Basic Need Insecurity
University of Arizona

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What Are Basic Needs
The Problem
An Issue of Access

39% of undergraduates are below 130% of the FPL. This matches the GAO’s findings: 39% of undergraduates are below 130% of the FPL. Also matches University of California and California State University systems data.
Need Insecurity Is an Equity Issue

- 60% of Indigenous college students are food insecure
- 47% of Hispanic college students are food insecure
- 49% of LGBTQ college students are food insecure

Compare with 36% of white students, and 37% of straight students, who experience food insecurity
Looking to the Future

- Supporting our most at risk students
- The benefit on Arizona as a whole
- Becoming thought leaders in Arizona
A Solution
What Can We Do?

- Making data based decisions
- Creating the University of Arizona Basic Needs Coalition

- Shifting the culture and stigma around basic needs
- Becoming the thought leaders in Arizona on Basic Needs
Strategies For BNC to Implement

- Advocacy
- Research
  - UCBOR and Alabama relied on data
- Connect students to SNAP
- Expand food pantries
- Basic needs center

What Have Others Done

- Swipe Out Hunger
- NAUs App
- Food scholarship program
- Farm scholarship program
- Convene and build awareness
- Formation of campus basic needs security coalitions
Promising Impacts

Food scholarship programs in Houston – programs where students received bags of groceries twice a month – retained 60% of students as compared to 16% students in the same demographic. The retained students earned a GPA of 3.05 compared to 2.75 of students without the program. ⁶
The Ask
Questions?

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Thank you!