**Washington State Community & Technical Colleges:**

**Programs and Services for Students Experiencing Food and Housing Insecurity**

Updated by SBCTC Student Services, April 2018

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| South Puget Sound Community College | Students can shower here for free. We also operate a food pantry at the college in partnership with the local food bank. We have discussed the possibility of a reduced cost for some hot meals but have not identified a funding source to date. We also have an emergency grant program through our foundation as well as a list of community partners that we work with to support our students. |
| Skagit Valley  College | SVC partners with community organizations that provide services to students who might be homeless or are experiencing unstable housing. Students have access to emergency fund programs through the SVC Foundation's Removing Barriers program and other state and federal grant programs to assist with short-term housing costs caused by sudden homelessness or job loss. A food pantry for students has been established on the Mount Vernon Campus. SVC students are allowed to use the showers in our gym without charge. |
| Bellingham  Technical College | The Urgent Funding team subsidizes homeless housing for our students, utilizing BFET funds mainly, for the first, last, and deposit for about 10-15 students a year.  We also have a food bank that we recommend they utilize on campus. The food is donated. Six staff members sit on the team.  Currently we are working with our local housing authority to coordinate training and resources for our homeless students. |
| Spokane Falls Community College | I am very involved with our homeless population at Spokane Falls- and while we are limited in what services we can provide, I have a plethora of resources and options that we are assisting our homeless students with. Most recently, we have developed a work study position that I supervise that is doing a “Housing Survey” of all the available units in Spokane for rent. This of course is a huge task and is forever evolving, but there is such a need both in the community and for our low-income students. |
| Walla Walla  Community College | We currently 1) provide facilitation with accessing homeless housing services provided through community agencies such as BMAC, WW Housing Authority, YWCA, CAC, etc., 2) assist students with securing housing by helping them locate available affordable housing units, 3) prepping them on how to market themselves to the prospective landlord, and 4) provide financial assistance with deposits and 1st month’s rent when/if they’re program-eligible. Additionally, we make sure the student is screened for Basic Food Assistance and/or referred to DSHS for food benefits, and encourage students to access Warrior Resources for day-to-day food needs if not yet receiving BFA. |
| Clover Park  Technical College | * We have lists of community partners * We had a taskforce in 2015 to look at housing issues and have previously worked with a community agency on a grant funded co-located housing specialist at CPTC * We have an emergency grant program through our CPTC foundation that can be accessed for short-term support, to include rental * We have a food pantry on campus as well as other free food offerings * We are once again looking at options for collaboration with local agency for housing referral services |
| Cascadia  College | We worked to develop a list of resources for our students who are dealing with homelessness & food insecurity. I partnered with a couple instructors/classes last year to do a campaign about homelessness & we did a hygiene kit drive and created about 100 kits that we have available for students who need toiletry items – and our diversity center, workforce education, veterans office, and advisors have them in their offices for students. We have partnered with our local YMCA – they have a food stability program and they provide us with small food packs on a regular basis that we can give to students. We also identified a staff member (who is also part of our CARE team) to serve as a primary point of contact for those students who have been identified as needing homeless/food insecurity resources. |
| Shoreline  Community College | Among other things, Shoreline has developed a Food Pantry and we have a partnership with United Way, who provided two AmeriCorps members this year to work with students with food insecurity. One of our Neighborhood Associations has taken an enthusiastic role in providing food for the pantry. |
| Clark  College | Clark College along with several community organizations formed the Homeless Prevention Consortium; together, these agencies submitted a grant to the City of Vancouver Homeless Prevention Fund, which is designed to assist community agencies serving clients who are at risk of homelessness.  This partnership will give Clark College the opportunity to become a direct referral agency, which will increase the level of support that we will be able to provide to our students facing housing insecurity.  This grant is in its final stages of approval.  The ATD Working Student Success Network (WSSN) grant provided initial support to our homeless students, primarily through the Resource Coaches that we have hired to support our low- income students, which continues as part of our college infrastructure for students.  As a result of the grant, here are some of the things we have done the following to support our low-income and homeless students:  -        Hired four Resource Coaches (Retention/Career, Transitional Studies, Financial Literacy, Workforce            Education Services) who have received poverty training, and delivered training to faculty and staff  -        Created the Penguin Pantry to assist students who are facing food insecurity.  In addition to providing snacks, fresh fruits/vegetables, and other non-perishable foods, the Penguin Pantry also provides hygiene items, clothing, and school supplies to students  -        Secured funding from the Foundation to purchase passes to Clark Fitness Center to help homeless students      gain access to the shower facilities  Clark College has developed an Emergency Grant program to assist students facing financial situations that can negatively impact their ability to continue pursuing their educational goals.  Most of the Emergency Grant recipients have requested assistance with rent which has prevented these students from becoming homeless.  Clark College partners with many community organizations that serve community members facing homelessness and housing insecurity. |
