**Edgar Dormitorio** 

Assistant Vice Chancellor & Chief of Staff, Student Affairs

Developing UCI's

**Andrea Gutierrez** *Basic Needs Coordinator* 



# Objectives:



- Participants will understand how UCI was able to initiate their FRESH Basic Needs Hub
- 2. Participants will be able to identify action items that they could use to initiate or enhance a comprehensive approach to addressing student basic needs.

### UCI Student Profile

- UCI 9th campus in the UC system
- Located in affluent area of OC
- 35,000+ students
- Recent designations HSI & AANAPISI
- First-generation freshmen 58%
- Pell eligible 45%
- Approximately 70% on Financial Aid
- 94% retained in the 2nd year
- Graduation rates 4 year (68%) & 6 year (85%)
- Peter the Anteater





# Student Outreach and Retention Center







- Incubation space
- Fee referendum







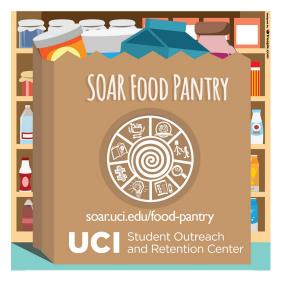






# SOAR Food Pantry - Fall 2015

- Opens with support of the Global Food Initiative grant
- Full time staff position Food Access & Security Coordinator

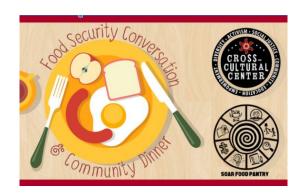






# Ongoing Learning Process

- Systemwide support and leadership to begin addressing need
- Community forums and dinners to hear student perspective
- CA Higher Ed Food Summit (CHEFS) January 2016
- Pantry expansion effort -Food Pantry Referendum April 2016
- Reports and research informing the work





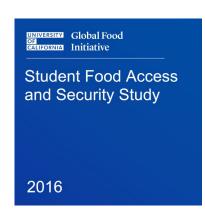


### UC Average -Students reporting having experienced food insecurity:

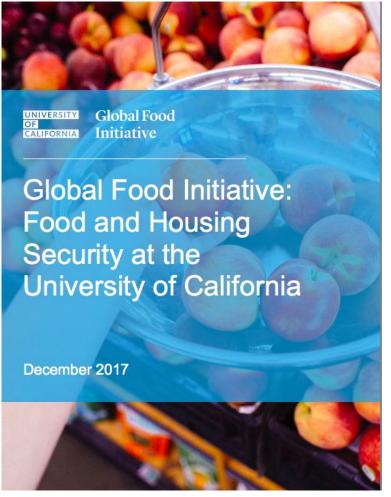
- 44% Undergraduate
- 26% Graduate

The University of California
Graduate Student Well-Being Survey Report

University of California Office of the President
May 2017





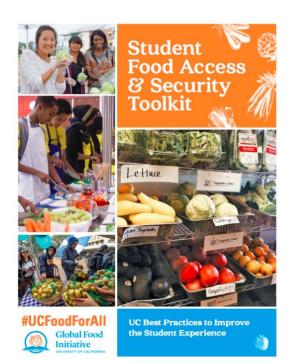


# **UC Basic Needs Systemwide Sub-Committee**



- Monthly conference calls
- Quarterly meetings
- Ongoing support from systewide co-chairs
- Sharing best practices





### Vision for Basic Needs Hub

- Emergency food and toiletries
- CalFresh Application Assistance
- Resource referral for crisis resolution
- Reduce the stigma associated with food assistance



- Community Kitchenette: to prepare food in a kitchenette complete with blenders, a convection oven, a microwave, coffee machine, etc.
- Participate in the Smart 'Eaters Life Skills Series which gives students the education and skills they need to eat healthy on a budget and to learn how to cook affordable, nutrient-dense foods for themselves
- Student participation via volunteering, internships, fellowships

