Food And Housing Insecurity: Pack Essentials
A Campus Approach to Addressing Basic Needs
Before, During and After a Pandemic

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“Often, 3-5 days a week, I won’t eat dinner. Not by choice, but because I can’t afford to. I try couponing when I can”
–current NC State student

Food Security
All NC State students will have access to sufficient, nutritious, culturally appropriate, and affordable food.
My parents died in March 2016. Our house was foreclosed. I moved all of my things into my dorm in August 2016 - that was the only place I had.

–current NC State student

Housing Security

All NC State students will have safe, affordable housing accessible to the university.
Impact on Student Success

- Unable to access necessary resources
- Missed classes
- Dropped courses
- Multiple low-wage jobs
- Mental health
October 2017

7,000 students selected by NC State University Institutional Research and Planning received an email invitation to complete an online survey.

1,949 students participated

28% participation rate*
“Before Thanksgiving break, all I did was worry where I was going to go”
- current NC State student

9.6% of students reported in 2017

homelessness in the last 12 months

14% of students reported in 2017

Food insecurity in the last 30 days
With a student population of 34,000 students this means

- **4760** Low or Very Low Food Security
- **3264** A period of homelessness
- **850** Not eating for a full day

Each person represents 100 students
NC State and campus partners have developed many programs to support students in need of food, housing, financial, and educational security.

Pack Essentials
Campus Basic Needs Resources

Complete a Pack Essentials Application

Pack Essentials

Education
Departments across NC State offer educational support, high impact experiences, and opportunities for research funding and scholarships.

Miscellaneous Campus Resources
Check out these resources from free computer software to clothes for an interview, and more.

Student Ombuds Services
If you want to discuss your situation and review available resources in a confidential meeting with the Student Ombuds, you can contact them.
APPLICATION AND GRANTING PROCESS

Process

➔ Common application: Pack Essentials

➔ Comprehensive assessment of needs

➔ Partner with Financial Aid to verify eligibility

➔ Meet with student to connect to resources
Student Emergency Fund and Meal Plan Scholarships

➔ Emergency Fund - Goal is to prevent an emergency or unexpected expense from derailing student’s education
  ◆ Grants typically capped at $500

➔ Meal Plan Scholarships - range from $750-2300
  ◆ Need based and subject to financial aid considerations
Meal Share

➔ Created by Student Government in partnership with University Dining

➔ Helps students who run out of food at end of semester or need other transitional food

➔ Allocated 6500 meals since Fall 2018
Wolfpack Professional Closet

→ Provides professional clothing for interviews, career fairs, conferences or first week of work.

→ Supported by Career Development Center
Questions?
Lessons Learned:

- “Ready, Aim, Aim, Aim…”
- Engage the entire campus
- COVID impacts
- Donors are interested in supporting student basic needs
Feed the Pack Food Pantry

- Student run and led
- Opened November 2012
- Recently relocated to more visible location on campus
- Non perishable food & hygiene
- Exploring adding fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Distributed over 60,000 pounds to 4,500+ visits by students, faculty, and staff
Questions?