Jessica Medina, Coordinator Food Security Project
Brenda Hartman, Student Assistant at Student Cupboard
Introductions
History

• Research
  - Focus groups
  - Alida Espinosa’s masters thesis
• Food Security Advisory Board
  - Initiative creation
• Launch of the Food Security Project
  - November 2014
Food Security Project

- Good Samaritan Fund
- University Dining Hall Complimentary Meals
- Education and Resources
- Catered Cupboard
- Student Cupboard
Good Samaritan Fund

• Emergency fund for catastrophic events
University Dining Hall Complimentary Meals

- Gift certificates for students in immediate food need
Education & Resources

• Educational workshops and connections to resources

[Logos of Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army, Community Food Bank, Poverello House, and Cal Fresh]
Catered Cupboard

• Be our “after event guest” for a meal on campus after catered events
• How has it evolved
• Who has been involved
Student Cupboard

- Free food and hygiene pantry for current Fresno State students
- Launch in November 2014
Original Location
New Location
Things We Learned

• Health Permit
• Residential vs. Commercial equipment
• Expiration dates vs. best by dates
Growing Pains

• Space
  - Limited refrigeration and growing needs
  - Location “on” campus
  - New space required more storage!

• Awareness
  - About food insecurity and the program
  - Social media was the most effective
Growing Pains

• Accommodating growth
  - Starting with 196 visitors a month
  - Now more than 6,800 visitors a month
  - Staffing (more volunteers and students)
  - Inventory
  - Process of distribution had to change
Partnerships/ Sustainability

- Education: Health Center
- Resources: Fresno Metro Ministry, Catholic Charities
- Food: Poverello House, Community Food Bank, Bee Sweet Citrus
- Fundraising: March Match Up, Fresno Fair, Hunger Banquet, Caroling for Cans
Since opening in November 2014, we have served over 5,200 students.
March Match Up raised $107,000 in one month.
Chancellor White visited...twice.
Inquiry from others within higher education.
Helping other campuses get started.
Highlights

• Support, support, support!
  - Volunteers, donors, partners, community, staff/faculty/administration, Chancellor’s Office, etc.

• Student response
  - Knowing it’s available when it’s needed reduces stress
  - Students are very thankful
Questions?