

## SURVIVING SCHOOL: HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AT AURARIA

The past two newsletters looked at the prevalence and most recent statistics pertaining to student hunger and homelessness on college campuses nationally and locally at Auraria. This month we are asking the question: how does student hunger and homelessness intersect with challenges faced by students without authorized documentation? One of the narratives frequently raised when talking about how students meet their basic needs is the claim that students can access various forms of financial aid. Next month we will look more in depth at the limitations and caveats students face while trying to access financial aid, but even assuming that financial aid were comprehensive enough to cover the cost of tuition, materials, and costs associated with living, undocumented students are not legally able to access any federal forms of financial aid. While federal assistance is not the only source of funding, state and institutional funding sources are often woefully inadequate, especially for undocumented students. Access and ability to enroll in public higher education and access to in-state tuition for undocumented students varies from state to state. In Colorado undocumented students are able to enroll in higher education institutions, and as of 2013 are able to pay in-state tuition through the ASSET (Advancing Students for a Stronger Economy Tomorrow) Law, and possibly access some funding through the College Opportunity Fund if specific criteria are met. This is not the same as DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival), federal legislation that was passed in June 2012 that created a two-year deferral process with possible renewal that ensured DACA recipients would not be removed from the country or enter into removal processes and access work authorization. Since the Department of Homeland Security's decision on September 5th, 2017 to revoke DACA, students without documentation are having access to work-study and already limited resources further removed. Not only is this a broader societal issue regarding immigration reform, but requires that universities increase their assistance in regards to financial aid and comprehensive support structures for students without documentation. Check out this fundraiser happening December 8th! Make sure to RSVP to [minsun.ji@ucdenver.edu](mailto:minsun.ji@ucdenver.edu) to reserve your spot.



SUGGESTED DONATION \$50 - STUDENT \$25

# A NIGHT FOR CU DENVER DREAMERS

a charity poker tournament  
supporting scholarships for our CU  
Denver DREAMERS

DECEMBER 8, 2017 - 6:00 PM  
RECREATIVE DENVER  
765 SANTA FE DR

  
Department of Political Science  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

ALL proceeds will go to a scholarship fund to support  
DREAMERS in their pursuit of civic leadership and community  
organizing masters program at CU Denver.



## Happening Nationally:

### SWIPE OUT HUNGER

Colleges across the country are utilizing tech in programs like Swipe Out Hunger where students can donate their unused meal plan points to other students and the surrounding community. As of September 2017 there were 30 Swipe Out Hunger chapters across the country! Although every chapter varies based on local context and campus dynamics, this model and other food-sharing oriented programs are gaining momentum; success can be seen at various chapters such as the UCLA chapter that has *donated over \$200,000 and 70,000 pounds of fresh (recovered!) produce as of 2014*. Although this program focuses on meal plans and might need to be modified for campuses without dining halls, bringing more programs to Auraria that find ways to recover and redirect food that would otherwise go to waste are both desperately needed and reasonable ways of helping to address student hunger on college campuses.

## RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

### Auraria Food Pantries

#### University of Colorado Denver:

- **Tivoli Suite 127** (Peer Advocate Leaders Office)
- Academic Building **2011** (Office of Identity and Inclusion)

#### Metropolitan State University of Denver

- Tivoli 262

#### Community College of Denver:

- Tivoli 309 (Office of Student Life)



## MISSION

SWIPE OUT HUNGER partners with college campuses nationwide to end student hunger.

You might be wondering who is sending this newsletter!

My name is Coby Wikselaar. I am a Political Science student at CU Denver and am 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 developing a website that will provide issue analysis, as well as serve as a central location for all of the student resources available at the Auraria campus. 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.

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