

# **An Innovative Collaborative Approach to Address Short-term and Long-term Food Insecurity**

***CSU Basic Needs Conference  
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# SDSU At-a-Glance

Total Enrollment = 33,917

- ❑ Total Undergraduate Enrollment = 29,377
- ❑ Total Graduate Enrollment = 4,540

Student Demographics (undergraduate and graduate):

- ❑ Students of Color = 53.6%
- ❑ White = 33.9%
- ❑ Other, Not Stated = 4.6%
- ❑ International = 7.9%

*fall 2017 – main SDSU campus only*



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# Financial Aid Support for Students

- ❑ 61% of SDSU students are receiving some form of financial aid and/or scholarships.
- ❑ 30% of SDSU students are receiving Federal Pell Grant.
- ❑ Over \$266 million dollars of aid funding disbursed during the 2016/17 academic year.
- ❑ Of the \$266 million, after university charges paid, over \$119 million dollars (44%) was given to students for books and basic living expenses.
- ❑ Average loan indebtedness for an undergraduate at graduation is \$19,969 (below national average of \$37,121)

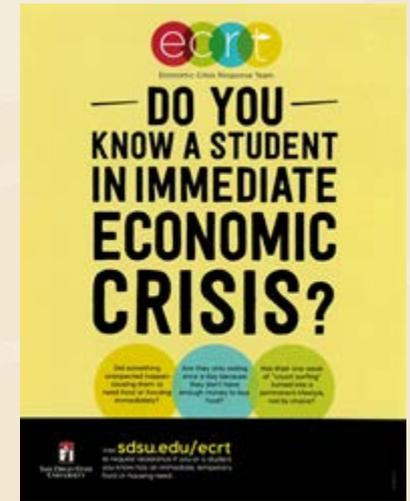


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# Economic Crisis Response Team

The Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT) is a campus-wide working group created to mobilize quickly to coordinate our campus resources to support the needs of our students faced with unforeseen crisis that can impede their success at SDSU. ECRT analyzes each student's circumstances on a case by case basis and develops the appropriate intervention for each student, from short term meals, housing, financial support, counseling and other appropriate services.



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# Pillars of Our Model

- *Focuses on the individual*
- *Collaborative campus-wide effort*
- *Employs short and long-term strategies*
- *Leverages community partnerships/resources*



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# Collaborative Campus-wide Effort

*The Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT) consist of many departments across the university available to assist our students in crisis. As each individual student's situation is unique, we coordinate and deploy personnel that can best support the student's circumstance.*

## Primary Departments Include:

- Associated Students (Auxiliary)
- Counseling & Psychological Services
- Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Office of Educational Opportunity Programs and Ethnic Affairs
- Office of Housing Administration
- SDSU Dining (Aztec Shops - Auxiliary)
- Well-being and Health Promotion



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# Community Partners & Resources

## Food Resources for Students in Crisis

- ★ Catholic Charities Food Resource Centers
- ★ San Diego Food Bank

## Housing Resources for Students in Crisis

- ★ San Diego Housing Commission
- ★ PATH - Connections Housing Outreach Hotline

## Health Resources for Students in Crisis

- ★ San Diegans for Healthcare Coverage

## Job Resources for Students in Crisis

- ★ San Diego Metro Region Career Centers

## Financial Aid Resources for Students in Crisis

- ★ The San Diego Foundation

## Transportation Resources for Students in Crisis

- ★ Zimride



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# ECRT Student Site

Future Students Current Students Faculty/Staff Alumni search  [Select Language](#) 

 SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY | Economic Crisis Response Team



## ARE YOU A STUDENT IN AN IMMEDIATE ECONOMIC CRISIS?

- Did something unexpected happen causing you to need [food or housing immediately](#)?
- Are you only eating once a day because you don't have enough money to buy food?
- Has your one week of "couch surfing" turned into a permanent lifestyle, not by choice?

**We want to help you find the assistance you need!**

There are individuals and groups, both on and off campus, with available resources to get you through your [immediate crisis](#), and hopefully help you avoid a similar situation in the future.

Students can request assistance for an **Immediate food or housing crisis** using the form below or by emailing [ecrt@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:ecrt@mail.sdsu.edu). We also encourage you to explore the resources included on this site. Please note that we cannot guarantee the timeliness or type of response a student may receive from any outside source being referenced on this site.

## TELL US ABOUT YOUR IMMEDIATE CRISIS:

**Name**

**Red ID**

**Contact Phone Number**

**Contact Email**

### Resources for Students in Economic Crisis

- [ECRT HOME](#)
- [Food](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Health Care](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Financial Aid](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Additional Assistance](#)

### ECRT Partners

- [Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)
- [Business and Financial Affairs](#)
- [Counseling & Psychological Services](#)
- [Student Life and Leadership](#)
- [Housing Administration](#)
- [Health Promotion](#)
- [Educational Opportunity Programs and Ethnic Affairs](#)
- [Aztec Shops](#)



# Coordination Strategy

A campus-wide resource database and workflow system was created to enable ECRT to quickly mobilize and coordinate campus resources to assist students in crisis.

## Alternative Student Support Initiatives System (AssisT)

- Immediately alerts campus partners.
- Tracks number of students assisted.
- Tracks services used on campus.
- Tracks communication history with campus partners.



