



SAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

Sustainable Housing and Debt Free Education for Former Foster Youth

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Setting the Context

Setting the Context

Changing Landscape in Higher Education



- Increasing Cost of Higher Education
- Decreasing Public Funding
- Increasing in Public Accountability
- Changing K-12 Demographics

Setting the Context

Basic Needs and Student Success

- Foster youth who age out of the system are fast becoming a significant student population on many college campuses (Basset & Emerson, 2008).
- Data shows that the percentage of former foster youth who graduate from college is estimated to range from 1% to as high as 11% (Emerson, 2006).
- Two areas of need critical to ensuring successful educational outcomes among former foster youth: sustainable housing and debt free education (Dworsky & Perez, 2010).
- The idea of ensuring sustainable housing and a debt free education is guided by Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (Maslow, 1943).
- Former foster youth students need unique emotional support and counseling in addition to sustainable financial aid. ((Basset & Emerson, 2008).



Partnership Framework

Partnership Framework

Defining a Partnership

- Elements of an Effective Partnership
 - Shared Vision
 - Open Communication
 - Shared Responsibility
 - Interdependency

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
 - Establishes the “*who*” and “*what*” of a partnership.

Partnership Framework

SDSU/HUD Collaboration

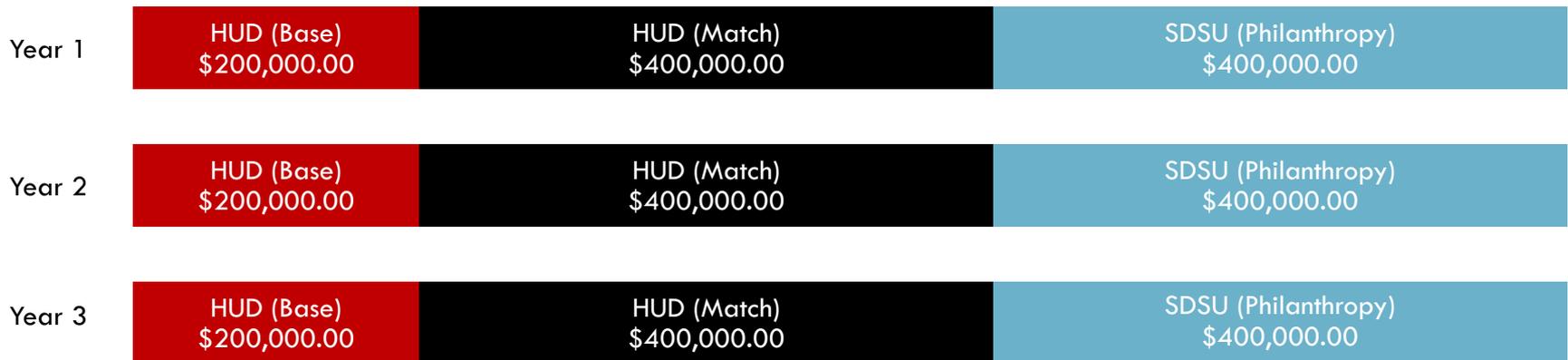
- In 2015, a new collaboration between SDSU and the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) was established to help close the funding gap for housing for students admitted into the SDSU Guardian Scholars program.
 - U.S. Housing & Urban Development
 - San Diego Housing Commission
 - San Diego State University (SDSU)
 - SDSU Foundation
 - SDSU Campanile Foundation



Partnership Framework

SDSU/HUD Collaboration

- Through this unique partnership, the SDHC is utilizing the “*Moving to Work*” (MTW) federal funding from the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with a commitment of **three years**, to help fund the housing component of the SDSU Guardian Scholars program.



\$ 3 Million

Partnership Framework

SDSU/HUD Collaboration

- HUD's "*Moving To Work*" (MTW) program is a demonstration program for Public Housing Authorities that provides the opportunity to design and test innovative, locally-designed strategies that use Federal dollars more efficiently.
 - The goal of the program is self-sufficiency
 - The voucher has a limited time frame
 - Must include supportive services
 - The voucher was able to be assigned to the individual, which allowed for integration rather than segregated housing

- The San Diego Housing Commission was a leader in reimagining the MTW program



Fund Development

Fund Development

Interactive Exercise

- Prompt: You have identified that the Move to Work Program and your local Housing Commission are available to partner with you and give you the initial \$200,000. They will provide additional \$400,000 for dollar to dollar match.
- How would you formulate a plan to maximize the match?

Implementation Strategies

Preferred Outcomes	Who needs to be involved	Feasible Timeline
Potential Barriers	How to Mitigate Barriers	Budget
Other Things to Consider...		



