

## Queensborough Community College, CUNY Academic Senate

**To: Jannette Urciuoli, Secretary, Steering Committee of the Academic Senate**

**From: Peter Bales, Chair, Committee on Food Insecurity**

**Subject: Monthly Report of the Committee on Food Insecurity**

**Date: Monday, April 1, 2019**

- The QCC Food Pantry has been operating this spring semester 2019 with the following hours:
  - Mondays: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
  - Tuesdays: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
  - Wednesdays: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
  - Thursdays: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
  - Fridays: 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Appointments may be scheduled at other times by emailing Peter Bales, Chair, Committee on Food Insecurity, [PBales@qcc.cuny.edu](mailto:PBales@qcc.cuny.edu).
- Last week, the committee put out an email request to all faculty requesting volunteers to help with staffing the pantry so it can be open additional hours. We are gratified by the response and offer our gratitude to the nineteen colleagues who have thus far responded. Soon, the pantry will be open for multiple shifts five days a week in a schedule that we hope to maintain for the remainder of this semester and continue in the fall.
- The committee wishes to thank Dr. Anissa Moody and her wonderful Psychology Club members for their coordination of a "Dignity Drive" for our campus food pantry. Additional thanks go to the student clubs, academic departments, and other individuals in the College community for all their collective efforts in support of the food pantry.
- The committee wishes to call attention to further documentation in regard to the serious problem of food insecurity among students at the City University of New York. The findings in the City University of New York #RealCollege Survey report that 48% of the 22,000 CUNY students who responded to a 2018 survey said they were food insecure in the prior 30 days. <https://hope4college.com/city-university-of-new-york-realcollege-survey/>
- In less than one academic year the QCC Food Pantry has grown from a small operation in a tiny closet on the fourth floor of the Library Building to a much larger

entity with a budget of tens of thousands of dollars (administered by the QCC Fund) located in a much larger space on the top floor of the Student Union building. It is currently serving dozens of QCC students a week.

- Challenges remain, particularly in logistical areas such as ordering, unpacking, and restocking, and the committee is looking forward to working with the Administration on these and any other issues that may arise.