KAPIʻOLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Kapiʻolani Community College Basic Needs Goal: To prioritize the basic needs of our students through holistic, consistent, and accessible support services to increase self-sufficiency and academic success.

SUMMARY: STUDENT BASIC NEEDS SECURITY AT KAPIʻOLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE[10]:

2021 The Hope Center Report: Invitations to complete the questionnaire were sent by email to 6,369 students from Kapiʻolani Community College (Kapiʻolani CC) and 169 students participated. The estimated response rate is 2.7%.

We learned that:

- 56% experienced at least one form of basic needs insecurity, including
    - 38% who experienced food insecurity in the prior 30 days,
    - 38% who experienced housing insecurity in the previous year, and
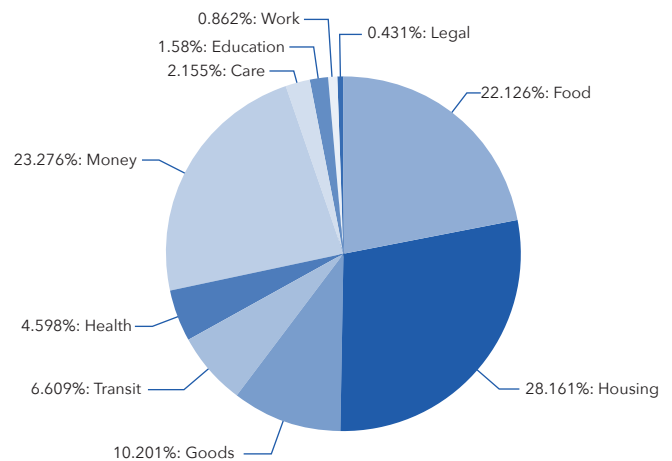   - 14% who experienced homelessness in the previous year.

We also learned that:

- 21% had a close friend or family member who was sick with COVID-19, while 4% were sick with COVID-19 themselves.
- 38% of students exhibited at least moderate anxiety.
- 8% of students who experienced basic needs insecurity used emergency aid, but 53% had not heard of emergency aid programs on campus.
- 61% of students experiencing basic needs insecurity did not apply for campus supports because they did not know how.
- 49% of students experiencing basic needs insecurity received some form of public assistance.

Find Help User Data: The University of Hawaiʻi has partnered with Find Help to provide students with additional access to federal, state, and community level resources to support basic needs. Fall 2021 data from this resource indicated that Kapiʻolani CC affiliated users completed 1,266 searches in the fall 2021 semester. The top three searches were:

1. Help Pay for School - money (56)
2. Help Pay for Housing - housing (53)
3. Help Pay for Food - food (44)

Searches by Category | 2021-08-15 to 2021-12-15

0.862%: Work
0.431%: Legal
1.58%: Education
2.155%: Care
22.126%: Food
23.276%: Money
28.161%: Housing
4.598%: Health
6.609%: Transit
10.201%: Goods

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10   To be updated approximately every 1-3 years with additional research support from The Hope Center.

EXISTING BASIC NEEDS PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES AT KAPIʻOLANI COMMUNITY COLLEGE:

1. The Kapiʻolani CC campus offers outreach through the Kapiʻolani CC resource page on the UH Student Basic Needs website which connects students to on-campus and off-campus services, UH News articles, social media announcements, UH System emails, and the UH System basic needs course syllabi statement. The on-campus food pantry at Kapiʻolani CC collects student information and alerts students and community members in the database of on-campus and community basic needs events and opportunities.

2. Kapiʻolani CC offers multiple direct services to students on campus. Food security support includes the Pohukaina Food Pantry, which provides a weekly free shopping experience for any UH student, as well as the community. In addition, Kapiʻolani CC organizes and supports regular ʻOhana Produce Plus Food Distributions in partnership with the Waikīkī Community Center and the Hawaiʻi Foodbank. Weekly lunches are donated to students by Kapiʻolani CC faculty in collaboration with the Kapoʻoloku Native Hawaiian Student Success Program. Further, the Kapiʻolani student organizations offer access to hygiene and toiletry items and organize campus events that support basic needs. In partnership with the State of Hawaiʻi Department of Human Services, the HINET Hoʻola ʻIke program delivers assistance and support for college and workforce training by offering help in completing the SNAP application, reimbursement for books, supplies, and transportation. Various student support programs offer FAFSA screening & application support and scholarship application support. The Student Parent Program provides referrals for child care benefits, legal services, and other community resources. The Kaʻau Program for Student Mental Health and Wellness Office provides on-campus and virtual resources to the campus community dealing with mental health conditions.

3. The only institutional policy related to basic needs, initiated by the Kapiʻolani Student Congress is to offer the U-PASS at a significantly reduced rate and as part of tuition and fees paid by every student, regardless of using the U-Pass.

4. Currently, the staffing of the campus food pantry is by faculty and staff volunteers. The campus funds full time equivalent (FTE) positions for financial aid, mental health and wellness, student parents, and the HINET Hoʻola ʻIke program.

5. Kapiʻolani CC also has a strong partnership with the UH Foundation and private donors for the campus food pantry initiative and campus community feeding program. Community-based organizations, such as the Waikiki Community Center and the Hawaiʻi Foodbank, also support food security on the Kapiʻolani CC campus.

