

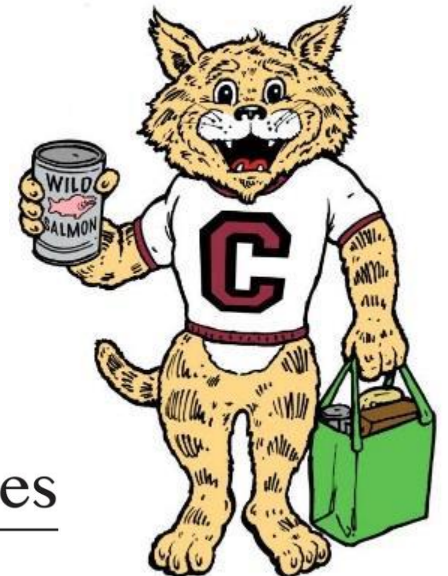
CSU Chico's Food Security Project

CSU Conference to Best Meet the Needs of Housing Displaced & Food Insecure Students

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Center for
Healthy Communities

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO

Presentation Overview

Our goal is to share our experiences and lessons learned so that other campuses can develop food security projects.



Project Introduction

- Then and now
- Core members, extended members
- Successes, challenges, data, new ideas
- Limited funding
- Mentors (Fresno, Humboldt, College and University Food Bank Alliance www.CUFBA.org)



Philosophy

- Normalize and reduce stigma
- Easy and welcoming practices to services
- Provide multiple points of entry to services
- Provide multiple types of resources/services
- Healthy food and cooking education



Project Matrix

1. Hungry Wildcat Food Pantry
2. Veggie Bucks/Organic Vegetable Project
3. CalFresh Outreach
4. Free Meals
5. Outreach & Education



Hungry Wildcat Food Pantry

- Student Affairs office handles crisis calls on any given day
- It all started with a phone call from faculty needing food resources for a student



2 years-2 barrels-2 shelves

- Getting emotional buy in – is easy!
- Approval to place barrels on campus
- Non-perishable items only
- Started small – two book shelves
- Staff & faculty referrals (soft opening



Food Drives

- Division meetings
- Athletics
- Nursing students
- Fraternities/sororities
- Faculty (HCSV) and Staff Council
- Diversion Excursion



Inventory

- No food - reach out to community
- Too much food!
- Finding storage space
- Keep track of what you give away



Lessons Learned

- “No money, no space, don’t let it stop you”
- Communicate effectively up and down the ladder, campus relationships are key
- Dodging the bullets
- Mindful of unintended consequences
- Keeping your footprint clean



Veggie Bucks

- We have a pantry!
- We have a farm!
- Think beyond the can (go organic!)

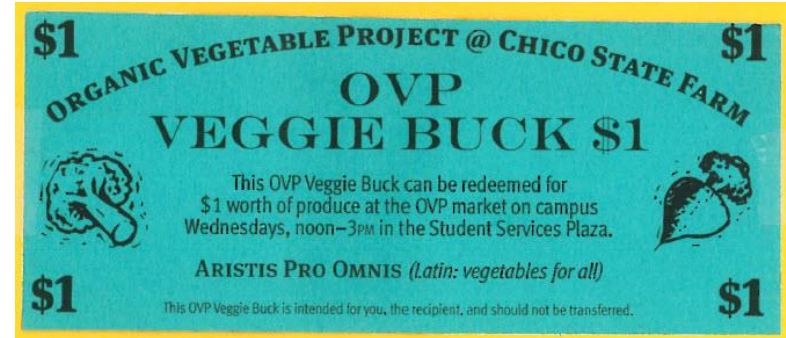


Organic Vegetable Project



Veggie Bucks

- \$1 vouchers
- \$20 start up cost
- Donation jar (\$500) + Associated Student funding (\$2,025)
- 1,000 lbs. to 120 students (3% of 25%)



Veggie Shares

- Weekly CSA bags
- 5-week test this spring
- 10 students (\$35/20 lbs. per month)
- Extra to EOP refrigerator



Lessons Learned

- Do the best with what you can access
- Vouchers can be easily set up (other farmers' markets)
- Move toward daily availability
- They like the salad mixes, CSAs
- Outreach to funders/providers - relations



CalFresh Intro

- CalFresh is federally known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and is funded through the USDA, Farm Bill
- CalFresh provides *eligible* households of all ages additional resources to buy food



CalFresh Outreach

- Funded through CDSS and is implemented in partnership with county social services offices
- Helps people through the ENTIRE CalFresh application and the 30-day approval process
- We table at community events and/or provide presentations to spread correct, unbiased information about the program



CalFresh Outreach within Project

- Team of 15 interns cross promote, outreach, and train
- Interns also provide application assistance at the on campus food pantry
- Promote CF EBT at FM's program



Project Next Steps

- Pitch program need to new President
- Find dedicated space with refrigeration
- Find staff funding for coordination of Project
- Increase fundraising activities
- Host a campus strategic planning summit



Contact Information

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