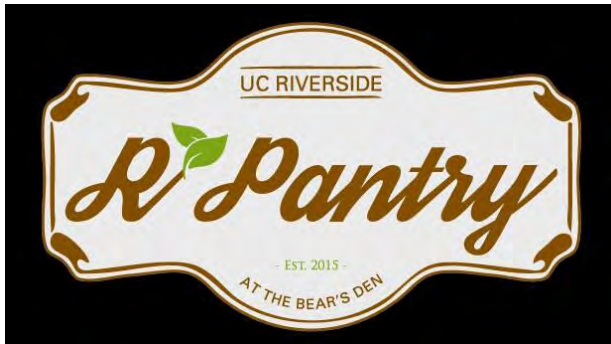


Food Security Through R'Pantry

Increasing awareness and addressing the stigma of university student food insecurity.



R'Pantry logo

Issues: College student food insecurity has garnered increasingly more attention, yet the research available regarding the topic remains low. As a result, a large amount of college students and the general public are not aware of this issue and how it impacts the performance of students in higher education. The lack of information perpetuates a strong social stigma surrounding food insecurity, and the continued use of the damaging trope of the “starving college student.”

Food Security Through R'Pantry sought to address some of these issues by creating a group of individuals dedicated to addressing food insecurity on U.C. Riverside's campus, expanding resources available to students, and increasing accessibility to information regarding food insecurity. Long-term goals included sustainable funding to R'Pantry and increasing student participation and advocacy.

THE HIGHLANDER



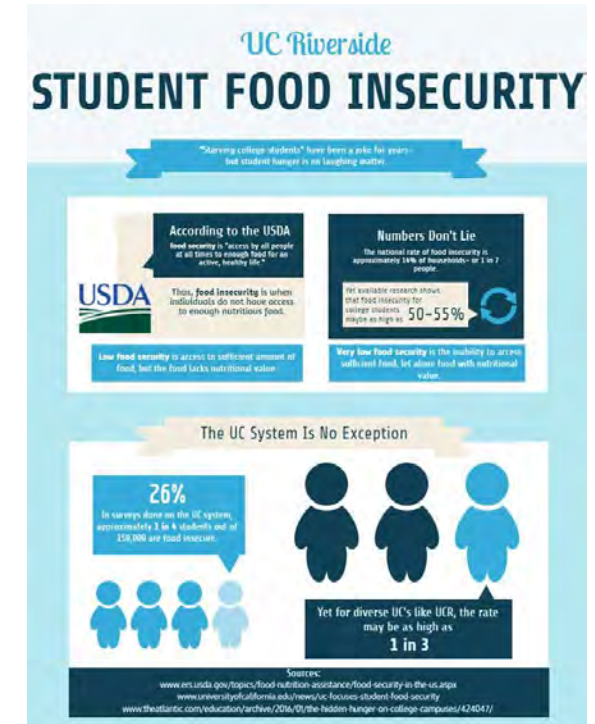
UCR student goes on 115-hour hunger strike for food security

Credit to Joseph Avila and Highlander Newspaper

One method of increasing awareness was the use of a hunger strike to draw attention to food insecurity, from both students and administration. Networking allowed this information to spread to a large audience, and resulted in increased dissemination of information and more student participation.

Through this project, collaboration between students and administration occurred through the Food Security Committee in order to form creative solutions to issues related to student food insecurity. These ideas were presented to help form the U.C. long-term plan to address food insecurity.

Work on food insecurity also branched into collaboration with R'Garden, the U.C.R. community garden. This helped to increase student access to fresh fruits and vegetables and increase student interest and participation, with the additional benefit in providing a healthy environment for students to learn about gardening and farming practices and their role in food security.



Infographic distributed to students.

Informational material, including flyers and infographics (like the one shown above), were used to make information readily available for the students. This infographic is now available to anyone online.

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