| Highline  College | We serve homeless students through a Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET) program called Project RISE with DSHS. (RISE is an acronym for Resources to Initiate Successful Employment.) Eighteen of the students served in RISE have been homeless. We provided move-in assistance for 4 of those students (deposit and rental assistance). We provided emergency rental assistance to prevent homelessness for two others. I provide referrals to everyone who is homeless for housing resources, and help with housing applications for low income housing.  We also provide transportation assistance and other resources to help maintain stability during homelessness. |
| Edmonds  Community College | Under the Diversity Student Center we have the Student In Need Project to help homeless students or students in need.  We serve students in these ways:  1.  Students can get immediate access in the Diversity Student Center to some non-perishable foods for a quick meal  2.  Students can be given a food card for Albertsons or Fred Meyers (when available) (money is donated from students, staff or the community through our food drives and strict records are kept)  3.  Our DSC coordinator meets with registered students and offers them information about free services on campus and in the community (including 211 resources); referred students come from faculty, staff or other students  4.  At the end of the quarter, we offer foodstuffs from our mini-food bank that weren't suitable for our non-perishable food program  5.  The Project Home Association via our TRiO SSS program assists homeless or nearly homeless students with rental assistance or hotel/motel vouchers; the student must be currently enrolled in at least 3 credits; assistance can be up to $1600  6.  We advertise free community services (Dental van) when we get this info from the Counseling Office  7. One of our Advising Resource Center advisors is working directly with the Rev. Jean Kim Foundation to provide resources to homeless students.   This advisor also works on Saturdays through the same organization to help homeless students fill out the FAFSA. |
| Lake Washington Institute of Technology | The Associated Student Government has put significant effort behind opening and sustaining a small food pantry. The pantry is stocked with donations from the college or outside community. They have worked with the Lake Washington College Foundation to find additional, long term sponsors. They have also opened an account to support the effort. |
| Big Bend Community College | In July, 2016 we opened the Viking Food Pantry in partnership with The Moses Lake Food Bank. This was part of the work achieved at Big Bend in conjunction with the WSSN grant. The pantry is open to anyone that is a part of the Big Bend Community College (faculty, staff and students), and it is heavily used. Beyond this, we have emergency funds available through our Foundation and Workforce Education Services. Our Workforce Education Services Department has partnered across campus to develop and support financial awareness training and has intentionally built financial coaching into their case management model. Additionally, there has been specific training on poverty and its implications to our student population. Local partner agencies such as DSHS and the Division of Employment Security on are campus weekly to support the BBCC community with food, house and job insecurities. The Viking Food Pantry will celebrate its two year anniversary in July. The weekly donation support form Moses Lake Food Bank and the donations from the BBCC community have provided over 2 tons of food donations and 1,000 hygiene product donations since its doors opened. |
| Grays Harbor College | Grays Harbor College currently has a snack pantry that is open to all students in four locations across campus, as a temporary food solution while on campus. We are starting a food pantry on campus this spring, in partnership with the Coastal Harvest, our local food bank. As part of our food pantry efforts, Grays Harbor College has received and committed to a grant that allows for an AmeriCorps member during the 2018-2019 academic year to examine food insecurity while working with our food pantry and Coastal Harvest. Additionally, the Diversity and Equity Center has a resource guide of various public services and non-profits in Grays Harbor County that include information about shelters or services for at risk students. Various departments provide information about Basic Food Assistance and local food banks as needed. GHC also has emergency grant programs through our college foundation that can be accessed for short-term support or to cover unexpected issues such as rent, transportation, or book loans.  Finally, the college is in the early stages of establishing housing on campus to address the scarcity of affordable and available housing in Grays Harbor County. |
| Centralia College | In November of 2017, we opened a food pantry that is located in the Student Life and Involvement Center. Student clubs and organizations have contributed most of the food through food drives. Faculty and staff have donated money as well as food. To date, 54 students have accessed it about 125 times.  Student can access the pantry twice a month. Student Government has revised one of the SGA member positions to specifically work with our staff, students and community to keep the Pantry stocked.  We are working on a logo for more visibility. |
