



Bunker Hill Community College
Food Pantry

DISH CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS

BHCC opened the Single Stop office to connect students to state and federal financial resources and local community services in order to overcome economic barriers to continuing education with Director Kathleen O'Neill at the helm.

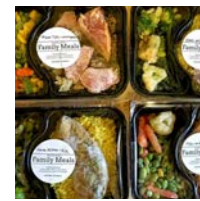


President Eddinger began speaking with the media about student hunger.



BHCC friend, donor, and Director of the BHCC Foundation, Bob Strassler, began contributions to fund pantry staples and \$25 Stop & Shop gift cards to assist Single Stop clients experiencing a hunger emergency.

With a generous donation of a freezer, BHCC began distributing frozen meals produced by Food for Free from rescued food out of our Single Stop office.



2011

2012

2016

2017

BHCC partners with Food Link to bring daily deliveries to campus. BHCC became the first Massachusetts community college to host a free, on-campus Mobile Food Market each month in collaboration with The Greater Boston Food Bank.



Food Link

BHCC hosted representatives from public and private universities and colleges across Massachusetts, along with community leaders and partners, for the first convening of the Voices of Hunger on Campus symposium. Together, we wove a cogent local, regional and national narrative of student hunger, listening to student voices on hunger and contextualizing their stories through the analysis of collected data.



60% of Bunker Hill Community College students indicated that they were experiencing food insecurity

52% indicated that the best way to address food insecurity was through a campus-based program that would help students in college, not only community colleges, but the four years as well.

56% of Bunker Hill Community College students indicated that they were experiencing food insecurity

45% have cut the size of their meals or the number of meals they eat each week due to not having enough money for food

Voices of Hunger on Campus

Everyone wants economic growth for our country and everyone wants a larger middle class, and one way to do it is through education. If community colleges have 50 percent of all undergraduates, that's our solution.

—Jan Eddinger



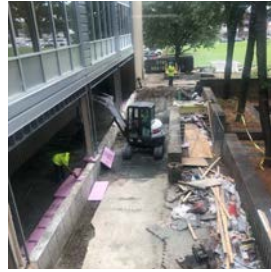
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The first DISH Food Pantry Special Programs Coordinator, Molly Hansen, was hired to help create and execute the plan to build and operate the DISH Food Pantry.



President Pam Eddinger formed the BHCC Hunger Team, led by student leaders and comprised of students, faculty and staff, with the support of the Student Affairs team including Will Cribby and Julie Elkins.



While the DISH was under construction, the BHCC Hunger Team participated in an effort led by Professor Wick Sloane, to urge the United States Government Accountability Office to study college student hunger. This resulted in the completion of a GAO study, the positive outcomes of which can be seen in the introduction and passage of state and national legislation.



2018



BHCC's Student Government Association made increasing services to students struggling with homelessness, food insecurity and transportation costs a central goal of their work. The SGA donated \$50,000 to jumpstart the construction of a BHCC food pantry.

In addition to the donation from the BHCC Student Government Association, the BHCC Foundation raised the remaining \$260,000 needed to fund the construction from friends and donors including:

- Cabot Family Charitable Trust
- Carol and Giulio Caperchi
- Missy and March Carter
- Eos Foundation
- Diane and Bob Hildreth
- Liberty Mutual Insurance
- Stop & Shop

2019

The DISH opened in the Fall semester, thanks to the generous donations of our partners! The DISH team expands to include student staff members who are essential to the operation of the pantry.





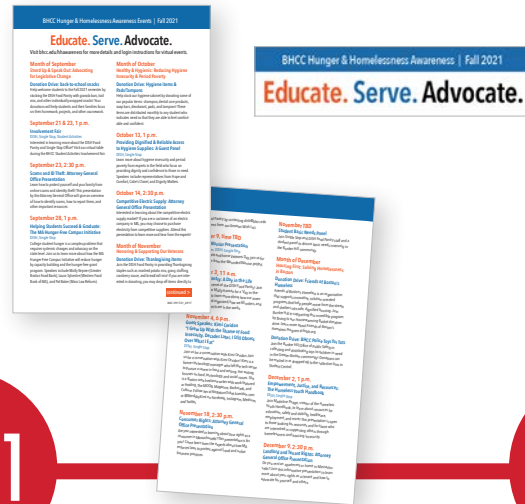
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Due to the pandemic, the DISH team pivoted to home deliveries partnering with SnapChef to deliver pantry orders to students.

In the Fall of 2021, the DISH Food Pantry partnered with Single Stop and the Veterans Center to expand the weeklong Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Series launched in 2019 to a semester-long Seminar Series. Topics explored via guest speakers and events included addressing hygiene insecurity and period poverty, honoring and supporting veterans, and the lifelong impacts of food insecurity on adults and mental health.



Walk-in hours resume for the first time since March 2020, allowing for our Grab & Go services to expand. The DISH distributed over 55,000 pounds of food and served 41 students per day at Grab & Go office hours.



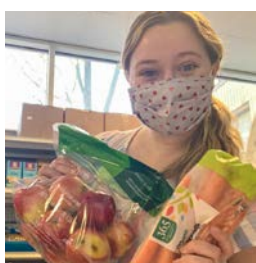
DISH partners with Quadient to be the first college food pantry in the country to use automated refrigerated lockers to help the community access needed food and supplies.



2020



The DISH served 641 households, distributed 32,672 lbs of food, and launched "Molly's Kitchen," a virtual cooking show. The DISH also distributed Chromebooks for students in need to attend virtual classes.



2021

DISH distributed over 39,000 pounds of food and made over 1,600 home deliveries of grocery orders.



2022



DISH received a grant of \$60,000 over 2 years from Liberty Mutual to purchase diapers and baby products to alleviate economic barriers faced by parents.

American Rescue Plan Act (Massachusetts Community College Campus Hunger Program focus) funds DISH expansion to Chelsea Campus (\$174,074 grant) as well as programming to increase SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) awareness with extended evening hours (\$58,058).



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The DISH student staff expands to include 10 student staff members, working up to 130 total hours per week!

The first DISH Assistant, Emery Spooner, was hired to expand access, and our current DISH Coordinator, Chelsea Alexander, came on board!



With the passage of MassReconnect, BHCC saw a big boost in post-pandemic enrollment.



DISH was awarded another grant from Liberty Mutual of \$150K over 3 years to help stock the pantry with specialty items including diapers, baby products and culturally relevant foods.



The Healey-Driscoll administration and the MA legislature included \$500,000 for the Hunger Free Campus Initiative in the FY25 budget, a critical step in ending hunger for the 44% of public university and community college students facing food insecurity across the state.



2023

2024



DISH expanded to 3 Grab & Go locations, including the G-building student lounge and the Chelsea Campus student lounge.

Smart Locker pickups were expanded to the Chelsea Campus, increasing grocery pick-up access to Chelsea students and staff.



69,647 pounds of food were distributed, 2,647 grocery orders were filled, and over 19,000 Grab & Go visits were recorded.



DISH celebrates our 5th anniversary and the community we have built together!