6. Measuring the impact of overall basic needs is not occurring at Kapiʻolani CC. The basic needs services currently being provided are spread across various campus programs, some of which have experienced staff turnover in the past few years or are entirely run by faculty and staff volunteers. For food security, monthly reporting has occurred since January, 2020 as part of the requirements for compliance with the Hawaiʻi Foodbank. Data collected includes the number of adults and children served by households, the number of currently employed and receiving government assistance, and since February 2021, the number impacted by COVID-19.

NEW BASIC NEEDS PRIORITIES AND BEST PRACTICES:

The Basic Needs/Food Security Committee at Kapiʻolani CC, consisting of faculty, staff, administrative support, and the campus UH Foundation Director of Development, ranked the following priority areas for the campus moving forward:

PRIORITY LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
1	**Outreach to Students:** Communications and programming (e.g. webinars) directed toward UH students intended to raise awareness of basic needs insecurity and connect students to resources and services that will support basic needs security.
2	**Emergency Aid**
3	**Direct Services:** Implementation of provisioning programs that will directly support student basic needs security (e.g. food pantry).
4	**Staffing:** Adjusting or increasing basic needs staffing.
5	**Partnerships:** Creating partnerships with others outside of the University (e.g. food banks, foundations).
6	**Education for Faculty & Staff:** Providing faculty and staff with educational opportunities to better understand basic needs insecurity and how best to connect students to basic needs resources.
7	**Institutional Policy:** Changes to university policy that serve to address upstream determinants of basic needs insecurity (e.g. tuition cost, financial aid, etc.)
8	**Measuring Impact:** Measuring the efficacy of basic needs programming.

Kapiʻolani CC's first priority is outreach to students. The campus plans to destigmatize basic needs by integrating advising with basic needs support programs, collaboration with student organizations, the Service & Sustainability Learning Program and Resiliency Core Leaders, dissemination of basic needs information to faculty & staff in partnership with Faculty Senate, Chancellor's Advisory Council, and Student Services, and providing outreach activities to new students through semester activities.

Kapiʻolani CC does not have a standardized approach to emergency aid distribution, other than procedures and guidelines established through COVID-19 relief funding. Therefore, Kapiʻolani CC will partner with the UH Foundation to identify basic needs support opportunities and develop and launch a new emergency aid fund.

Many basic needs direct services are offered to Kapiʻolani CC students. However, there is no organized way these services are provided to students. Therefore, Kapiʻolani CC's third priority is to establish a 1.0 FTE Basic Needs Coordinator responsible for a case-management process that will bring all of these direct services to students and plan and conduct activities to increase direct service usage. Current food security will also be enhanced through the UH Foundation Giving Tuesday Campaign and the purchase of refrigeration.

The top three new priorities are detailed further below and placed within an estimated timeline for implementation.

PRIORITY 1: OUTREACH TO STUDENTS				
FALL 2021	SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
1) Improve data tracking of current basic needs services to support improvement of outreach efforts	1) Partner with Service & Sustainability Learning Program & Resiliency Core Leaders to extend hours of campus food pantry 2) Partner with Strategic Planning Group and ConSOLIDated Planning Group (Civic & Climate Action 2022-2027) to administer a focus group with students that have used various basic needs services to determine effect on academic success 3) Attend Spring Faculty Senate meeting to present Basic Needs Plan and request collaboration with the Academic & Institutional Policy and Procedures Committee to support mandatory addendum to syllabi to include basic needs resources and other pertinent student services	1) Conduct outreach activities for new students through Hoʻopili (New Student Orientation to the Kapiʻolani campus) 2) Create and launch a shared database to increase usage of basic needs support services	1) Conduct outreach activities for new students through Hoʻopili (New Student Orientation to the Kapiʻolani campus)	1) Conduct outreach activities for new students through Hoʻopili (New Student Orientation to the Kapiʻolani campus)

PRIORITY 1: OUTREACH TO STUDENTS				
FALL 2021	SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
	4) Attend Chancellor's Advisory Council (CAC) meeting to spotlight Basic Needs efforts, resources, and how everyone on campus can use them			

PRIORITY 2: EMERGENCY AID				
FALL 2021	SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
N/A	N/A	1) Partner with UH Foundation to identify basic needs support opportunities	1) Develop a new emergency aid fund linked to UH Foundation https://www.uhfoundation.org/scholarships/supporting-students	1) Launch new emergency aid fund

PRIORITY 3: DIRECT SERVICES				
FALL 2021	SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
1) Support the UH Foundation Giving Tuesday Campaign designated to fund the campus food pantry 2) Apply for HEERF funding to identify 1.0 FTE Campus Basic Needs Coordinator to create a sustainable case management system, and to support campus basic needs efforts such as the campus food pantry	1) Inventory all basic needs related campus services to include on BN System Website 2) Purchase refrigeration to add fresh food options at campus food pantry	1) Hire a 1.0 FTE Basic Needs Coordinator responsible for case-management process, emergency aid funding, and campus basic needs efforts such as the Pohukaina Food Pantry	1) Plan for basic needs direct services activities for the fall semester	1) Conduct basic needs activities to increase direct service usage