Fund Development

Interactive Exercise – Implementation Strategies

Preferred Outcomes	Who needs to be involved	Feasible Timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive \$1 or \$3 • Year round housing and reduced loan debt • Retain and graduate former foster youth on a timely manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key partners from campus • Key partners from auxiliaries • Key partners from your community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-implementation timeline • Implementation timeline • Post-implementation timeline
Potential Barriers	How to Mitigate Barriers	Budget
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No “Move-to-Work” Program (or similar program (available in your area • Your campus doesn’t meet the requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for other programs that might meet the needs of your campus • Assess campus programs and see how you can meet requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUD • Philanthropy • In-kind (state budget to support administrative expenses) • Financial Aid repurposing

Other things to consider...

- What is your institutions strategic plan with regards to housing insecurity and debt free education for former foster youth?
- Is this a realistic program for your campus?

Fund Development

Philanthropy & Federal/State Funding

- Build a case for support
- Build a network of existing and prospective donors
- Seek funding opportunities with shared values and goals
- Share success data with key partners
- Submit funding proposals
- Collaborate with key campus partners

Fund Development

Financial Aid Strategies

- Partnership with Financial Aid is Critical (EOP, Student Account Services, Foundations...etc)
- Use data to evaluate current policies and procedures
- Identify areas of flexibility
- Consistently review and evaluate processes to align with mission
- Order of Awarding Revised to include HUD
- HUD fills the gap to reduce loan borrowing Goal: to graduate students with less than \$10,000 in overall loan debt



Impact & Institutional Outcomes

Impact

Institutional Outcomes

- Guardian Scholars Program
 - Total number of Students 239
 - First-Time Freshmen 156 (65.3%)
 - Transfers 83 (34.7%)

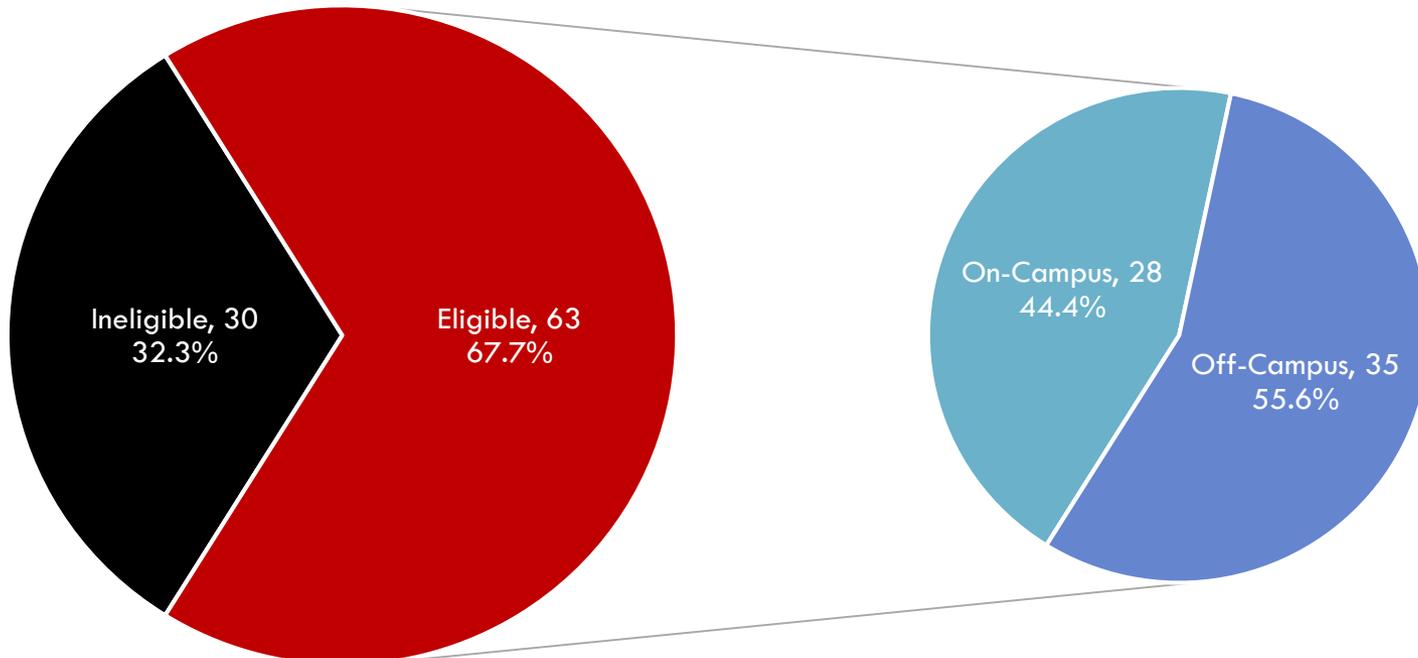
- Guardian Scholars Data
 - First-Time Freshman
 - First-Year Continuation Rate 83%
 - Graduation Rate 62%

