Food Security: Innovative Approaches

Deema Tamimi - Giving Garden
Holly Carpenter - Long Beach Growing Experience
Tyler Watson – UC Student Food Access and Security

Moderated by Hannah Malan - UCLA Fielding School of Public Health
Food Insecurity Defined

“Food insecurity is a household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food.”

- **Low**: reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet

- **Very low**: disrupted eating patterns and reduced food intake

USDA ERS, 2016
Prevalence + Impact

5.4 million Californians

- Hunger
- Poor diet quality
- Overweight and obesity
- Heart disease
- Type 2 diabetes
- High blood pressure
- Distress, worry, and anxiety

How do we improve access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food?
The Growing Experience Urban Farm
Holly Carpenter; Program Manager

Community Supported Agriculture

Friday Farm Stand

Community Garden
Policy Environment
- Minimum wage
- Federal student aid
- Federal food assistance (CalFresh)
- State education funding

Campus Environment
- Cost of attendance, financial aid
- Meal plans
- Cost and availability of food
- Food assistance programs

Social Environment
- Culture
- Classmates, staff, faculty, family, friends
- Social networks

Individual Factors
- Income/funding
- Food preferences
- Food/nutrition knowledge
- Budgeting & cooking skills

Health outcomes ← **Student food in/security** → Academic outcomes
CalFresh Enrollment

Financial Aid

CalFresh Enrollment

Basic Needs Skills/Services

Emergency Relief (Food Pantries)

Crisis Resolution

Cooking & Nutrition Education

Teaching Kitchens

Budgeting

Campus Efforts

Federal & State Policy

University System Policy

Adapted from: Canedo & Galarneau, University of California Basic Needs Committee, 2016
• Up to $194/month for food
• Work-study students are eligible (AB 1930; 2014)
• Notification (AB 214; 2017, in committee)
NEW
INITIATIVE!

HEALTHY FOODS

Monday - Friday
Organic options available every Wednesday

Tell us what you want to see in the pantry:
email foodcloset@cpo.ucla.edu.

CPO Healthy Food Initiative Funded by UC Office of the President
The Team

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Connect

Give & Get

Grow Food
Find Produce
from gardeners around you

Chat
to learn more & arrange pickup

Close the Deal
and enjoy your food!
The Financial Opportunity

- Advertising to a growing demographic
- Affiliate fees for recommended products
- Freemium Model
- Events & listing fees
- E-commerce
Future Areas of Focus

- Food distribution
- Food insecurity
- Public and private fruit tree waste reduction
- Growing recommendations and alerts based on crowdsourced, public and academic data