A Collaborative Approach to Supporting Student Success Through Basic Needs Efforts

Jessica Thomas, M.S.W
Case Manager, CARES Office

Reuben Greenwald, M.A.
Director of Student Engagement and Outreach, Associated Students, Inc.
47% of Sac State students reported struggling with food insecurity.

(over 14,000)

12% of Sac State reported experiencing homelessness one or more times in the last year.

(over 3,000)

“Students who reported food insecurity, homelessness, or both also experienced physical and mental health consequences that were associated with lower academic achievement.” (Crutchfield & Maguire, 2018)
CARES Office

The Sacramento State CARES office provides support to students who are in crisis or experiencing unique challenges to their education. We coordinate referrals to campus and community resources.
Associated Students, Inc.

A non-profit auxiliary organization overseen by a student government that offers programs to enhance the Sac State student experience. Sac State Aquatic Center, Peak Adventures, ASI Children’s Center, KSSU Student Radio, Safe Rides, ASI Student Shop, ASI Events & Outreach, and the ASI Food Pantry

The ASI Food Pantry exists to provide food and necessities at no cost to Sac State students in need.

Students get 16 points per week with valid student ID

Mon: 12pm-3pm
Tues: 10am-2pm
Wed: 2pm-6pm
Thurs: 10am-2pm
Fri: 12pm-3pm
Professor’s survey on Food Insecurity at Sacramento State

ASI Food Pantry Opens

Case Management Position Begins

CalFresh Grant Begins

Chancellor’s 1st Basic Needs Study

Pop Up Pantry Launches

Food and Housing Task Force Forms

Emergency Housing Program Launched

Referrals from Student Health & Counseling begin

Co-located Basic Needs Services to University Union

2nd Case Manager Begins

Rebranded Case Management as CARES

Full-time Food Pantry Coordinator Begins

2013

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019
Basic Needs Hub in the University Union
CARES & ASI

Collaborative Programs
CalFresh Outreach Sac State

• Student Health and Counseling and Case Management Co-Coordinate
• Drop-in Assistance, Appointments and Food Pantry outreach provided by interns
• Food Insecurity referrals & outreach (E&T Programs)
Pop Up Food Pantry

- 18 Pop-Up Pantry events each year
- Average of 700 students attend each event
- Interactive Food Demos from SHCS
- Interns and Volunteers from Academic Affairs
- CalFresh Sign-Ups
Collaborative Referrals

ASI Food Pantry
- Intake form electronic referrals to Emergency Housing Assistance, CalFresh, & Financial Wellness

CARES
- Staff members refer students to the ASI Food Pantry & Student Health and Counseling Services

Student Health and Counseling Services
- Intake form electronic referrals to the CARES office
Internship Opportunities
Working with Academic Affairs

CARES:
- CalFresh Interns
- BSW Interns

ASI Food Pantry:
- Food Pantry Interns
- Volunteers
Collaborative Programs

- Holiday Food Basket Drive
- Professional Clothing Drive
- Basic Needs Fair
- CalFresh Outreach Day
- Mobile App
  - Herky’s Roommate Finder
  - Epicure Extras

Professional Clothing Drive

March 25 - April 5

Donate your gently used professional clothing that will benefit students preparing for internships and jobs

Locations:

- Riverfront Center CAMP/ERMA Center
- Sacramento 256 President’s Office
- Lassen 103 Internship and Career Center
- The WELL, 1st Fl., ASI Hotspot
- Tahoe 1016 Business Administration
- Marjorie 3000 Dept., Family and Consumer Sciences
- A/R/C, 1st Fl., Information Resources & Technology
- Riverside 2014 College of Engineering
Benefits of our Collaboration

• **Reduces stigma** with co-location of services
• **Expands resources** for students
• **Brings the student voice** to the table
• **Encourages Innovative Ideas**
References