#RealCollege
During the Pandemic

Sara Goldrick-Rab
Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice
THE NEW ECONOMICS OF COLLEGE

1. THE BURDEN OF PRICE

OLD
THE STUDENT COVERS <50%

NEW
THE STUDENT COVERS >50%

PANDEMIC
THE STUDENT COVERS 60%-75%
THE NEW ECONOMICS OF COLLEGE

2. FAMILY ECONOMICS

OLD
ANNUAL GROWTH
LOW INEQUALITY

NEW
NO GROWTH
HIGH INEQUALITY

PANDEMIC
PLUMMETING GROWTH
MASSIVE INEQUALITY
THE NEW ECONOMICS OF COLLEGE

3. WORKING THROUGH COLLEGE

OLD
OPPORTUNITY
MINIMUM WAGE

NEW
OPPORTUNITY
MINIMUM WAGE

PANDEMIC
OPPORTUNITY
MINIMUM WAGE
THE NEW ECONOMICS OF COLLEGE

4. SOCIAL SAFETY NET

OLD

NEW

PANDEMIC

THE hope CENTER
THE NEW ECONOMICS OF COLLEGE

5. GOVERNMENT FUNDING SUPPORT

OLD  NEW  PANDEMIC
THE NEW ECONOMICS OF COLLEGE

6. HEALTH & WELLBEING

OLD

NEW

PANDEMIC
Racial disparities exacerbate the new economics of college for Black and Brown students.
Can “education” happen when students’ basic needs are not met?
OUR PANDEMIC DATA COME FROM AN ELECTRONIC SURVEY COMPLETED IN APRIL/MAY 2020 BY

38,602 Students
3,524 Montgomery College Students
39 Two-year Colleges
15 Four-year Universities
26 States
## BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Montgomery College</th>
<th>National: 2-year colleges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FOOD INSECURE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOUSING INSECURE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOMELESS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANY BASIC NEEDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: The Hope Center*
BASIC NEEDS INSECURITY
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Any Basic Needs Insecurity
- White: 74%
- Black: 68%
- Latinx: 50%

Food Insecure
- White: 59%
- Black: 50%
- Latinx: 30%

Housing Insecure
- White: 47%
- Black: 41%
- Latinx: 35%

Homelessness
- White: 13%
- Black: 9%
- Latinx: 10%
JOB INSECURITY AMONG STUDENTS EMPLOYED BEFORE THE PANDEMIC

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Nothing changed</th>
<th>Reduced hours/pay</th>
<th>Lost job</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DIFFICULTY CONCENTRATING ON SCHOOL
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Black: 54%
Latinx: 67%
White: 64%
EXPERIENCING MODERATE OR SEVERE ANXIETY
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

- Black: 49%
- Latinx: 56%
- White: 53%
TAKING CARE OF FAMILY
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

- Black: 45%
- Latinx: 48%
- White: 35%
HELP - SEEKING AMONG STUDENTS EXPERIENCING BNI

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Assistance Sought</th>
<th>Unemployment</th>
<th>SNAP</th>
<th>Emergency Aid on Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO, this option is unavailable to me or I am ineligible</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, I didn’t know about it</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, I don't know how to apply</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES, applied</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# HELP-SEEKING AMONG STUDENTS EXPERIENCING BNI

**BY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT- UNEMPLOYMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unemployment</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Latinx</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO, this option is unavailable to me or I am ineligible</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, I didn't know about it</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, I don't know how to apply</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES, applied</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Help-Seeking Among Students Experiencing BNI by Financial Assistance Sought - SNAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SNAP</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Latinx</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO, this option is unavailable to me or I am ineligible</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, I didn't know about it</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO, I don't know how to apply</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES, applied</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### HELP-SEEKING AMONG STUDENTS EXPERIENCING BNI

**BY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SOUGHT—EMERGENCY AID ON CAMPUS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Aid on Campus</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Latinx</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO</strong>, this option is unavailable to me or I am ineligible</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO</strong>, I didn't know about it</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NO</strong>, I don’t know how to apply</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YES</strong>, applied</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We can do better, together

- Increase utilization of existing resources—educate and de-stigmatize
- Engage faculty in addressing BNI in the classroom
- Use government advocacy and philanthropy to increase funds for EA and staff/faculty support