USG Emergency Housing Initiative
A proposal to support students who are homeless or experiencing housing insecurity.

-Purchase 5 housing units on a 3-year lease from Campus Housing on East Campus
-Purchase 5 housing units with the Graduate Student Council on West Campus
-Students may directly apply for Emergency Housing, or referred from the DoS after a student assistance request
-Eligibility will be determined by the current criteria set forth by the Dean of Students Office for Emergency Aid eligibility (i.e. must qualify for financial aid, must have exhausted other forms of financial aid, completed FAFSA), with an exception for students dealing with extenuating circumstances based on the DoS discretion and availability of housing units
-Individuals can stay in Emergency Housing for a maximum of 1 semester (or 15 weeks), but generally short turnover (several weeks) is anticipated
-Residents will be asked to comply with all campus housing guidelines (i.e. appropriate behavior and room maintenance etc.)
-Campus Housing will assist in room turnover and any additional funds needed for Residential Assistants/Residential Directors can be provided by USG/DoS
-One Graduate Assistant from the Jane Addams College of Social Work will be selected by JACSW faculty or DoS and Students through an application process, their responsibilities are as follows:

1. Read emergency housing requests, either directly submitted or referred from the Dean of Students Office and allot rooms for students/community members.
2. Coordinate with the U&ICare program to ensure seamless support for students.
3. Work with Campus Housing on management and turnover of rooms
4. Meet biweekly with students to support them through their housing insecurity crisis, job search process, and through applications for housing assistance with Chicago Housing Authority and other more permanent housing options.
5. Act as an event coordinator for workshops and holistic services offered by U&ICare staff on issues related to housing, financial literacy, mental health, career preparation, student legal services.
6. Serve as a contact person for the Emergency Housing Program
7. Graduate Assistants will be given a monthly stipend of $600 for their work (or if JACSW is taking care of funding, then how much ever they choose).

-Formally review the program at the end of 2 years to determine if a 3rd year of funding will be beneficial to the UIC campus community
  a. This review commission will consist of representatives from the Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate Student Council, Health Professions Student Council, Dean of Students Office, and Campus Housing
Any additional funds will be provided by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and the Undergraduate Student Government as needed.

Unanswered Questions

-Can we get a custom meal plan for residents? Not every resident will be there for an entire semester, so we will need to account for turnover in the meal plan.

-Will Campus Housing provide certain exceptions for existing policies? Specifically, can individuals bring their children/spouses with them through this program? What about pets?

-Will housing provide us with some sort of discount to lease housing units?

-How much work would this graduate assistant be doing? How much would fair compensation be?

-Definitely need to figure out if there are additional costs, where that money could come from and finding more pools of money for this (plan to bring this up at meeting w/ Chancellor on Feb 4th)

Rough Cost Estimate

1-year contract double in MRH = $14,300 x 5 rooms = $41,500 x 3 years = $214,500

1-year contract triple in SSR = $9,900 x 5 rooms = $49,500 x 3 years = $148,500

Graduate Student Council provides $50,000 and the Undergraduate Student Government provides $50,000