alleviate hunger and homelessness on our campus. I am not an "expert," nor do I have all of the answers, but I firmly believe that every person should have access not only to four walls and a roof, but also a home. I am excited to work with others committed to changing the structures that have created situations where people struggle to feed and house themselves. I will continue to publish monthly newsletters, and to identify current models and projects across the country that address the problem. I am here to provide resources for you! Please contact me with questions, comments, or stop by my office and I will do my best to connect you with what you need. Want to share a thought?

Share anonymous feedback: <https://goo.gl/forms/NRtxWOkvDm3lZVRX2>

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