### Process

- Timing was right
  - Space availability
  - GFI grant renewal
  - Long term funds for operations (food pantry initiative)
  - National conversation shifting beyond food security to Basic Needs security
- Overcoming legal/risk issues
  - Securing partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank (Feeding America affiliate)
- Identifying campus leadership and champions
  - Advocacy

# Basic Needs Security Workgroup



#### **Sub-Committees:**

- Communications,
   Awareness & Basic Needs
   Skills
- Crisis Support & Fin.Aid Assistance
- Campus Distribution Choices & Access Plan
- 4. Off Campus Partnerships and Engagement
- 5. Research & Evaluation



### **UCI Basic Needs Logic Model**

#### RESOURCES

UCI Student Outreach and Retention Center

**UCI Student Affairs** 

UC Office of the President

UCI Anteater Recreation Center (ARC)

OC Food Bank & Second Harvest Food Bank

UCI Center for Student Wellness & Health Promotion

**UCI Dining** 

UCI Financial Aid Office

UCI Campus Social Work

UCI Student Support Initiatives

**UCI Campus Billing** 

**UCI Campus Housing** 

State Funding

Fundraiser Proceeds

Emergency Crisis Response Team

#### ACTIVITIES

SOAR internship (paid & unpaid) for student leaders of food security & pantry clients

 Training, Research, Prof. Development

SOAR Volunteers Food Pantry Emergency Relief Farmers Market

Emergency Meal Swipes "Swipe Out Hunger" Cal Fresh Application Assistance

#### Smart Eater Program

- Nutrition basics workshop
- Kitchen & cooking basics workshop
- Budgeting & financial wellness basics workshop
  Chef Resource Hours
- Consultations w/ chef
  Dietician Hours

#### Crisis Support

 le. fee deadline extensions, emergency loans, petition for fin. aid

**Emergency Grants** 

Identify & est. partnership with regional food banks Provide students with resources to help students identify locations where they can maximize food budgets

Engage relevant campus partners, county health & human offices, & NGOs

#### SHORT TERM OUTCOMES

Increased knowledge about basic needs and security efforts

> Students enhance professional skills

Reduced barriers to food access

Increased knowledge of strategies to support basic needs (ie. how to cook and live on a budget)

Increased knowledge of financial factors associated with living & schooling expenses

Decreased disruption due to urgent financial circumstances

Increased access to information about campus & community food assistance

Increased awareness of basic needs insecurity amongst undergraduate and graduate student communities and staff

#### MID TERM OUTCOMES

Students develop strong linkages with basic needs insecure population

Enhance quality of students' diets

Reduce academic risk factor associated with food insecurity

Increased academic persistence in food insecure students

Mobilize efforts to ensure that students are basic needs secure

Prevent students from becoming food insecure

Staff knowledgable about necessary resources to better serve food insecure students

Advance advocacy efforts to reduce barriers for students to access federal assistance

#### LONG TERM OUTCOMES

Student commitment to advocating for basic needs insecure populations

Increased graduation rate among food insecure students

Campus-wide reduction of student food insecurity

Systematic changes in UC Irvine's crisis relief & dining policies

Deepen understanding of basic needs insecurity amongst undergraduate and graduate student communities and staff

Research & Evaluation, UCI Center for Educational Partnerships

# Space Allocation

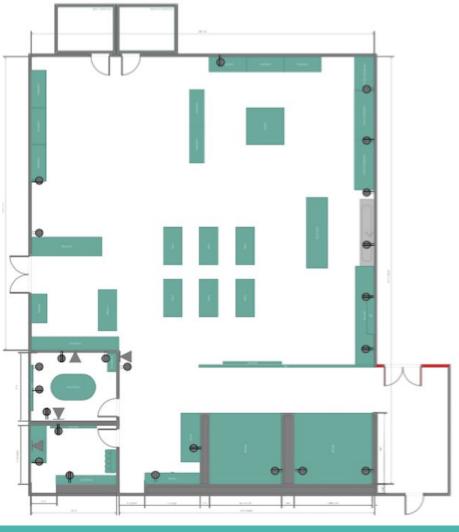






# Design





### Initial Design

- Food Distribution and Storage (Food Facility Service Area)
- Student Consultation (Office Area)
- Life Skill Development (Commons Area)
- 4. Food Preparation Station



# Branding

- Looking for name and feel that would reduce the stigma
- Ran student contests for name & logo

"The food is only half of a food pantry. The rest is the work of the people and most important of all is love and kindness."



