How might we alleviate food insecurity of college students in Metro Atlanta?

Food Fighters

Food Insecurity

Food insecurity is an inconsistent access to adequate nutrition and is characterized by the following components:
- **Availability**: overall abundance of food
- **Access**: ability to reach food available
- **Utility**: ability to consume food
- **Stability**: ability to remain food secure

Components of Stability

To be stable in the context of food security, one must have a dependable shelter, a livable income, a proper education, applicable medical attention, and reliable transportation.

Why college students?

- **Roughly 10%** of Feeding America’s 46.5 million adult clients are currently students, including about 2 million full-time students.
- **59%** of students at a mid-size university in Oregon were food insecure at some point during the previous year.
- **39.2%** of the City University of New York’s quarter of a million undergraduates had experienced food insecurity at some time in the past year.

1 in 10
of Feeding America’s 46.5 million clients are students

31%
report choosing between paying for food and education

Trade-offs

There are several trade-offs college students must make when considering to pursue a college degree such as the following:
- Academic Performance
- High Costs of College
- Limited/No Income
- Supporting Family
- Transportation
- Nutritious Food
- Campus Engagement

Our Partners

- ATLANTA COMMUNITY FOOD BANK
- AIDING COLLEGE STUDENTS
- ATLANTA METRO ASSISTANCE CENTER
- CAMPUS KITCHENS PROJECT

What We Learned

We have developed several key points that have allowed us to decide on our current population and ideas about potential solutions:
- ACFB does not struggle with efficiency
- Strict regulations for campus food
- Community Eligibility Provision - Insert one sentence.
- Rural Innovations - Access is the largest issue in dealing with rural food aid. Innovations such as mobile food buses for food insecure children and work with iPads for applying to SNAP in rural America.
- Collective Impact

Considerations

- Most existing solutions revolve around food pantries - the main struggle is finding a solution that is innovative and takes it farther
- Repurposing Greek housing food waste
- Increasing FAFSA enrollment
- Target Population - Non-traditional college students seem to have the most need
- Anonymity - creates difficulty in gathering user information or research regarding this problem space

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