



UCLA BASIC NEEDS COMMITTEE
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APPROVED by COMMITTEE on 12.3.2021

UCLA Basic Needs Committee Meeting #1 Fall 2021

Fall 2021: Friday, October 15, 2021

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM PDT

Student Activities Center Room 120P

- I. Welcome by the UCLA Basic Needs Committee Chair
 - a. During the pandemic, the campus was reliable in providing a host of services and programs to meet unprecedented need by students and staff alike. Incredible network of Basic Needs providers who made sure everything happened:
 - i. Access to emergency housing (housing insecure, those who had a bout with COVID, or family was quarantining)
 - ii. Online Food Closet Food Card Program served thousands of students through each session it was offered
 1. Huge benchmark reached: 40% grad turnout
 - iii. Food Box Distribution Programs
 1. Students, staff, faculty, retirees and other UCLA community members were supported through boxes for Turkey Day, Holiday, Spring, and Summer sessions
 - iv. Bruin Meals Program collaboration with 580 Café, ASUCLA, Residential Life served hundreds of students from various populations including transfer students, students with dependents, and graduate/professional school students
 - v. Bike Program offered through the Semel Healthy Campus Initiative (HCI) Center and Residential Life
 1. Relocate and offer free bikes to students in university housing

- vi. Semel HCI Edible Garden project
 - 1. Received grant funding to revitalize garden plots in university housing
 - 2. Provided opportunity for students to learn how to garden, while also offering edible produce for them and their family
- vii. Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT)
 - 1. Meeting the needs of students in crisis and those facing extreme financial burdens (*more on the number of students served and funding disbursed in their section below*)
- viii. FITTED Eats
 - 1. Facilitating students' abilities to learn how to recreate affordable, nutritiously balanced meals on their own
- ix. BruinHub
 - 1. Students and concerned staff on campus worked together the past several years to address the needs of commuter and housing insecure students
 - 2. Led to research, which then led to the development of a proposal to fund a commuter hub on campus
- x. ASUCLA EBT Implementation Project
 - 1. Thankful for partnership with ASUCLA, which will allow students the opportunity to utilize SNAP benefits at the UCLA Store (Market)
- xi. Public Health research
 - 1. Work in progress to publicize basic needs efforts in academic journals and demonstrate the critical nature of basic needs resources and services on college campuses
- II. Review of Agenda
 - a. *NO CHANGES*
- III. Review of Meeting Notes
 - a. *APPROVED*
- IV. Committee Updates
 - a. UCLA Basic Needs Plan 2021 – 2022

- i. Please refer to the UCLA Basic Needs website (*under “Who We Are” → “Meeting Notes 2021-22” → “Spending Plan”*)
 - b. UC-BN Committee
 - i. Recap from meeting with Systemwide Co-Lead:
 - 1. Special committee developed basic needs report – which redefined basic needs. However, they did not include the people on the ground at each campus
 - 2. Not every campus has the capacity or infrastructure in place to mimic the operations and structure of other campuses. Campuses must tailor operations based on their own capacity and needs
 - c. Student Affairs Welcome
 - i. Reassembling campus has a lot of moving parts to it
 - ii. Largest campus in the UC system – so with that comes immense challenges to adjust and pivot along the ever-evolving changes
 - iii. *“Thank you for the great work – UCLA has always been on the cutting edge”*
- V. Data & Assessments
 - a. UC Systemwide Data Requests
 - i. Reporting for 2021 – 2022
 - 1. Team will do its best to provide reporting and deadline notices to areas receiving funds
- VI. BN Services
 - a. 580 Café
 - i. Continuing through the pandemic addressing issues of basic needs amongst various student populations, including but not limited to those identifying as: international, transfer, graduate, and postgraduate
 - ii. Currently, 580 Café has a patio where lunches can be hosted, where they provide food to students
 - iii. Working with Food Forward to bring fresh produce and vegetables
 - iv. 14 student interns for the academic year

