



UH MAUI COLLEGE



SUMMARY: STUDENT BASIC NEEDS SECURITY AT UH MAUI COLLEGE¹³:

2021 [The Hope Center Report](#): Invitations to complete the questionnaire were sent by email to 2,936 students from UH Maui College (UHMC) and 81 students participated. Thus, the estimated response rate is 2.8%.

We learned that:

- 66% experienced at least one form of basic needs insecurity, including
 - 51% who experienced food insecurity in the prior 30 days,
 - 53% who experienced housing insecurity in the previous year, and
 - 16% who experienced homelessness in the previous year.

We also learned that:

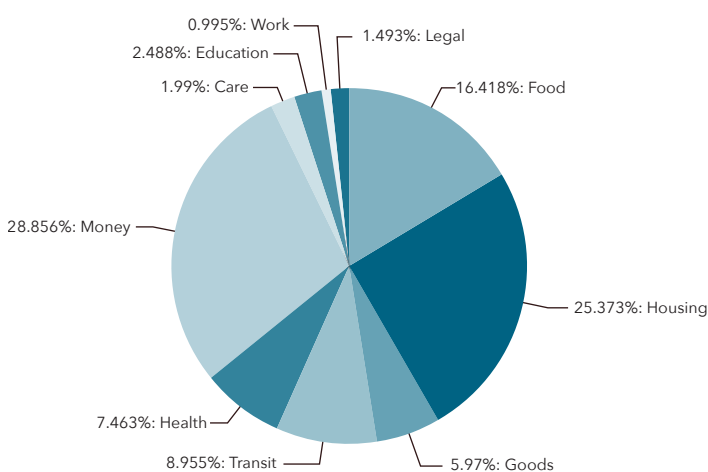
- 23% had a close friend or family member who was sick with COVID-19, while 2% were sick with COVID-19 themselves.
- 28% of students exhibited at least moderate anxiety.
- 12% of students who experienced basic needs insecurity used emergency aid, but 42% had not heard of emergency aid programs on campus.
- 60% of students experiencing basic needs insecurity did not apply for campus supports because they did not know how.
- 62% of students experiencing basic needs insecurity received some form of public assistance.

[Find Help](#) User Data: Find Help user data summary from the UH Basic Needs website taken for fall 2021 show that of the 345 searches initiated by students affiliated with UHMC, the top three searches are as follows:

1. Help Pay for School (23)
2. Help Pay for Housing (14)
3. Financial Aid & Loans (13)

This search data is in alignment with the survey data from the 2021 The Hope Center report with the exception of students searching for ways to pay for school which did not appear in the report.

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



¹³ To be updated approximately every 1-3 years with additional research support from The Hope Center.

EXISTING BASIC NEEDS PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES AT UH MAUI COLLEGE:

1. UH Maui College (UHMC) had a Backpack Buddies food distribution program through the Maui Foodbank. Due to COVID-19 campus shutdowns, the program was discontinued in 2020. The campus had some meal ticket programs implemented with food trucks, and some intermittent, one time donations from donors but no other systemized campus-based basic needs programming has been implemented since March 2020.

NEW BASIC NEEDS PRIORITIES AND BEST PRACTICES:

A small contingent of UHMC campus stakeholders met in July 2021 to complete the University Basic Needs Best Practices survey to identify new basic needs priorities. The following priorities will be included in the UHMC Basic Needs three year plan, and are ranked from highest priority (1) to lowest priority (8):

PRIORITY LEVEL	DESCRIPTION
1	Staffing: Adjusting or increasing basic needs staffing.
2	Institutional Policy: Changes to university policy that serve to address upstream determinants of basic needs insecurity (e.g. tuition, cost, financial aid, etc.).
3	Direct Services: Providing more options for students to access the pantry.
4	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.
5	Education for Faculty & Staff: Providing faculty and staff with educational opportunities (Professional Development) to better understand basic needs insecurity and how best to connect students to basic needs resources.
6	Partnerships: Creating partnerships with others outside of the University (e.g. food banks, foundations).
7	Emergency Aid: Continue to allocate emergency funds to students.
8	Measuring Impact: Measuring the efficacy of basic needs programming.

1. Staffing:

- Adjusting or increasing basic needs staffing is needed to be able to offer consistent services to support students, manage basic need efforts and move priorities forward with guidance from key stakeholders. Additional staffing is also critical in establishing meaningful relationships between UHMC staff and students, allowing reliability in basic needs services, and the ability to consistently provide accurate information to help students meet their basic needs. Staffing is also necessary to maintain efforts and to manage resources as they grow at the campus. Faculty stakeholders can meet and offer assistance to staff. With a minimum of six hours per week, a food pantry and related BN practices could be maintained. Student clubs would also be contacted to establish a student volunteer program to assist this staff. There are no staff currently assigned to do this work at UHMC.
- Basic needs action planning: UHMC will continue to discuss funding sources to hire a student assistant to manage a food pantry or similar distribution service. Estimated costs for a pantry to be open twice a week on the second and fourth week each month for a total of four hours a week will cost approximately \$200 a month. Guidance will be offered by a faculty advisor. UHMC is also looking for a community partner to be an agency to purchase foods and other needs for the pantry. UHMC will need continued funding to make these purchases, which could come from the Urgent Student Relief Fund through Aloha and Maui United Way and the UH Student Basic Needs Committee account.