 - Transfers
 - First-Year Continuation Rate 89%
 - Graduation Rate 85%

Impact

Institutional Outcomes

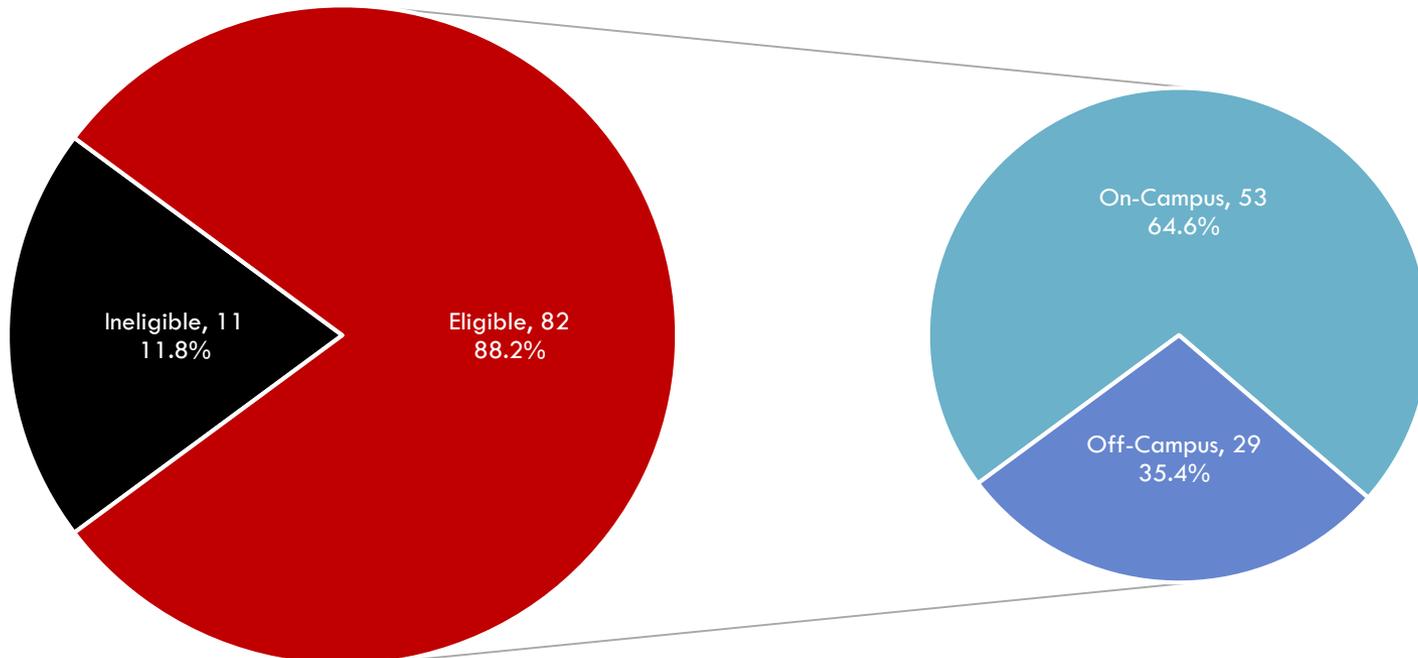
- In the 2016-17 academic year, 93 students were enrolled into the SDSU Guardian Scholars program, of which 63 were eligible and awarded the housing grant.



Impact

Institutional Outcomes

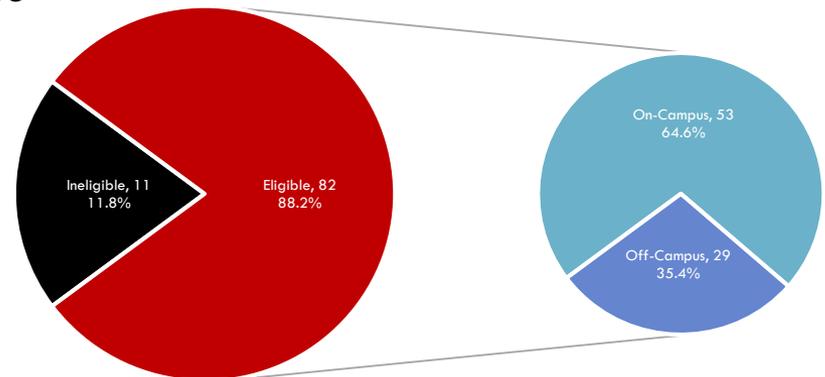
- In the 2017-18 academic year, 93 students were enrolled into the SDSU Guardian Scholars program, of which 82 were eligible and awarded the housing grant.