**UCI** Student Outreach and Retention Center





www.basicneeds.uci.edu

- Located at the new Anteater Community Resource Center (ACRC)
- 4079 Mesa Rd. Irvine CA
   92617 (In the trailer at the end of parking Lot 5)





### A vision realized

UC Irvine opened the FRESH Basic Needs Hub in September 2017. The Hub provides a 2,630 square foot space where advising, food preparation, community meetings, teaching, CalFresh and Food Pantry services are centralized.



### FRESH FUNDING SOURCES 🐉

FOOD PANTRY STUDENT FEE REFERENDUM (2016-2026)

- \$3 / quarter per student (adjusts for CPI)
- 1/3 returned to financial aid
- Currently \$170,000 (2017-18)

#### **FUNDS:**

- Operations Transportation
  - Utilities
  - Janitorial
  - Supplies
- Supplemental food & toiletry purchases
- Staffing FTE
  - Student Staff
- Programmatic activities
   & Marketing materials

**Temporary Grants** 



- Phase I: \$75,000 (2015-2016)
- Phase II: \$151,000 per year (2016-2018)
- Phase III: Potentially \*amount TBD\* (2018-2020)

SB 85 (JAN. - JUNE 2018)

- Temporary FTE (CalFresh Coordinator)
- CalFresh Advocates (Student Staff)
- Additional food purchases
- Emergency Meal Swipes
- Infrastructure (vehicle)



### **BASIC NEEDS TEAM: 2017 - 2018**

Andrea Gutierrez
Basic Needs Coordinator

#### OPERATIONS TEAM

PANTRY MANAGERS

Devin Rankin

Chris Tafoya

FOOD PROCUREMENT MANAGER Guillermo Paez

MARKETING MANAGER Gunindu Abeysekera

PROGRAMMING MANAGER **Malak Kudaimi** 

PANTRY COORDINATORS Teresa Gaspar & Sunny Yin GFI FELLOWS

GARDEN FELLOW Manny Preciado

FOOD RECOVERY FELLOW Emily Makini

COMMUNICATIONS AMBASSADOR **Melissa Mulengwa** 

ADMIN INTERN Vanessa Llamas



Celine Qussiny
CalFresh Capacity
Coordinator

CALFRESH STUDENT MANAGER Selma Hassane

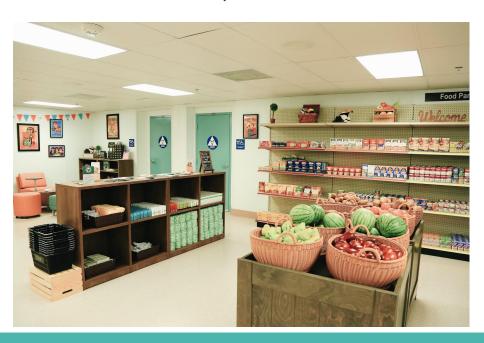
CALFRESH ADVOCATES
Elissa Cobian
Devora Siquin
Jenny Nguyen
Annelyz Garcia
Jose Santacruz
Gurneel Boparai

CALFRESH INTERN
Gisell Sanchez

**VOLUNTEERS** 

# Food Pantry

- Access using student ID
- Intake form for 1st visit of the year
- Visit once per week

