

IEAP Initiative Status Report
Fall 2022



Initiative Title: Basic Needs Awareness and Promotion (IEAT 6.4)

Initiative Number:

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Introduction:

The Basic Needs Program at CSUCI offers emergency food and toiletries, connects students to critical on and off-campus resources, and provides educational opportunities for students to take personal responsibility for their wellness and the well-being of their communities. Basic Needs is primarily focused on serving critical needs and providing holistic support to CI students rather than addressing issues of convenience specifically related to access to food/ snacks on campus.

High-level Update Summary:

From Summer to Fall 2022, the Basic Needs program has expanded access to services by putting the Dolphin Pantry online for ordering, expanded access to hygiene products via a satellite location at the LRC, and has increased awareness of Basic Needs program resources via development of statements for course syllabi and Canvas, as well as information for the online orientation program. To ensure a broader, robust, healthy array of offerings, the Basic Needs team views the expansion of our Dolphin Food pantry to be a high priority in serving students.

IEAP Short Term Action Plan Updates:

- 1) Mandate the inclusion of Basic Needs Canvas module for all CSUCI Courses.
 - a. In consultation with TLI, mandating course inclusions is a longer process (that may or may not be imposed as a requirement). Thus, a voluntary module that faculty may include in their course resources is a better place to start.

- 2) Module created for campus sharing by Basic Needs in partnership with TLI
 - a. We may obtain support from TLI, but Basic Needs staff are committed to developing a module by Spring 2023 to provide to faculty for inclusion in Canvas to support student awareness, and utilization of, Basic Needs services.
 - b. In addition to a module with more detailed information, Basic Needs staff will create a briefer document/flyer by December 1 to provide higher level information quickly and can also be utilized by faculty as a Canvas or course resource.

- 3) Strongly encourage the inclusion of a Basic Needs Syllabus statement for all faculty.
 - a. A Basic Needs statement has been developed which can be added to the optional template for course syllabi and Canvas courses by December 1. The statement was provided to the Academic Senate Chair to receive more formal review and consideration

- b. An overview of Basic Needs has been developed, which can be included in online orientation materials for Fall 2023.
- 4) Additionally, create satellite locations for greater student access.
- a. Basic Needs has a satellite location, established summer 2022 in partnership with the LRC. In general, Basic Needs feels other access and outreach projects will better serve the critical needs of the diverse range of CI students served by Basic Needs, rather than additional satellite locations. Basic Needs has recommended interested parties work with UAS to address convenience for students related to access to quick snacks between classes, etc.
 - b. Access: The Dolphin Pantry has developed an online ordering system with *Pantry Soft* which will be available by Spring 2023 within MyCI along with the Basic Needs referral form for additional services and has collaborated with *Door Dash* to offer free delivery of pantry items (both grocery items and hygiene items) within Camarillo. Basic Needs is also working with UAS to complete the EBT acceptance process for the Seastore by December 1.
 - c. Outreach: Basic Needs hosts monthly Farmer's Markets in the Central Mall, participates in High School Counselor breakfasts and Get Ready for College events, and is facilitating a week of events for CalFresh Outreach Week currently.

Challenges in Implementation

The value of having students come to Arroyo Hall as opposed to a satellite location is that they can receive holistic services from the Basic Needs program ranging from hot meal cards, CalFresh application assistance, clothing assistance, emergency grants, etc. Having our services centralized ensures best access to our full range of resources, best variety of food options, accurate tracking of student need/ usage, and most efficient use of staff and resources so more can be invested in direct services/items for students. Basic Needs currently utilizes operational funds to provide snack items in the Dolphin pantry and increasing those costs to support satellite locations would reduce funding for other programming/ support. Creating additional satellite locations could be considered going forward with data establishing identified locations to meet student needs that cannot be met through the Dolphin Pantry.

Assessment

151 students attended the September 1st Farmer's Market. Over 240 students attended the October 18th Farmer's Market. In 21-22, we had 5,926 Pantry visits from 923 people. For Fall 2022 through 10/18, the Pantry has had 2,205 visits (1,604 through the same period in Fall 2021).

Future Inquiries

If the Academic Senate chooses to support the Basic Needs statement being included in course syllabi and in Canvas courses, we anticipate much wider usage of those optional pieces.

To ensure a broader, robust, healthy array of offerings, the Basic Needs team views the expansion of our Dolphin Food pantry to be a high priority in serving students.

Basic Needs continues to track community referrals, and if there should be a pattern of need identified in a specific location, the program will look to establish a partnership and satellite or pop-up location specific to food at that time.