Impact

Institutional Outcomes

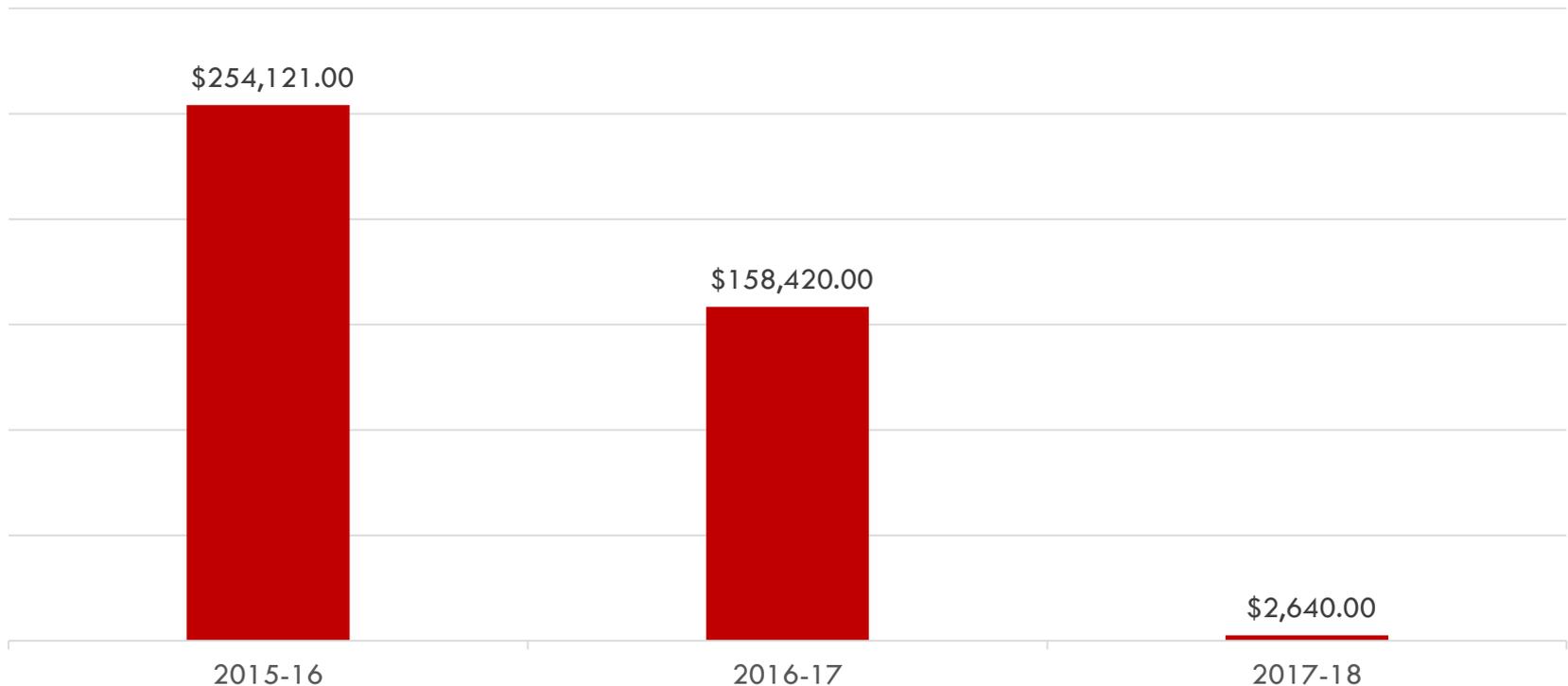
- New Guardian Scholars students who will be living on-campus will receive a postponement of their initial housing deposit.
- The housing grant covers Summer housing costs.
- Graduating Guardian Scholars seniors living on-campus will be able to continue benefiting from the housing grant until the end of their 11.5 month lease in August, even if they officially graduate in May.



Impact

Institutional Outcomes

- The infusion of new funding from the SDSU/SDHC collaborative significantly reduced Guardian Scholar annual loan debt.



Impact

Institutional Outcomes

- The infusion of new funding from the SDSU/SDHC collaborative freed up financial aid funds to provide or expand support to more low-income students.

	No HUD	With HUD
Total Cost of Attendance	28,224	28,224
Pell Grant	5920	5920
State Grant	5740	5740
HUD Housing	0	12,634
EOP	4000	2000
Guardian Scholars Scholarship	4000	1000
Other Resources/scholarships	2000	0
Federal Work Study	4000	930
Federal Direct Subsidized Loan	2564	0
Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan	0	0
Remaining Unmet Need	0	0

Impact

Anthony Mota



Anthony is an EOP Guardian Scholars student who transferred from the Los Angeles area to SDSU in fall 2016. He is a senior seeking a major in Communication (Liberal Studies).

He is engaged in various campus programs as a mentor (SOAR and International) and mentee (AMP). He is part of the Aztec Research Fellowship Program, has studied abroad in Europe and is a NUFP fellow.

Q/A and Thank you