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# Alternative Student Support Initiatives System (AssisT)

*ECRT Notification Box*

Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT) - Referral Form

[Log Off](#)  
[Home](#)

Economic Crisis Response Team 2015-2016

Name:

Red ID:

Class Level: First Time Freshmen

Address: 5520 Mary Lane Dr, San Diego, US, CA, 92115

Email:

Phone Number:



## ECRT Members Notified

Member ID	Notified Date
<a href="mailto:RPASENEL@MAIL.SDSU.EDU">RPASENEL@MAIL.SDSU.EDU</a>	



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# Short and Long-term Strategies

SDSU supports students with short and long-term strategies for food insecurity. When a student reaches out to our Economic Crisis Response Team (ECRT) their individual needs are assessed and the strategies we employ depend on their individual needs.

## *Short-term*

- funds added to student's SDSU card
- on-campus meal vouchers
- off-campus grocery gift cards
- mobile food pantry

## *Long-term*

- CalFresh



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# Short-term Strategies

- Up to \$200 can be added to a student's SDSU card the day of the referral
- On campus dining vouchers are available for student residing on campus
- Local grocery stores gift cards are available for students residing off campus  
*Cards cannot be used to purchase tobacco or alcohol*
- Mobile Food Pantry

***Funding for emergency food is provided by  
SDSU Associated Students***



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# Associated Students (A.S.) Initiatives

- Aztecs Rock Hunger Annual Food Drive
- Mobile Food Pantry
- A.S. No Waste



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# A.S. Initiatives:

## *Aztec Rocks Hunger Food Drive*

- Since 2010 Aztecs Rock Hunger has raised over 2,089,000 lbs. of food
- 2016: Raised 448,240 lbs. of food (\$14,783) donated to ECRT
- 2017: Raised 588,915 lbs. of food (\$19,518) donated to ECRT



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# A.S. Initiatives:

## *Aztec Rocks Hunger Food Drive*

Campus-wide and community supported

- Most cash raised through partnerships with campus stores/eateries & at athletic events and via Venmo
- 20% of cash donations goes to ECRT to support current SDSU students



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# A.S. Initiatives: *Aztec Rocks Hunger Food Drive*

- Partnership with the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank
- Credit funds the A.S. Mobile Food Pantry



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# A.S. Initiatives: *Mobile Food Pantry*

- Started in Fall 2016
  - Total participants in 2016-2017 = 2,520
- In Fall 2017 expanded to two days a week
  - Wednesdays: Aztec Student Union
  - Thursdays: SDSU Farmers Market
  - Hours: 10am - 3pm
- Fall 2017
  - Total participants = 5,496
- Overseen by A.S. Student Support Commission
  - Volunteer run
  - Full-time staff support with no dedicated position



# A.S. Initiatives: *Mobile Food Pantry*

## Food Pantry Volunteer Coordinator

- Working with A.S. Student Support Commission
- Scheduling of volunteers
- Trainings: logistics and education of services
- Oversees day-to-day operations



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# A.S. Initiatives: *Mobile Food Pantry*

- More than a food pantry... EDUCATION
- 'Storefront' of food insecurity resources for all students
  - Local Food Banks
  - CalFresh
  - ECRT
  - A.S. No Waste



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# A.S. Initiatives: *A.S. No Waste*

- SDSU students 'follow' @asNOWaste on Twitter
  - Enables push notifications for immediate updates
  - Receive tweets for opportunities for leftover food
- Leftover catering from the Aztec Student Union
- Promoting free food student organization events



# Long-term Strategy

*brainstorm  
opportunity*

## CalFresh

- formalized relationship with two community organizations
- each organization has assigned hours on campus
- assigned hours in the Office of EOP and W&HP
- organizations participate in outreach events including tabling and personalized presentations
- program information is provided to all students who visit our mobile food pantry and our mobile demonstration kitchen

*SDSU does not take EBT but has a Trader Joe's immediately adjacent to campus*



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# Mobile Demonstration Kitchen

“Mobi” the Mobile Demonstration Kitchen imparts new knowledge and skills to students using CalFresh eligible food items and foods commonly found at the A.S. Food Pantry while increasing awareness of immediate and longer-term resources for students who experience food insecurity.



## Corn and Black Bean Salad

Price Per Serving  
\$0.93

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 can black beans
- 1 can corn
- 1 can crushed tomatoes
- 1 cup chopped bell peppers
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 tsp chili powder
- 2 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp pepper
- 4 tbsp olive oil
- 4 tsp red wine vinegar
- 2 tsp lemon juice

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Drain and rinse black beans and corn.
- Wash all produce
- Chop the bell peppers and onion
- Mix together beans and vegetables into a large bowl
- In a separate bowl, whisk together spices, olive oil, vinegar, and lemon juice to create dressing
- Drizzle dressing over salad and mix

### INFORMATION

- Recipe makes 6 servings (1 cup each)
- Remember to buy low-sodium canned options when possible

Interested in learning more about your health? Visit our website at [healthpromotion.sdsu.edu](http://healthpromotion.sdsu.edu)



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# A look Ahead... Final Thoughts

- Build out a more robust data collection and assessment plan
- Further refine our outreach and communication efforts
- Expand and continue to audit our community partnerships
- Continued refinement of referral follow-up process



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# *Questions?*

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*Use your brainstorming notes  
to complete the work plan*

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