



APPROVED by COMMITTEE on 2.11.2022

**UCLA Basic Needs Committee Meeting #2 Fall 2021
Fall 2021: December 3, 2021
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM PST
Student Activities Center Room 120P & Sun Deck**

- I. Welcome
- II. Review of Agenda
- III. Review of Meeting Notes
 - a. Notes from 10.15.2021 meeting are approved
- IV. Committee Updates
 - a. Remarks by the Committee Chair
 - i. Currently collaborating with Dr. May Wang from the Fielding School of Public Health
 1. Dr. Wang's team is analyzing basic needs data
 2. Goal: create advocacy documents that could turn into modules, which would then be shared across the country to highlight college basic needs work
 3. CPO team will see a draft in the next few months
 - ii. Dr. Wang and the Associate Vice Provost of the Semel Healthy Campus Initiative (HCI) Center, Dr. Wendelin Slusser will utilize research findings to then apply to eligible grants and funds to further advance basic needs efforts at UCLA

- b. Updates by Basic Needs Operations Team
 - i. Basic Needs Coordinators (students) have been hired, so there is a team to manage food pick-ups and distribution
 - ii. Recently completed the Turkey Food Box Program which supported students, staff, faculty, and recent retirees
 - iii. Working with SAIT to troubleshoot Bruin Bites (opt-in app)
 - iv. Please be on the lookout for information on the Winter Holiday Food Box Program
 - v. CalFresh/SNAP EBT will be accepted at the marketplace at the UCLA Store (*more on this by ASUCLA*)
 - 1. Advocacy for point-of-sale (POS) system upgrade to accept EBT on campus has been something that the Basic Needs Committee has discussed since the group's inception in 2014/2015
 - 2. Momentous occasion that is reflective of partnerships across the campus to achieve this milestone
- c. Greeting and update from Systemwide Co-Lead
 - i. Thankful to everyone who has made it back and handled the adjustments of returning to onsite operations
 - ii. Happy to see the growth and expansion of student services
 - iii. Innovation Grant information has gone out
 - iv. Guidance document demonstrating what is going on at the systemwide level has been published

1. Details legislative requests, requests from UCOP, and communication from partners in CSU and CCC systems
- v. Launching systemwide Basic Needs app (*for mobile device*)
 1. Responsive tool for students to create profiles
 2. Would use multi-factor authentication (MFA)
 3. Built on the backend by undergraduate and graduate students
 4. Will share more as app is further developed
 5. Soft launch: Winter 2022
 - a. Students: please consider testing it out and provide feedback
- vi. Upcoming meeting with systemwide leadership will focus on discussions on how to support campuses and gather their input
 1. Next meeting with campus basic needs managers will go over the spending plan for the next 3 years and review each campus' goals and priorities
 2. Review Basic Needs and Rapid Re-Housing reporting deadlines
 3. Will continue to support operations, administration, innovations, and all efforts related to basic needs
- vii. Next visit to UCLA will be in Winter or Spring 2022
- d. ASUCLA EBT Implementation Project Update
 - i. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) approved the EBT POS system in mid-November 2021
 - ii. Starting to do IT testing on terminals

- iii. Seeking volunteers to test final round to ensure a smooth process
- iv. Working with the CalFresh Initiative team on official launch
- v. Training employees in store and new hires at ASUCLA on proper procedures regarding CalFresh EBT
 - 1. Updating the amount of eligible items in the UCLA Store
- vi. Follow-up meeting with the team during Week 1 of Winter 2022 to promote the new EBT-accepting software as well as CalFresh application process (e.g., best language to use, how to best spread awareness of CalFresh benefits)
- vii. Very important to ensure that staff know how to engage with students who use EBT to prevent humiliation, considering the stigma around accessing and utilizing government benefits
 - 1. Training should center on empathy and experience/knowledge of the system

V. Data & Assessments

- a. UC Systemwide Data Requests
 - i. Allocation letters were sent out earlier in Fall 2021 to entities that provide basic needs services
 - 1. Details how much each area received and what funding should go towards
- b. Reporting for 2021 – 2022
 - i. New category: “Students Directly Served”
 - 1. Students who accessed a service and directly benefitted
 - 2. Acknowledge that there are students who may utilize a service more than once
 - ii. “Indirect Students Served”

1. Students who received email communication or flyers

VI. BN Services

a. 580 Café

- i. Met with students from the Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) who had questions about basic needs services and felt disconnected
- ii. Student Labor Advocacy Project (SLAP) noted that many are unaware of meal plan conversion program
 1. Found that 200 students on campus are concerned about food access and want to be included in the meal plan upgrade process
- iii. Providing meal vouchers through one of the chaplains
- iv. Free meals during lunch Mondays-Fridays
- v. Emergency Relief Grants given out these last two weeks
 1. Over 50% of recipients are graduate students

b. Community Programs Office (CPO)

- i. Wrapped up Turkey Food Box Program
 1. Served over 1,000 members of the Bruin community
 2. Nearly 60 volunteers, many of whom were staff and faculty
- ii. Winter Holiday Food Box Program info will be shared soon
- iii. Relaunching Commuter Van Service Week 1 of Winter 2022
- iv. Food Closet is open and accepting donations from 11am – 3pm, Monday – Thursday

- v. Food Closet Mobile Food Cart Program will launch soon
 - vi. Food Distribution programs have had to account for increases in cost as well as supply chain challenges
 - vii. The Importance of Parks and Open Spaces (Fiat Lux seminar) will be taught by Antonio Sandoval and Dr. Wendelin Slusser during Winter 2022
 - c. Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT)
 - i. Over 600 referrals so far during this academic year
 - ii. Supporting international students for funding, considering they are not eligible for HEERF 3 funds
 - iii. 1,600 meal vouchers distributed to students
 - 1. Dining halls and ASUCLA
 - 2. Distribution took place at Transfer Student Center and Financial Wellness Program
 - iv. Meal Voucher Program system goes live with updated information soon
 - v. Stay-through housing is available for students who require housing during the break, but access to the dining halls will be limited
 - d. Semel Healthy Campus Initiative (HCI)
 - i. Currently hosting focus groups for student project to revamp Kerckhoff Hall
 - ii. Crowdfunding campaign targeting social and emotional needs of Bruin community is live until the end of the calendar year
- VII. BN Partner Roundtable
- a. Bruin Dine
 - i. Challenges operating during the fall quarter

- ii. Will work with the CPO, EH&S, and Food Recovery Task Force to launch operations in Winter 2022
 - b. CalFresh Initiative at UCLA
 - i. Received additional graduate program exemptions
 - ii. Offering virtual and in-person office hours
 - iii. CalFresh EBT launch expected in Winter 2022
 - c. Swipe Out Hunger
 - i. Over 2,300 donors and 70,000 swipes – both record breakers
 - ii. Doubled the Swipe Out Hunger organization membership
 - 1. Looking to collaborate with the committee to get educational materials to pass on to members
 - d. Teaching Kitchen
 - i. Will begin conducting in-person classes now that construction and maintenance repairs are complete
 - ii. Continuing virtual classes
 - iii. Mobile Kitchen Cart is available – please reach out to Culinary Arts Coordinator, Julia Rhoton to co-program
 - iv. Continued collaboration with FITTED, Farmers Market, Semel HCI Garden, and the CPO
- VIII. Closing
 - a. Announcements
- IX. Lunch
 - a. Mendocino Farms (Brentwood) on the SAC Sun Deck