2. Institutional Policy:

- The UHMC Basic Needs Committee advises that UHMC and the UH System work together to establish a “culture of care” at UHMC. It is believed that support from the UH President and UH Vice President of Community Colleges will help set the precedent for UH Chancellors to inform campus faculty and staff that it is the responsibility of all faculty and staff to assist students in meeting basic needs, addressing needs holistically, and establish greater equity on the UHMC campuses. It is understood that such an approach will serve to increase retention, graduation and student satisfaction rates.
- UHMC Basic Needs Master Plan is to be included in the UHMC Strategic Plan for Student Success. The UHMC Student Success Coordinator will work with the accreditation steering committee to include basic needs goals in the UHMC Strategic Plan by fall 2022.



UH Maui College: Basic Needs Best Practices and Priorities

- The UHMC Basic Needs Committee aims to work with the UH Institutional Research (IR) Office to collect data that serves to identify students who qualify for financial assistance to receive referrals to on- and off-campus basic needs support and services. UHMC and UH Community College (UHCC) administration will inform the UHMC Basic Needs Committee on plans for IR positions at UH Maui College.
- 3. Direct Services:** Implementation of provisioning programs that will directly support student basic needs security (e.g. food pantry).
- In order for direct services to be established and maintained, basic needs staffing (#1 above) and appropriate institutional policies (#2 above) need first to be in place. Beyond these enabling conditions, physical space is needed for storage of food and other goods. Support from the UHMC administration and departments are needed to ensure that direct services can occur successfully. With a creative vision and support for a robust program, processes, and agreements between departments and community partners, UHMC can help its students. The UHMC Basic Needs Committee will develop a comprehensive plan and proposal for use of physical space on campus to be presented the UHMC Chancellor by Spring 2022. The Committee is now exploring how other campuses are carrying out their basic needs support services.
- 4. Outreach to Students:**
- Communications and programming (e.g. webinars) directed toward UHMC students are intended to raise awareness of basic needs insecurity and connect students to resources and services that will support basic needs security. Once infrastructure is in place, communications need to be robust. These efforts need to be made to normalize, and destigmatize asking for help.
- 5. Education for Faculty & Staff:**
- Providing faculty and staff with educational resources and professional development opportunities to better understand student basic needs insecurity and how best to connect students to available resources.
 - It is the view of the UHMC Basic Needs Committee that faculty and staff need to be more aware of available resources and appropriately trained to provide student referrals to key agencies and people who can help. Supporting “warm” (i.e. person-to-person) referrals that assist students with accessing basic needs resources will create a culture of care and allow the creation of strong partnerships with community agencies.
- 6. Partnerships:**
- UHMC will utilize the data collected on open and closed loop referrals to seek out donors with UH Foundation (UHF) representatives and other community stakeholders. UHMC is currently seeking a non-profit agency to help purchase food from the Maui Food Bank for an on-campus food pantry. Maui College will work with the UHF to establish a giving campaign to directly assist UHMC students. These efforts will provide additional resources at a larger scale and serve to reach a greater number of students.
- 7. Emergency Aid:**
- UHMC will seek out donors using UHF representatives and others in the community to help students with emergencies to keep them in school.
- 8. Measuring Impact:**
- Once infrastructure is established and best practices are discovered, the UHMC Basic Need Committee will work with the IR office to assess impacts of helping students to meet their basic needs (i.e. retention and completion rates, student satisfaction, graduation, etc.)

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

PRIORITY 1: STAFFING			
SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
1) The UHMC BN Committee will hold discussions for funding and creating a BN staff position.	1) Onboard BN staff.	1) BN staff will work to increase funding opportunities and partnerships for UHMC.	1) BN staff will use data to work to increase funding opportunities for UHMC.
PRIORITY 2: INSTITUTIONAL/CAMPUS POLICIES			
SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
1) UHMC BN committee will hold discussions to look at existing policies to establish a culture of care.	1) UHMC BN Committee will decide if revisions are necessary and work with administration to make changes	1) UHMC BN Committee will decide if new policies will need to be created	1) UHMC BN Committee will vet new policies with faculty, staff and admin for approvals
PRIORITY 3: DIRECT SERVICES			
SPRING 2022	FALL 2022	SPRING 2023	FALL 2023
1) Craft plan for on-campus food pantry and receive approval from chancellor. 2) Identify a community partner to support the purchase of goods for the food pantry.	1) Put in a request for space to be used for a food pantry.	1) Increase food pantry size and supplies. 2) Allow for more access to the food pantry by adjusting hours based on staff funding.	1) Add other BN services to the food pantry like a clothes closet, distribution of transportation vouchers and meal tickets.