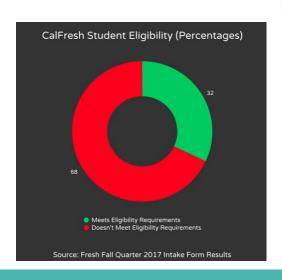




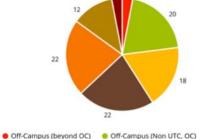
- Up to 1 large bag limit
- Non-perishable items
- Fresh produce
- Dairy/protein
- Toiletries

### Intoke Form

- Ensure students understand purpose of the pantry
- Screen for CalFresh eligibility (optional)
- Obtain data that's not readily available via SID's
  - Transfer, independent, student parent, international student, housing accommodations



#### Housing Arrangements of Students Using FRESH (Percentages)



- Off-Campus (UTC)
   On-Campus (ACC)
- On-Campus (Mesa/Middle)
   On-Campus (Verano, CV, Grad Housing)
- Other

Source: Fresh Fall Quarter 2017 Intake Form Results

Off-Campus (beyond OC): 3%

Off-Campus (Non UTC, OC): 20%

Off-Campus (UTC): 18%

On-Campus (ACC): 22%

On-Campus (Mesa/Middle): 22%

On-Campus (Verano, CV, Grad Housing): 12%

Other: 3%

## FRESH Basic Needs Hub | Food Pantry Visits

Sept. 28, 2017 - Jan. 30, 2018



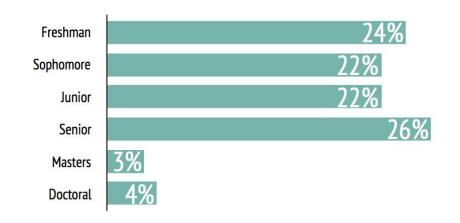
39% Hispanic

36% Asian

8% White/Caucasian

7% Black/African-American

**4%** East Indian/Pakistani



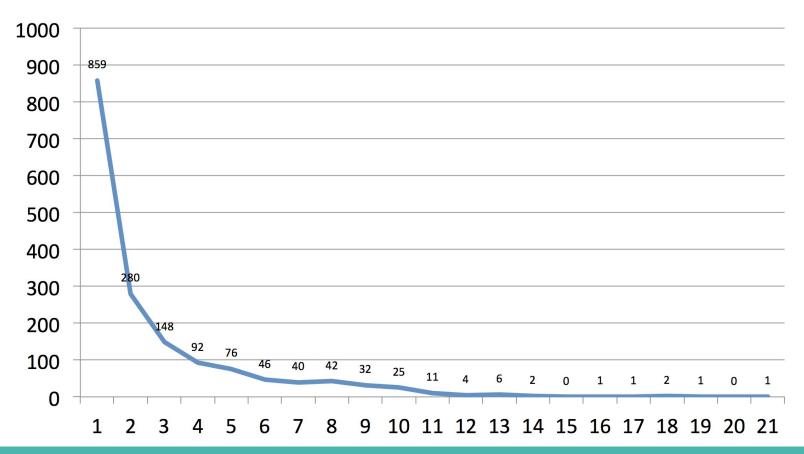




Ethnicity	N Visits	% of Visits
Hispanic/Latino	665	40%
Latino/Other Spanish- American	127	8%
Chicano/Mexican-American	538	32%
Asian		
Chinese/Chinese-American	197	12%
Filipino/Filipino-American	138	8%
Japanese/Japanese-American	16	1%
Korean	45	3%
Thai/Other Asian	69	4%
Vietnamese	126	85
American Indian	3	<1%
Black/African American	113	7%
East Indian/Pakistani	64	4%
Polynesian	3	<1%
White/Caucasian	135	8%
Decline to State	95	6%
Total	1669	100%

Data from Sept 28, 2017 - Dec 22, 2017

# Frequency of Visits



# CalFresh (EBT): Peer to Peer Application Assistance & Outreach

#### **Application Assistance Appointments:**

- Via subcontractor status with Second Harvest Food Bank of OC
- M-F appointments available at the hub
- Dedicated CalFresh office
- Currently securing satellite locations



