Addressing Basic Needs as a Student Success Barrier

2024 Meauxmentum Summit
Feb 7-8, 2024
Dr. Felipe Henao
AGENDA

Participants will identify institutional barriers, support, and opportunities to addressing Basic Needs on their respective campus.

Why is this an issue & Key Terms (20 mins)

Individual Reflection & Campus Pantry Check-list (15 mins)

Small break-out groups (25 mins)

Information Sharing & Key Themes (15 mins)

Q & A (5 mins)
Meet the Presenter

- Dean of Students
- Dissertation Topic: Documenting Student’s Lived Experiences with Food Insecurity: An Innovation Study
- Publication: Policies and Initiatives to Address Collegiate Food Insecurity for the Encyclopedia of Sustainable Technologies
Persistence & Retention

Goal: 60% of Louisiana adults will have degree or a certification by 2030
What word/S come to mind when you hear Food Insecurity?
Why is this an issue?
I feel like people talk about race, and they talk about other areas that are marginalized, but when it comes to food insecurity and poverty, those are things that are not talked about enough. I feel like those are topics that have such a stigma that's so big.

Food should not be a tool for segregation, it should not be a tool for additional politicization and a form of power to be used against people. This is their sustenance, they need that to live.

Jane, 32
Housing and food insecurity affecting many college students, new data says

Tuition or Dinner? Nearly Half of College Students Surveyed in a New Report Are Going Hungry

Many routinely skip meals and take 'poverty snaps' because they can't afford groceries. Campus food pantries are helping, but are they enough?

Hunger on campus: The fight against student food insecurity

"We are trying to reduce the stigma. It's OK to get some help, to get some assistance," said Reniel Del Rosario from Berkeley.
Hunger Free Campus Act

- Designations in September 2023
- Next steps: Competitive Grant(allocation) Campus. $5K
- Feeding Louisiana
- Swipe Out Hunger
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Key terms</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<td><strong>Food Insecurity</strong></td>
<td>is the lack of reliable access to sufficient quantities of affordable, nutritious food</td>
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<td><strong>Hunger</strong></td>
<td>refers to people not getting enough to eat for an extended period of time that may result in discomfort, illness or painful sensation</td>
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<td><strong>Food Deserts</strong></td>
<td>are areas that lack access to affordable fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat milk, and other foods that make up the full range of a healthy diet</td>
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## Key Terms

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<th>High vs Low</th>
<th>Homelessness</th>
<th>Housing Insecurity</th>
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<td>means that a person is without a place to live, often residing in a shelter, an automobile, an abandoned building or outside</td>
<td>insecurity includes a broader set of challenges such as the inability to pay rent or utilities or the need to move frequently</td>
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Why is this problem?

- According to the World Bank, The United Nations World Food Programme warned that an estimated 265 million people could face acute food insecurity by the end of 2020, up from 135 million people before the crisis, because of income and remittance losses.

- Food insecurity is a national systemic issue that disproportionately affects college students.

- Recent data indicate that 45% of college students have experienced food insecurity in the last 30 days.
Why is this problem?

- Bruenning et al. (2017) argue food-insecure students likely do not have the resources to fulfill their needs.
- Research supports that black and brown students are affected at 1.5 times higher than their white counterparts.
- Challenges exist with stigma and self reporting.
- Not yet recognized as a prevalent issue across higher education.
- Affects LGBTQ population at 2x more.
First-generation students and students of color now make up 45% of enrolled college students, an increase from 30%. This increase was largely driven by the increase in Hispanic undergraduate enrollment.

One-quarter of undergraduates at public four-year institutions were majoring in STEM fields; however, the total share of men who enrolled in STEM fields was more than double that of women.
#Realcollegestudents

- 45% of undergraduate students are older than 25, up from 30%
- More than 25% are raising children
- 58% work while being enrolled in college
- Women/single mothers
Local Statistics

An estimated 683,110 people in Louisiana live with food insecurity, 234,120 are children.

This amounts to roughly 1 in 7 people in our state struggling to provide a healthy meal for themselves or their household.

That means more people struggle with food insecurity in Louisiana than the total populations of Shreveport, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans combined.
How are learners affected?

- Research studies have shown that hunger has some negative impacts on students’ cognitive abilities, learning, retention, and school dropout (World Bank, 2006; Food Research Action Center, 1995).

- Arguably, food insecurity negatively impacts their academic performance, well-being and engagement in college life.

- Associated health risks with nutrient poor diet include obesity, heart disease, hypertension, diabetes and other chronic diseases.
Individual Reflection & Campus Pantry Check List
What are you doing well?

Where do you need to improve? Are resources adequate?

What are your goals? Are demands shifting? How can it be improved?

What are the blockers you’re facing? What are factors outside of your control?
Small Group Discussion Guiding ?’s

Where are you in this process?

What surprised you?

What are some institutional barriers/support in place?
Key Emerging Teams
Federal/Local Policies

- National School Lunch Act (1964) ie. Free or Reduced Lunch Programs
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Women Infant and Children (WIC)
- Hunger Free Campus
Recommendations

Institutional Research and Effectiveness

Destigmatization

Beyond the Food Pantry
Next Steps/Additional Barriers

- Paid internships
- Transportation Costs
- Virtual opportunities
- Collaborate with non-profit organizations
- NoLo (No Cost/Low Cost) Text books
Qualitative Data

- "The Grizzly Cupboard has been an invaluable resource for me during challenging times. It’s not just a place to access essential supplies; it’s a supportive community that offers a helping hand when needed the most. The dedication of the team behind the Cupboard and the generosity of donors have made a significant difference in my life. I’m truly grateful for the assistance I’ve received and the kindness that surrounds this service."

- "I’m really grateful Grizzly Cupboard exists. As an international student living and managing finances alone in NYC, this program has been a blessing. I have the chance to eat healthier while saving money, so I couldn’t ask for more. Thank you!"

- "Grizzly Cupboard has been very helpful in keeping food on the table. Food has become much more expensive than it used to be a couple years ago, and between the increase in tuition and in rent, it can be hard to afford nutritional ingredients to cook healthy meals."
Gracias!

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Add me on LinkedIn:

Dr. Felipe Henao

We hope you walked away with practical knowledge & application to further address food insecurity & basic needs on your individual campus.