



Micro-Pantries to Mitigate Inaccessibility to Anti-Hunger Resources



Abstract

WITH THE PRICES OF EVERYTHING INCREASING, FOOD SCARCITY AND HUNGER IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE OF A PRESSING ISSUE IN THE INTERIOR. FAIRBANKS SPECIFICALLY HAS A FEW ANTI-HUNGER RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC SUCH AS THE FOOD BANK AND THE BREADLINE HOWEVER FOOD JUSTICE IS EVERYONE'S WORK AND EVERYONE'S PROBLEM. IN ORDER TO SECURE OUR COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE IMPOVERISHED IT IS IMPERATIVE TO NORMALIZE THE EXISTENCE OF FOOD RESOURCES BEING DISPersed AND ACCESSIBLE THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY TO THOSE WITHOUT LUXURIES SUCH AS VEHICLES.

A MAJOR BARRIER TO RECEIVING RESOURCES FROM FOOD PANTRIES ESPECIALLY IS NOT HAVING A CAR WHICH IS NOT EXACTLY AFFORDABLE IN FAIRBANKS. EMOTIONAL BARRIERS TO APPROACHING THESE RESOURCES ARE NOT USUALLY CONSIDERED. IT'S IMPORTANT TO EVALUATE WHAT PREVENTS AN INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY FROM SEEKING OUT THESE LARGER ENTITIES. SHAME IS A LARGE BARRIER TO MITIGATING FOOD INSECURITY THEREFORE PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FINANCIAL TURBULENCE ARE DESERVING OF THE DISCRETION OF SELF HELP AND SELF SERVING MICRO-PANTRIES THAT WOULD MITIGATE INACCESSIBILITY AND THE DISTURBANCE THAT ANY INVASIONS OF PRIVACY WOULD SUGGEST.

OBJECTIVES:

- PROVIDE DISCRETION FOR THOSE FACING FOOD INSECURITY
 - STIGMAS SURROUNDING POVERTY GIVE PEOPLE A SORT SHAME WHEN THEY NEED HELP AND HAVE TO ASK FOR RESOURCES FROM A SPECIFIED ENTITY
- NORMALIZE SELF SERVICE MICRO-PANTRIES
 - WITHOUT THE HUMAN TO REPORT TO THE PANTRIES ARE LESS INTIMIDATING
- PLACEMENT OF PANTRIES ARE CONVENIENT FOR FOLKS WHO LIVE OUTSIDE OF BUS ROUTE
 - FIRST PROSPECTIVE LOCATION ESTER GAS

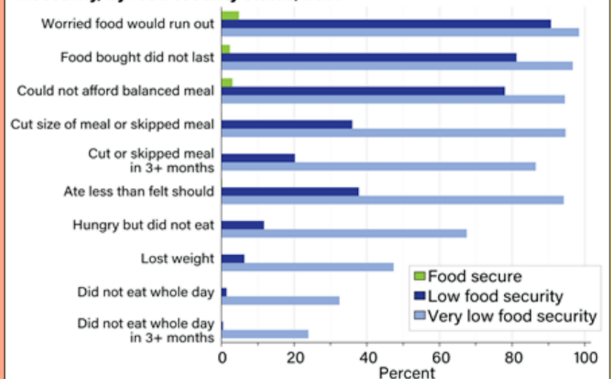
EMOTIONAL IMPACTS INCLUDE:

SHAME
 EMBARRASSMENT
 RIDICULE
 OTHERING
 CLASSISM
 BULLYING

FOOD INSECURITY INCLUDES:

- LACK OF ACCESS TO MEET EVERYDAY FOOD NEEDS
- LACK OF FOOD STORAGE SPACE
- LACK OF EMERGENCY FOOD/WATER

Percentage of U.S. households reporting indicators of adult food insecurity, by food security status, 2021



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 2021 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement.

FAIRBANKS HAS A POPULATION OF APPROXIMATELY 33,000 PEOPLE. 1/3 OF THE POPULATION IS CURRENTLY BATTLING FOOD INSECURITY.

ACCORDING TO THE FOOD BANK, OVER 12,000 PEOPLE IN FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ARE LIVING ON INCOMES THAT PUT THEM AT RISK OF HUNGER EACH MONTH.

THIS MEANS THAT 1 IN 8 PEOPLE IN OUR AREA STRUGGLE TO PUT FOOD ON THEIR TABLE EVERY DAY.