



Louie's Cupboard: Who Are We Serving?

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NAU NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

First-Generation Programs

Purpose of the Assessment

The purpose of our project was to collect and analyze the demographic information of the clients served at Louie's Cupboard during the 2017-18 Academic Year. Compare population usage rates to NAU demographics.

Who are we and What do we do?

Who and What: Louie's Cupboard is a student run on campus food pantry that offers a free shopping experience with a wide variety of canned and nonperishable food (vegan, vegetarian, and gluten free options)

Where: First-Generation Programs Office Union Fieldhouse Room #241 (Soon to be with the Office of Student Life!)

When: Every other Friday, 3-6pm

How: Any student, faculty, or staff can sign up for distributions on our website. We also always accept walk-ins!

Background

Food Insecurity Across College Campuses in the United States

APRIL 2018 REPORT: STILL HUNGRY AND HOMELESS IN COLLEGE

By: Sara Goldrick-Rab, Jed Richardson, Joel Schneider, Anthony Hernandez, and Clare Cady

-Largest national survey assessing basic needs security of university students

-Surveyed 43,000 students at 66 institutions in 20 states and District of Columbia

Findings: 36% of university students were food insecure in the 30 days preceding the survey

What is Food In/Security?

High food security: No reported indications of food-access problems or limitations.

Marginal food security: One or two reported indications—typically of anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage of food in the house. Little or no indication of changes in diets or food intake.

Low food security: Reports of reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet. Little or no indication of reduced food intake.

Very low food security: Reports of multiple indications of disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake.

ANALYSIS (A) AND IMPLICATIONS (I)

A: Majority of clients are juniors, seniors and graduate students

I: Food insecurity might increase in upper-class populations

A: The majority of students we serve are living Off-Campus and identify as First-Gen students

I: The correlation could be made that our First-Gen students find additional costs associated with living off-campus and providing meals for themselves

A: 79% of Louie's Cupboard clients identified as female and only 21% identified as male

I: Students identifying female might be more comfortable reaching out to resources than male students. Many female students have also self-identified as the primary food shopper in their households.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Food Security Task Force established Fall 2017

Collaboration between Louie's Cupboard, Faculty Senate, GSG, ASNAU, Campus Dining, Unions and Student Activities, Health Promotions, and Counseling Services

Current Objectives:

-Further develop partnerships with other organizations to reduce food pantry costs

-Increased marketing of Louie's Cupboard reduce stigmas and encourage access to students, faculty, and staff

-Continue and support the Louie's Leftovers initiative to reduce food waste and promote how to receive notifications through the NAUGo app

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Spread the word to help destigmatize utilizing food pantries on campus. Louie's Cupboard is for everyone! Donate Food or Funds! To donate funds please refer to our Foundation Fund titled "NAU Food Pantry"

References

Cady, C., Goldrick-Rab, S., Hernandez, A., Richardson, J., Schneider, J. (2016). Still Hungry and Homeless in College. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/definitions-of-food-security.aspx>

