



Sierra College Affordable Student Housing

The Sierra College Affordable Student Housing construction project is becoming a reality with an \$80.5M grant from the State of California. Sierra College was one of only 12 Higher Education Institutions in California approved for funding! With this grant, Sierra College is building a 354-bed student housing dorm. Rooms will cost approximately \$450 per month for students who qualify. The project broke ground in April 2023 with an estimated completion date of fall 2025. Priority for dorm residence will be given to full-time students with the highest financial need.

While construction is funded, students still need to pay!

The housing cost of \$450 per month for qualifying students is considered very affordable in our region. However, there are students who cannot afford it.

NEED: To offer a bed to a student who is homeless or facing housing insecurity.

- Over 63% of Sierra College students are economically disadvantaged, former foster youth, historically under-represented, or first in their family to attend college – *they need help.*
- Each semester, we receive notice of students who are sleeping in their cars or couch surfing – *they need a bed.*

OPPORTUNITY: To offer housing to students with the highest need so they can stay in college and finish their education - breaking the cycle of homelessness and poverty.

Realizing that housing insecure students also face food insecurity, Sierra College Foundation (SCF) has initiated the “Endow-a-Bed” program. When completed, this program will provide room and board in up to 10 dorm beds for free, in perpetuity, to qualifying students.

RESPONSE: Endow-a-Bed. With a \$250,000 investment, every year, in perpetuity, one Sierra College student will receive room and board.

SCF Board of Directors, realizing that housing is a major barrier to student success, has endowed the first bed in support of this project. We are hoping that our community will support this initiative as well.

The Real stories: *Brian, a veteran, had been living in his car for over a month while working in El Dorado Hills and attending Sierra College. His instructors noticed a change when he started missing class. He had always been a good student, and it was unusual for him to skip class. Faculty members alerted his counselor, and that is when we discovered he had been homeless. He was trying to make it work, and never thought anyone would want to help. With funds received from the Foundation, he was able to secure housing close to his place of work and continue his education. He is humbled, and extremely grateful, that people who don't know him so generously helped him.*

***One bed at a time – One student at a time.
A successful student = A strong workforce = A thriving community***