**MISSION**

The Associated Students Food Bank is a student-run service that is available to all UCSB students, both graduate and undergraduate. We aim to eradicate hunger from our campus community by providing basic food supplies, toiletries, and information about additional resources to students in need.

In order to promote the comfort and moral support of students, the AS Food Bank is accessible during regular school hours, and respects the confidentiality of its users.

**HISTORY**

In an environment of budget cuts and fee increases, students are facing new challenges that affect their performance as students and derail their academic and career goals. The AS Student Initiated Recruitment and Retention Committee and The Associated Students Office of the President have collaborated with Associated Students staff, the Student Financial Resource Committee, the Vice-Chancellor of Student Affairs Office and various other departments to establish this service in April 19th, 2011 based on the Student Financial and Food Need Survey conducted in Winter Quarter 2011 of 2150 students.

As of Spring Quarter 2012, we have serviced over 600 students, coming in a total 2822 times.

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**Do you feel there is a need for a food bank on UCSB’s campus?**

- **YES** 65%
- **NO** 35%

**How often do you find yourself skipping meals to save money?**

- Everyday 7%
- A few times a month 23%
- A few times a year 17.3%
- Never 36%

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**Here is What Students Say is the Reason they come into the Food Bank:**

"For the past few months, I've been very hungry because I only have the 10 meal plan, and I have to skip meals every week, but now that you guys are doing this, I won't be hungry anymore."

"I am a dependent student and the economic crisis has left my dad without a job and trying to meet ends meet. I work and study at the same time, living off campus and paying bills sometimes. I have little money to buy food..."

"Independent students without parents are at a financial disadvantage to qualify for loan..."

"I feel so much more at ease through the week knowing I'll be able to come and get some basic (expensive) necessities..."

Whatever your reason might be. You don't have to be starving to come into the Food Bank. We want to prevent anyone from experiencing hunger so if you need food for the day, week, or is just hungry while you are on campus and have no money come in and see us. You can take as little or as much as you need. We are here to assist you!"