#### CalFresh Outreach:

- Awareness Campaign
- Class & Org
   Announcements
- Outreach to centers serving vulnerable populations

### Coming up: Enrollment Events

- Super Clinics
- Mega clinics



## Emergency Meal Swipe Program

- Provides students that are experiencing food insecurity access to several healthy and well-balanced meals in the University Dining Commons
- Online application
  - Financial aid information
- Partnership with Dining & Hospitality



Student meal donation drive campaign:



Supplies meals to the program to be re-distributed to students in need

# ECRT Emergency Grants

### Student Affairs

#### Application Eligibility:

A student under consideration for the ECR grant must:

- be a currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate student at the University of California, Irvine;
- demonstrate a financial crisis that is affecting their access to housing, food, medical and/or mental health care.

Case-specific, university interventions (e.g., fee deadline extensions, payment plans, rent deferment, emergency loans, emergency meals, etc.) should be utilized first to address a student's financial crisis. If the case-specific interventions alone cannot address the financial crisis, students may be awarded one-time grants through the Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT). The ECR grant is not to exceed \$1,000 amount per individual, as the funds are not long-term financial solutions.

- Must demonstrate a financial crisis that is affecting access to housing, food, medical and/or mental health care.
- Students are eligible for up to \$1,000.
- Application can be found on basic needs website, financial aid website, and campus social worker website

# Skill Development

### Smart 'Eaters Workshop Series:

3 workshops per quarter

#### **Ask the Dietitian Hours:**

Mondays (Even Weeks) 10:30am-12pm

#### **Chef Jess Cooking Demos:**

Mondays (Odd Weeks) 10:30am-12pm











# Campus Social Workers & Office of Financial Aid

- Economic Crisis Response Grant (ECRG)
- Emergency meal swipes (EMSP)

#### Center for Student Health & Wellness Promotion

- Smart 'Eaters Life Skills Series
- Ask the Dietitian Hours
- Student Parent
   Orientation Program
   (SPOP)
  - Basic Needs 101

# UCI Dining & Hospitality

- The Emergency Meal Swipe Program
- Zot Out Hunger (Meal swipe donation program)

#### **ASUCI**

- Food Security Commission
- Housing Security Commission



## FRESH BASIC NEEDS HUB



- Cooking Classes
- Chef Resource Hours

#### Healthy Campus Initiative

Nutrition work group

### **CFEP Research** & Evaluation

- Evaluation services
  - Pantry survey
  - Pantry analysis (data)
- Logic model

# Community Partnerships

- Secod Harvest Food Bank of OC
  - Food provider
  - CalFresh Subcontractor
- OC Food Bank
  - Food provider
- OC Food Access Coalition
  - Resource sharing
  - Advocacy

#### **UCI Public Affairs**

- Community & Government relations
- Strategic Communications

### FRESH FOOD DRIVES & FUNDRAISERS

#### **OCTOBER - DECEMBER**

- UCI Parking & Transportation
  - Campus-wide "Clash of the Cans" Food Drive



#### **NOVEMBER**

- School of Social Sciences Food Drive
- Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week (with over 20 campus partners)
- UCI School of Humanities Crowdfunding Campaign

#### JUNE

• UCI Housing & Sustainability: Move Out Food Donation Drive

#### OTHER

- Zot Out Hunger
   Crowdfunding Campaign
   (Sep. Dec. 2017)
- 2018 Class Gift

#### PERMANENT DONATION BINS

- UCI Health Center
- University Hills Community Center
- UCI Law School

### Challenges & Lessons Learned:

- Planning for staff structure
- Strategic plan
- At the mercy of GFI/State funding for efforts beyond emergency pantry food
- Adapting to the fast pace development of Basic Needs efforts and research
- Collective effort must include campus leadership, staff and service providers, students, and community partners/expertise

### **Resources:** UC Best Practices

Report, Toolkit, and other resources:

http://www.ucop.edu/global-food-initiative/

Or Google: UCOP Global Food Initiative

### Questions?



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