

# SURVIVING SCHOOL

## ANNOUNCING A NEW CU DENVER LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY

As the title of this newsletter suggests, surviving school is no easy task for many students in the 21st-century. As housing, or rather a lack of attainable housing and adequate food become not only a local, national, but global issue, a new program at CU Denver is working to create more spaces and opportunities that center student leadership and innovation in addressing issues of housing justice. The CU Denver Political Science department in collaboration with Campus Village apartments has created a new Living Learning Community (LLC)!

Launching in the Fall semester of 2018, the **Civic Engagement and Housing Justice Living and Learning Community** will focus on civic engagement through housing justice, creating opportunities for students to become leaders on issues of housing justice, develop innovative housing solutions, and become members of an intentional community rooted in learning through relationship and practice.

These programs create opportunities for students to grow and challenge themselves by cultivating personal and professional skills within a community setting. LLC's not only enrich the college experience by creating strong networks, but aid in professional and leadership development by providing experiential learning that doesn't always happen in a traditional classroom setting. Through integrating daily life and education, students have greater access to systems of support, project-based learning, and additional programming to supplement their academic focus.

Students in this Living Learning Community will live together in a shared residence hall at Campus Village Apartments. They will take a course on community organizing and personal development during their first semester, and have the option of pursuing an internship or independent study in their second semester. Students will be developing skills both in and out of the classroom to support their ability to build meaningful career pathways related to civic engagement!

This LLC is open to all CU Denver freshman, and invites students that feel passionately about working towards innovative housing solutions and building community power to apply! Some financial support in the form of housing and/or meal plans is available to qualified students. For more information and the applications please visit: <https://clas.ucdenver.edu/polisci/housingjustice>

**Priority Application Deadline:** April 1st, 2018

**Final Application Deadline:** June 1st, 2018

If you are interested in supporting this program by donating to the financial support fund please email Tony Robinson at [tony.robinson@ucdenver.edu](mailto:tony.robinson@ucdenver.edu).



Housing & Dining  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



**RESOURCE OF THE MONTH: CU DENVER COUNSELING CENTER**

*CU Denver Students can obtain free counseling sessions, as well as accessing various workshops focused on mental health and wellbeing! For more information visit them online, in-person, or over the phone.*

**Location:** Tivoli 454 (4th floor)

**Phone Number:** 303-315-7270

**24/7 Crisis Hotline (Health Center at Auraria):** 303-615-9911

**HAPPENING LOCALLY: RIGHT TO REST ACT**

*For the fourth year in a row the Right to Rest Act (HB 18-1067), sometimes called the Homeless Bill of Rights will be up for a vote. This statewide bill would decriminalize various life-sustaining activities including resting, sharing food, and protecting oneself from the elements. The bill will be heard in the Local Government Committee on Wednesday, March 14th at 1:30 pm at the Denver City Capitol Building in Room 271. Raising many important questions around whether or not criminalizing poverty is an effective method of reducing homelessness, it is important to note that the Auraria campus has actively lobbied against the Right to Rest Act the past three years. Want to share your thoughts? Please send me an email and I will include some comments in next months newsletter!*

Want to learn more? Please visit: <https://coloradohomelessbillofrights.org/>



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. Want to share a thought? Share anonymous feedback: <https://goo.gl/forms/NRtxWOkvDm3IZVRX2>

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