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The Campus Kitchen at UMASS Boston Student-Powered Hunger Relief in Boston

Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement, University of Massachusetts Boston

Walter Denney Youth Center

Housing Opportunities Unlimited

St. Peter’s Teen Center

John Winthrop Elementary

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**The Campus Kitchen at UMASS Boston**

**Student-Powered Hunger Relief in Boston**

Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement, Walter Denney Youth Center, Housing Opportunities Unlimited, St. Peter’s Teen Center, John Winthrop Elementary, Project ALERTA, Camp Shriver, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, Inc., Sodexo

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### Summary/Abstract

The Campus Kitchen at the University of Massachusetts Boston (CKUMB) is a part of The Campus Kitchens Project (CKP), a national network of student volunteers, works to rescue excess food to create meals for those in need. CKUMB opened in 2010 to provide meals for the Dorchester community.

By taking the initiative to run a community kitchen, students develop entrepreneurial and leadership skills, along with a commitment to serve their community, that they will carry with them into future careers.

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### Partners and Resources

**Our year-round client agencies include:**
- Walter Denney Youth Center
- Saint Peter’s Teen Center
- Dever McCormack School
- U-ACCESS Food Pantry
- Harbor Point Apartments
- Washington Beech Apartments
- Hearty Meals for All

**Our summer client agencies include:**
- Project ALERTA
- Project Reach
- Camp Shriver

**Our food resourcing partners include:**
- Sodexo at UMass Boston
- Sodexo at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
- Food for Free
- Student Arts and Events Council (SAEC)

**We receive support and guidance from:**
- UMass Boston Office of Student Leadership and Community Engagement
- Massachusetts Law Reform Institute/Food SNAP Coalition
- NYC Coalition Against Hunger (through their AmeriCorps VISTA program)

**Funding:**
We receive funding from a variety of sources. As an affiliate of The Campus Kitchens Project, we receive funding from them each year. We have also been fortunate enough to receive significant funding from AARP for the past two years.

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### Impact

**In the 2012-2013 school year, CKUMB:**
- Engaged 479 volunteers in 1530 volunteer hours
- Grew from a Leadership Team of 3 students to a Leadership Team of 14 committed and active students
- Recovered 13,006 pounds of food
- Prepared 11,894 nutritious meals which served a total of 419 clients
- Delivered meals to 5 client agencies
- Added $36,871 in economic value to our community from the meals provided
- Helped clients gain over $1250 in SNAP (food stamps) benefits

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### Approaches

Each week, CKUMB rescues hundreds of pounds of perfectly good food that would otherwise be discarded. With this food we create meals for nearly 300 clients.

Our supplementary programming focuses on holistic health for all ages including:
- wellness workshops for Seniors
- classroom and garden nutrition programs for youth
- engagement with the Columbia Point Community Garden; and SNAP application assistance for any of our eligible clients.

All of this work is led by the Leadership Team with the assistance of UMB and community volunteers.

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### Goals and Objectives

CKUMB seeks to foster sustainable solutions to hunger. Direct hunger relief and food rescoring are at the heart of this work.

In addition to providing healthy food to those in need, we also aim to provide tools for our clients to maintain food security. Nutrition education; increased access to healthy food through community resources and aid; and a strengthened and supportive community are all elements that CKUMB supports on behalf of our clients.

Finally, so that the mission of our work does not stop at CKUMB, we support a team of student Leaders to implement our work. These Leaders gain the experience to become an impactful and informed next generation in the fight against hunger.

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### Contact

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