| Spokane Community College | Spokane Community College operates a food bank within our “CARE” (Community – Awareness – Resources – Engagement) Center which also provides referrals and other information about local agencies, including shelters, other food banks, and discount clothing stores. The food bank allows students to pick up 3 days of food once each month. The food is provided through donations from our large local food bank organization. |
| Green River College | **Gator Food Pantry:**  **Purpose:** Ensure any Green River College student who is at risk of becoming food insecure will have access to food in order to support their academic success.  **Vision:** Green River College and The Auburn Food Bank, The Kent Food Bank, The Maple Valley Food Bank will develop a partnership to create and maintain a GRC student food closet. The purpose of this student food closet is to provide free supplemental food to any (GRC) student who is at risk of becoming food insecure (defined as lacking access to enough food for an active, healthy life style). To connect students to local food banks for sustained need.  **Mission: Appropriate campus constituents will collaborate in the coordination of a Gator Food Closet to foster student success by addressing student hunger.**  **Committee has been formed to provide oversite below are the expectations:**  The general expectation of the committee member is to be available and willing to participate in monthly/quarterly meetings and serve on sub-committees.  Implement campus-wide fund raising and awareness campaigns.  Assist in provision of brochures, and other informational materials to support individuals in how to respond and where to refer students and employees seeking this kind of provision. Review and approve campus policies assuring campus and state requirements are met. Engage the community food banks to collaborate.  **What we have done:** We have provide a space on campus to give students access to emergency food bags provided by local food bank. We track directory information only, and students are given a resource list for community services in our local communities. Our hope is to connect them with social/community services that are sustainable rather than emergency based.  **Gators Feeding Gators:**  Is part of the Gator Pledge program supported by our Green River Foundation.  We have an annual event to promote the idea of helping students on campus and provide opportunity for faculty and staff to donate to the cause. There are 11 active binders on campus that help staff and faculty provide a Gator Grill card for immediate hot food, Safeway fuel cards and individual bus passes to help students persist and complete. Below was the advertisement for our lasted event.  **Resource List**  Green River has two resource booklets one called *Community Connections Survival Guide* *and Handbook for King and Pierce County Resources* and the other is called *Campus Community Resource Guide* that outlines government programs; basic needs and crisis; education and training; health care; DVA; transportation; legal and advocacy; and veterans. |
| Seattle Central College | There is a working group on campus representing faculty, staff and students working to gather to write a proposal for a Food Pantry at Central. Currently there are a several departments that have unofficial food security services being offered to students. For example, TRIO provides snacks to their students when supplies are available; Veterans’ Support Services provides meals to their students provided by Jewish Family Services as well as they have a small pantry that their students can access while supplies last. The only official service provide to students is a Grocery Card program offered though our Student Support Services, that can only be used by students as an emergency and only one time. The proposal being developed will be presented to the S&A Fee Committee for funding a full-time staff to run a food pantry.  If approved, this will provide a more comprehensive service to students and will more concretely address students’ food security while attending Central. |
| Everett Community College | The EvCC food pantry has been operating since October of 2017 and offers non-perishable items to students and college employees.  We have partnered with the Volunteers of America for bi-weekly food pick-up to ensure sufficient supplies. Additionally, we have established an account with the EvCC Foundation to manage donations and allow employees to contribute to the Food Pantry thru payroll deduction. The pantry is staffed by ASB Executive Council and student volunteers that receive class credit for their volunteer work.  The pantry is open M&W from 11am-2pm, T&Th 2-5pm. Materials for additional resources are available in the pantry, as well as recipes and food suggestions to aid students. More information is available at: <https://www.everettcc.edu/students/sa/student-government/food-pantry>. |
| Lower Columbia College | Lower Columbia College refers students to coordinated entry, which is a one-stop network of emergency and long-term housing services in our community. Workforce and Career Services serves as a hub on campus to refer students to internal and external resources regarding housing and food insecurity. Students participating in programs such as WorkFirst and BFET experiencing housing and transportation barriers receive additional support through established community partnerships. A food pantry was recently opened on campus, and is available for all students. Through the food pantry intake process, students are referred to other long-term resources (both on campus and off campus) relating to transportation, housing, childcare, food assistance, and others. A comprehensive one-stop referral center for students is currently being implemented.  Faculty and staff across campus have been trained in both theoretical approaches and strategies to working with low-income students through the Bridges Out of Poverty Understanding and Engaging Under Resourced College Students curriculum. Additional support for students who are not eligible for Workforce or other grant funding is available through the Student Success Grant, which can assist students with emergency expenses. |