- v. 20-30 students consistently coming by for support
- b. Community Programs Office (CPO)
 - i. Relaunching Bruin Bites:
 - 1. Text messaging service any department can sign up for
 - 2. Announce when food is being served and following up if there's leftovers for campus community members to take
 - ii. Food Closet is open 10am – 5pm Monday through Friday
 - iii. Successful box programs last Spring and Summer. Very much looking forward to the Turkey Day and Winter Holiday Food Box Programs later in Fall 2021
 - iv. Thankful for the CalFresh team in getting grad programs the necessary exemption status
 - v. Food Closet *On the Go!* Mobile Food Cart Program will launch later this academic year
 - vi. Commuter Van Service will relaunch this academic year
- c. Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT)
 - i. Emergency Housing and Quarantine Housing (*funded by Rapid Re-Housing*):
 - 1. Housed close to 600 students during pandemic
 - ii. Distributed meal vouchers to 541 students
 - iii. Awarded approximately 600 grants totaling up to \$1,000,000
 - 1. Covered: housing balance, basic needs, student dependent insurance, students who lost income, international students (who were impacted by the pandemic, but not eligible for HEERF funding)
 - iv. Assessed and supported 590 students with holistic support services
 - v. 50% caseload of the 2020/2021 academic year
 - 1. Incoming students, international students who are deeply impacted
 - vi. Mondays and Tuesdays (in person) – adjusting based on what students need (operating successful remotely)
 - vii. Rolling out Meal Voucher Program

- viii. Working with BruinCard, Student Accounts, and SAIT to make voucher program electronic
 - ix. Clarifying point: ECRT supports students in distress; Financial Wellness Program supports students in managing their resources
 - d. Semel Healthy Campus Initiative (HCI)
 - i. Community garden at Sunset Rec
 1. 31 raised beds are open to all UCLA community members
 2. So far, approximately 200 students have expressed interest in the garden plots
- VII. BN Partner Roundtable
 - a. CalFresh
 - i. Virtual office hours twice a week (access via CPO website or Instagram)
 - ii. Worked hard to accrue 16 new grad programs for exemption status
 - iii. Statewide committee, composed of stakeholders from community college, CSU, and UC systems, are currently working across systems so students access basic needs
 - b. Bruin Dine
 - i. Finding challenges in relaunching operations
 - ii. Explore working with 580 Café and Campus Life
 - c. BruinHub
 - i. Official announcement that BruinHub is up and running at the John Wooden Center
 - ii. Please contact Carmen Garcia-Shushtari for any questions about reserving space
 - d. Financial Wellness Program (FWP)
 - i. Currently interviewing grad/professional students for a 2nd grad consultant
 - ii. Already hired their first 2021-2022 Grad Consultant back in July
 - iii. Grad Consultant positions are funded by the UCLA Basic Needs Committee
 - iv. FWP data for Spring & Summer 21:

1. 90% of students shared they felt more comfortable with their student loans after their 1:1 session
 2. 100% said their peer coach taught them effective strategies to manage their financial well-being.
 3. 58.2% self-identified as first generation (*versus 19/20 mark that 44.7% identified as first generation*)
 4. 88% of incoming undergraduates want to learn more about their financial health, but 67% of them have never met with someone to talk about money
 5. 47% of incoming students also shared that online training & resources are the top methods that UCLA can do to support their financial well-being
- v. Prioritizing Credit Education this year in collaboration with a FACTA campus grant
 1. Hosting weekly credit hours on Mondays from 1-3pm; weekly “credit bit” educational content on their Instagram (@uclafinancialwellness) as well as quarterly credit awareness workshops with Wescom Credit Union
 2. Hosting “Money Monday” morning takeovers on Instagram.
 - vi. New Fall 2021 Coaching Hours were sent for distribution to Basic Needs Leadership
 - vii. Appointment requests have been steady.
 - viii. If students you work with need support budgeting out expenses, navigating how to best use the upcoming HEERF 3 funding, understanding student loans, please encourage them to make an appointment on their website for support (especially as Financial Aid has been highly impacted this quarter).
 - ix. Financial Wellness Center opening has been pushed to Winter 2022 due to construction/facility issues.

VIII. Closing

- a. Announcements

IX. Lunch

- a. Mercado Buenos Aires (Van Nuys, CA) – served at the Picnic Area adjacent to SAC and SAC Pool (East end of the building)