Report from the Basic Needs Advisory Board

This report highlights key insights on pantry usage, funding efforts, and future strategies to enhance student support (thanks to Marcella Osuna for sharing this)

A. Data Collection & Funding
   a. Project Analyst has been analyzing pantry usage data.
   b. Exploring general and categorical funding sources for sustainability.
B. Pantry Usage & Services
   a. Pantry usage form tracks demographics, including immigration status (referral to off-campus resources).
   b. Students without CalFresh receive targeted case management outreach.
   c. Demographics of users: 14% DSPS, 26% EOPS, 94% in student support services.
   d. Academic & Career Pathway (ACP) Representation: 30% STEM, 17% Allied Health, 15% Business/Entrepreneurship.
C. Pantry Impact
   a. No current pantry limits, but future restrictions may apply.
   b. Students dropping classes at Miramar are referred to other pantries
   c. Reasons for Pantry Use:
      i. 15% support their family
      ii. 57% want to save money
      iii. 54% can't afford food
      iv. 16% lack time to cook
D. Support Services & Emergency Aid
   a. 52 students received support/counseling, 9 emergency grants awarded.
   b. Emergency grant eligibility now considers current unit load (not past institutions) and a 2.0 GPA.
   c. 100 additional laptops and more loaner calculators added to Basic Needs resources.
E. Pantry Satisfaction Survey
   a. 95% satisfied with variety, 91% with quality, 79% with hours, 97% with customer service.
   b. Locker program: Food once a month, hygiene items twice per semester.
F. Reducing Stigma & Expanding Access
   a. Positive emotional response to pantry use, minimal stigma.
   b. County worker to assist with same-day CalFresh approval.
G. Future Goals (18-month plan)
   a. Improve language access.
   b. Expand shopping footprint for better pantry experience.
   c. Optimize workflow and document Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
   d. Strengthen cross-departmental collaboration.