

# DISH Food Pantry 2022 Yearly Report

bhcc.edu/dishfoodpantry



49,766

#### **TOTAL POUNDS DONATED**







23,576 Greater Boston Food Bank

**15,000** Food for Free Produce

**4,500** Stop & Shop **2,301** Food Link

2,228 Community Donations

(mail-in donations from Amazon)

1,500 Hope and Comfort200 Seven Hills Pasta

100 Wegmans



55,970

### **TOTAL POUNDS DISTRIBUTED**

**29,658** Non-Perishable Food

14,170 Fresh/Frozen Food

3,440 Hygiene and Household

**Cleaning Products** 

**7,754** Baby Food/Products

897 Miscellaneous (school supplies, etc.)

51 Gluten-Free Food

656
NEW INTAKE FORMS

**/** 

613 STUDENTS



43 STAFF

499

**TOTAL USERS** 

729

**BAGS DELIVERED** 

2,078

**ON-CAMPUS PICK UPS** 

1,690

DISH & DASH LOCKER PICK UPS

2,516 (41/DAY)

**GRAB & GO VISITS** 





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"As a single immigrant mom with two children under the age of three, going back to school has been challenging. This program has helped me out so much!"

"After finding out about the Grab & Go Office Hours and frozen meal program, I have been able to eat a healthy, balanced diet and I feel a lot more energetic and focused during class."

## **DISH Milestones/Exciting Moments**

#### Spring 2022

- Donation of \$20,000 from BHCC COVID
   Vaccine Incentive Fund allowed purchases of a new freezer, two new carts, and household supplies for distribution.
- Walk-in hours resume for the first time since March 2020. DISH revives Food for Free partnership and Heat N' Eat frozen meal program.
- Launched DISH & Dash Lockers, the first initiative of its kind at a college/university.

#### **Summer 2022**

- Celebrated two years of pantry deliveries with Snapchef! Since May 2020, the delivery system has completed thousands of deliveries to users free of charge. Snapchef driver, James Dickhaut, has become an indispensable member of the DISH Food Pantry team.
- Received \$60,000 Liberty Mutual Foundation
   Basic Services Initiative Grant to purchase baby food, diapers, formula, and dietary-specific (gluten-free, dairy-free, etc.) items.
- Stop & Shop brings 75 BHCC students to Labor Day Weekend Red Sox game.

#### Fall 2022

- 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).
- Student Government Association commits to \$200/month (\$16,000 Annual) donation for dietary-restricted items.
- DISH contributes desserts, drinks and snacks for HOPE Initiative's first annual Friendsgiving.





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## **DISH Programs**

#### **Food Pantry Delivery**

Partner Snapchef delivered **729 bags of food** and hygiene items to 219 clients who live within a 10-mile radius of BHCC. Deliveries were discontinued in September as more students returned to campus.

#### **Pantry Pick Up**

DISH fulfilled **2,078 campus pickups.** Beginning in April, all Pantry Pick Up orders were picked up in the DISH & Dash Refrigerated lockers.

#### **DISH & Dash Lockers**

In April 2022, the DISH Food Pantry became the first food pantry in the country to implement refrigerated smart lockers for client pick-up. The impetus for these lockers came from conversations with our students and how to best support them and their busy schedules. Many of our students work full or part-time jobs, have small children at home, and/or have limited transportation. Since introducing the lockers, on-campus pick-ups have become incredibly flexible, efficient, and dignified. The funding for the locker project was procured through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

Quadient/Parcel Pending provided the background, training, and support for implementation. In 2022, there were 2,078 campus pick-ups, 1,690 of which were picked up in the DISH & Dash Lockers with a total of 499 individual clients.

### Grab & Go at the DISH Food Pantry Heat N' Eat Frozen Meal Program

The DISH Grab & Go Program is staffed by student workers Monday–Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Due to ongoing construction of the new Student Success Center, the pantry is temporarily located in B101D. Items offered during Grab & Go Hours

include frozen meals, snacks, travel hygiene supplies, pads/tampons, fresh produce, and miscellaneous food items.

## Heat n' Eat Frozen Meal Program from Food for Free

BHCC has partnered with the Food for Free frozen meal program for many years. Since our opening in September 2019, this program has become a staple of the DISH Food Pantry Grab & Go Hours. Every week, **150 frozen meals** are prepared and delivered. Each meal contains a protein, carb, and vegetable, and they offer both meat and vegetarian options. Meals are easily heated up in the microwave in Student Central.

#### **Small Business Partnerships**

Thanks to the generous funding from the BHCC COVID Vaccine Incentive Fund and Halting Oppressive Pathways through Education (HOPE) Initiative\*, the DISH Food Pantry was able to purchase products from several small, Boston-local businesses. By shopping small with an emphasis on supporting Black-owned businesses, we are supporting our community while allowing our pantry users to try out a new and exciting product!

- Dave's Fresh Pasta, Somerville, MA: packages of linguine, spaghetti, pappardelle
- Hab House, Boston, MA: locally made, Caribbean-inspired hot sauce
- Lyndigo Spices, Boston, MA: seasonal jams, chutneys, spices, and sauces
- Remix Waffles, Boston, MA: waffle mix made with natural ingredients











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# Information about survey

- Distributed to Fall 2022 Users (336 users)
- Response rate: 48% (114 responses)

# Demographic of Student Response:

- Full-time students: 68
- Part-time students: 33
- Other: 3 (workforce development, certificate program, etc.)
- Staff/Faculty: 7

100% of DISH Food Pantry users are extremely likely or very likely to recommend the DISH to another student or faculty/staff member.

### Based upon experiences with the DISH Food Pantry Staff and Delivery Driver, DISH Food Pantry users rated the following:

 100% of users strongly agreed or agreed that they were treated with dignity and respect, they felt supported by pantry staff, and any concerns about their order or programming was addressed in a timely manner.

## By receiving items at the DISH Food Pantry:

 85% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they were provided with food/ hygiene items that they would not otherwise have access to.

- 91% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they were able to focus better on class and class-related activities.
- 80% of students strongly agreed or agreed that their ability to attend courses was improved.
- 80% of students strongly agreed or agreed that they were able to stay enrolled.

When asked if they planned to continue their enrollment at BHCC, 85% responded "yes".



The DISH Food Pantry was founded in September 2019 and made possible by the following generous donors: BHCC Student Government Association, Missy & Marsh Carter, Carol & Giulio Caperchi, Diane & Bob Hildreth, Stop & Shop, Cabot Family Charitable Trust, Eos Foundation, and Liberty Mutual Insurance.