

Over the past three years, the university has been exploring successful ways to teach college students about food and agriculture systems through the work of the Global Food Initiative (GFI). Launched by UC President Janet Napolitano and UC's 10 chancellors in 2014, the GFI has been addressing how to sustainably and nutritiously feed a growing world population through a number of projects and programs. The GFI has served as a means to encourage community learning and problem-solving around food and housing security.

UC's accomplishments and ongoing efforts on food security include:

- Awarding \$4 million (\$377,000 per campus) to fund efforts in research, student support services, educational programming and engagement.
- Establish an institutional working group on each campus to coordinate campus-specific food security and systemwide collaboration.
- The creation or expansion of food pantry and distribution services on each campus, available to all students with need. Securing facilities on four campuses (Davis, Irvine, San Diego and Santa Cruz) to open the first wave of UC Basic Needs Hubs/Centers where centralized resources, services and events are coordinated and provided.
- Establishing or expanding undergraduate campus dining meal donations through the "Swipe Out Hunger" program.
- Expanding campus crisis teams to provide support for those experiencing food and housing insecurity.
- Expansion of pre-college programming curriculum and materials to include basic needs education and strategies.
- Launching the Smart 'Eaters Life Skills Series: Nutrition, Financial Wellness, Cooking Skills at UC Irvine providing students the education/skills needed to eat healthy on a budget and learn how to cook affordable, nutrient-dense foods.
- Establishing a Basic Needs committee at UC Santa Barbara that coordinates over 60 workshops quarterly, targeting both residential and non-residential student populations, reaching over 1,000 participants per quarter.
- Launching a grocery shuttle service on the UCLA campus to provide weekly student transportation to a diverse group of grocery stores that accept CalFresh benefits.
- Utilizing food recovery platforms and partners to establish new recovery channels:
 - UC Berkeley created a "Food Recovery Coalition" to redirect nutritious foods that would be discarded.
 - UC Merced introduced CropMobster, a new phone app and web platform providing students with daily updates on food donation availability from farms, local food businesses and on-site catering and dining venues.
 - UCSF created a "Food 4 UCSF Students" app, an opt-in text notification system for untouched catering foods.
- Creation of a map of edible gardens and seasonal fruiting trees for the UC Davis campus (ediblecampus.ucdavis.edu).
- Year-round field production for student pantries within the UC Santa Cruz Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) farm producing over 20,000 lbs. of organic fruits and vegetables.
- Mobilizing campus efforts and increasing collaboration with state and county offices to increase the number of students who have registered for CalFresh.
- Facilitating intersegmental leadership meetings with California Community Colleges (CCC) and California State University (CSU) representatives to improve coordination and share evidence-based practices.

For more information UC's ongoing campus efforts, please refer to [pages 13-16 of the *Global Food Initiative: Food and Housing Security at the University of California* report.](#)

UC is also improving student access to affordable housing through a systemwide housing initiative:

- UC is on track to create 14,000 affordable, below-market housing beds by fall of 2020 to support current students and future enrollment growth.
- In July 2017, the Board of Regents allocated a one-time \$27 million allocation to address housing needs for students, staff and faculty.
- UC's Institutional Research and Academic Planning (IRAP) division recently began to examine student homelessness for the first time. Through institutional surveys, IRAP will continue to explore validation of research questions around student homelessness and housing security to better understand and address the problem.

Additional information on GFI-supported projects addressing food security is located on this information sheet: [Increasing food literacy: Resources and experts](#). Further details on the general GFI program can be found on our program site at <http://www.ucop.edu/global-food-initiative/>.