

Associated Students of San Francisco State University
Resolution Supporting the Creation of a Permanent, On-Campus Student Food
Distribution Center

WHEREAS, Associated Students (AS) is the recognized representation and voice of the approximately 30,000 students of San Francisco State University (SFSU) and provides meaningful programs and services designed to create an empowering and learning-focused campus environment; and

WHEREAS, Food Insecurity is hereinafter defined as the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or the ability to acquire such foods in socially acceptable ways¹; and

WHEREAS, a report sponsored by the California State University (CSU) Office of the Chancellor found that 46.8% of the SFSU Student Body are food insecure (with 22.2% experienced low food security and 24.6% very low food security²); and

WHEREAS, food insecurity negatively affects a student's ability to focus on academic performance and can result in withdrawal from the student's academic enrollment³; and

WHEREAS, 14 of the 23 CSU campuses have established food pantries open multiple if not every weekday^{4 5 6}. The majority of these Pantries are operated by Associated Students, which means operated by students and for students on their campuses; and

WHEREAS, the cost of food in San Francisco is 23% higher than the national average⁷; and

WHEREAS, the California State University Chancellor's Office report (2015), "Serving Displaced and Food Insecure Students," was calls each CSU to create a plan of action to address student basic needs, including addressing food insecurity⁸; and

¹ Andersen, S. A. (1990). Core indicators of nutritional state for difficult to sample populations. The Journal of Nutrition, 120(11), 1555–1660. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/2243305>

²https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy_phaseII_withAccessibilityComments.pdf

³https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/BasicNeedsStudy_phaseII_withAccessibilityComments.pdf

⁴<https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Pages/campus-resources.aspx>

⁵ <https://www.csustan.edu/asi-usu/warrior-food-pantry>

⁶ <http://www.sonoma.edu/calendar/lobos-pantry-ribbon-cutting-0>

⁷ <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/what-is-the-cost-of-living-in-san-francisco>

⁸<https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/ServingDisplacedandFoodInsecureStudentsintheCSUJanuary20163.8.16.pdf>

WHEREAS, the California State Student Association (CSSA) Policy Agenda (2015-2016) states the importance of establishing the best practices for food pantry creation and sustainability on each campus⁹; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco State California Faculty Association Executive Board released its Food Bank Resolution (2016) endorsing a past proposal for an on-campus food pantry while urging President Wong to immediately establish a food pantry at SFSU; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco State's Basic Needs Programs addressing food insecurity heavily emphasizes direct University action via CalFresh referrals and application assistance; and

WHEREAS, students often find it difficult to access the CalFresh resources due to eligibility requirements, and many undocumented students are disqualified altogether from the program due to their status¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, SFSU students commute from nine different counties in the Bay Area¹¹, each of which have different CalFresh application process further complicating CalFresh access; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco State University credits itself within the CSU Action Report¹² (2018) for AS's partnership with the SF-Marine Food Bank; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco State University Associated Students has been leading the way in addressing basic needs through their partnership with the SF-Marine Food Bank and the establishment of the AS Pop-Up Food Pantry. Currently the Associated Students Productions team solely manages and provides the logistic support for the AS Pop-Up Pantry through student fees; and

WHEREAS, the AS Pop-Up Food Pantry is located in the distant corner of campus at the Student Life Events Center (The Annex), and operates during a limited 2.5 hour timeframe almost every Monday. The capacity of this current iteration limits accessibility to students, even with the assistance of the shuttle service; and

WHEREAS, the *Report on the Ad Hoc Work Group: Responding to Food & Housing Insecurity*, recommends that the AS Pop-Up Pantry be supported with a permanent space and refrigeration¹³; and

⁹ http://www.calstatestudents.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/04-17-agenda_packet.pdf

¹⁰ http://www.csuchico.edu/chc/calfresh-outreach/chico_Food_Insecurity_Report_2016.pdf

¹¹ San Francisco State Transportation Survey Results Final Draft. October 2016.
https://sustain.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/assets/doc/2016%20SF%20State%20Transportation%20Survey%20FINAL_V5.pdf

¹² <https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/student-success/basic-needs-initiative/Documents/CSU-Basic-Needs-Action-Report.pdf>

¹³ <http://basicneeds.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/SF%20State%20Ad%20Hoc%20Work%20Group%20Report%20-%20Responding%20to%20Food%20%26%20Housing%20Insecurity%20FINAL%20121317%28Accessible%29%20%281%29.pdf>

WHEREAS, the Ad Hoc Work Group Report makes clear the opinion that the Ad-Hoc Working Group is not to become the Single Point of Contact (SPOC); rather it recommends that it is essential for AS to be the liaison for the SPOC considering the operations of the AS Pop-Up Pantry and the large percentage of students AS interacts with; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 85 – signed into law in June 2017 – allocated \$7.5 million in support of Hunger-Free College Campuses among the CSU, UC, CCC systems. Of that sum, the CSU system was allocated \$2.1 million to develop and enhance food pantries, meal sharing programs and outreach for resources like CalFresh¹⁴; and

