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EDUCATION PROFILE

### Housing Insecurity is a Serious Matter for College Students

Years ago, when a student fell asleep during class, we might assume that the student partied too much the night before. Today, however, we might recognize this behavior as the result of a more pervasive issue among college students, housing insecurity.

Housing insecurity is a condition in which a person's housing situation is unstable and can represent a range of issues from poor quality of housing and living conditions to homelessness.

A 2019 survey from the Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice at Temple University, *College and University Basic Needs Insecurity: A National #RealCollege Survey Report*, included responses from nearly 86,000 students at 123 two- and four-year institutions. The survey found that more than 60 percent of students faced some form of housing



Kingsborough Community College Single Stop Director Hattie Elmore sharing resources with a student.

insecurity, which included difficulty paying rent and their utilities or needed to room with others due to financial problems.

To compound the prob-

lem, students with housing insecurities, oftentimes, do not have a quiet, stable place to study or do homework at night. This affects their ability to do well in

school and obtain a degree. College campuses have many services to assist students. At Kingsborough Community College, the Single Stop office connects

students to government benefits and resources; and assists students daily to find emergency shelter, transitional housing, rooming opportunities and provides information for affordable housing opportunities.

Programs like this are making the difference for students who do not have a stable place to live.

*Dr. Claudia V. Schrader is president of Kingsborough Community College (KCC) that provides support services like Single Stop to help students achieve their academic goals. Located in beautiful Manhattan Beach, Brooklyn, KCC is committed to enhancing learning opportunities for the Brooklyn community and student-athletes. Visit [www.kbcc.cuny.edu](http://www.kbcc.cuny.edu) to learn about our classes, certifications and degree programs, and our committed to the promotion of excellence in athletics and education.*

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