WHEREAS, the SAEM Basic Needs Initiative Appointment Memo (2018), states that, “SF State has applied for and received over \$100,000 in grant funding from the Chancellor’s Office to support our basic needs initiatives.” This monetary sum must be used by June 30, 2019¹⁵; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco State bookstore has offered to provide \$9000 to support an on-campus food pantry¹⁶; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco State California Faculty Association has voted to donate \$2000 to an on-campus food pantry¹⁷; and

WHEREAS, without the expansion of efforts to address campus basic needs, food insecurity will continue to be a problem on the SFSU campus.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that Associated Students supports the students campaigning for the creation of a Physically Permanent, Centrally Located, Equally Accessible, Dignifying, On-Campus Food Distribution Center here at San Francisco State University; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students will commit the staff resources necessary to establish the current AS Pop-Up Pantry operation as an expanded AS Student Food Distribution Center with greater capacity to serve the student body’s needs; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students will hold full control over developing and facilitating the operations, management, and assessments of the Food Distribution Center as it will be an Associated Student Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students will perform ongoing timely assessments of the Food Distribution Center to ensure that student needs and wants are best reflected by the program. Additionally, Associated Students will release gathered information and data to the SFSU student body and general public at large; and be it further

¹⁴ <https://scvnews.com/2018/03/15/csu-to-distribute-2-5-million-in-effort-to-fight-student-hunger/>

¹⁵ http://basicneeds.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/Basic_Needs_Initiative_Committee_Appointment_Memo_Apr-3-2018.pdf

¹⁶ <https://www.calfac.org/post/food-bank-resolution>

¹⁷ <https://www.calfac.org/post/food-bank-resolution>

RESOLVED, that Associated Students, with consultation from the student body and other supporting parties, will have full authority and final say over any and all decisions made regarding the operation, organization, presentation, management, development, and maintenance of the Food Distribution Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students shall be willing and open to partnerships with the University, the SFSU faculty, and any other outside entities that may choose to offer support to the Permanent Food Distribution Center; and be it further

RESOLVED, as with the current AS Pop-Up Pantry, the Permanent Food Distribution Center will prioritize offering healthy food options, such as fresh produce, whenever possible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students calls on the San Francisco State Administration to adhere to the demands¹⁸ of the students by;

1) dedicating an physically permanent, equally accessible, centrally located, well equipped, on-campus space, as defined by the demands of the students¹⁹, to house the Food Distribution Center. This space must have the capacity to best meet student needs in the most ideal, welcoming, and inclusive way and;

2) releasing a public statement through either LuoLuo Hong or President Wong, committing to work with AS and the student body to create a Physically Permanent, Equally Accessible, Dignifying, On-Campus Student Food Distribution Center that will be fully operational by the beginning of the 2018 Fall Semester. This public statement is to be made no later than May 1st as outlined in the demands of the students²⁰; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students calls on the Administration of San Francisco State University to either dedicate the space chosen to house the Food Distribution Center to Associated Students free of charge, or pay the necessary fees required to rent the space without the use of student fees; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students calls on the Administration of San Francisco State University to fiscally sponsor any and all initial and future renovations, developments, and investments to the dedicated space as deemed necessary and reasonable by AS and SFSU students in establishing a Food Distribution Center that best meets the needs of the student body; and be it further

¹⁸ <https://sfsuecostudents.wordpress.com/>

¹⁹ <https://sfsuecostudents.wordpress.com/>

²⁰ <https://sfsuecostudents.wordpress.com/>



RESOLVED, that Associated Students calls on the Administration of San Francisco State University to cover any and all expenses necessary in maintaining the Food Distribution Center and its appliances as needed; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students calls on the Administration of San Francisco State University to provide the Food Distribution Center an annual operating budget to be used at the discretion of Associated Students; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Associated Students calls on the Administration of San Francisco State University to coordinate with University Corporation and the SF State Foundation to fundraise among the network of alumni, businesses, and community members in order to develop a fund intended to pay for additional projects, programs, or initiatives that mitigate student food insecurity; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Associated Students urges the San Francisco State Administration to grant a seat on the SF State Basic Needs Initiative Committee to the AS staff member responsible for directing the Food Distribution Center; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that Associated Students will distribute copies of this resolution widely, including, but not limited to SFSU Students, SFSU Faculty, all SFSU Academic Departments, SFSU President Leslie E. Wong, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Luoluo Hong, Vice President of University Enterprises Jason Porth, Interim Vice President of Finance Ann Sherman, future Vice President of Finance Phyllis Carter, Vice President of University Advancements Robert J. Nava, CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White, the CSU Board of Trustees, the Academic Senate of the CSU and SFSU, the California Faculty Association, the California State Student Association, the SFSU Golden Gate Xpress, the SF Examiner, and the San Francisco Chronicle.