## Queensborough Community College, CUNY Academic Senate

To: Joel Kuszai, Secretary, Steering Committee of the Academic Senate

Fr: Emily S. Tai, Chair, Subcommittee on Food Insecurity

**Date: October 30, 2016** 

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

As of this writing, the Lucille A. Bova Food Pantry continues to operate according to the following hours:

Mondays, 2-3 P.M. (Dr. Amy Traver)
Tuesdays, 9.15-10.15 A.M. and by appointment (Dr. Sharon Ellerton)
Wednesdays, by appointment (Dr. Emily Tai)
Thursdays, by appointment (Professor Aviva Geismar)
Fridays, 2-3 P.M. (Dr. Susan Jacobowitz)

All student requests may be sent to the new food pantry email address: LucilleABovaFoodPanty@qcc.cuny.edu or to etai@qcc.cuny.edu

The Pantry is stocked with non-perishable foodstuffs, particularly canned vegetables, fruits, soups, and protein items (beans; tuna, chicken, ravioli), etc., with pop-open cans preferred; pasta and sauce; breakfast cereal; non-perishable soy and almond milk; healthy snacks (sunflower butter; peanut butter; seaweed leaves, granola bars); and personal hygiene items (toothpaste, soap, etc.).

In addition to the generous donors listed in the October report who responded to our call to replenish the Lucille A. Bova Food Pantry when supplies were low at the end of September, we would like to acknowledge the following donors who helped to stock the Food Pantry during the month of October, or otherwise participated in Food Insecurity events on campus:

The Faculty of Schmeller Library Professor Elizabeth DiGiorgio Professor Beata Szpura The Muslim Students Association Mr. Stefano di Matteo Ms. Virginia Villadiego Ms. Andrea Varela We would also like to thank:

- The staff of Single Stop who have been kind enough to refer several students to the Food Pantry over the past months;
- The members of the Newman Club, and Father Anthony Rosado, who have been making hot meals available at the Newman Center, Monday through Thursday, between noon and 4 P.M.
- Professors Elizabeth Di Giorgio and Beata Szpura, who worked with students to create a beautifully decorated collection bin outside the Department of Art and Design (a picture is appended to this report).

As of this writing, "drop off points" for the Food Drive have been established at:

Schmeller Library Entrance (second floor); Medical Arts 02 (the Health Office) Medical Arts 213 (the Biology Department) Medical Arts 125 Medical Arts 413 (Professor Tai's office) Science 448A (Professor Svoronos's office) W-110 (the ASAP Building) Department of Art and Design (C106)

Please note that new supplies are urgently needed as we move into the holiday months of November and December. (This semester's food drive will close at the end of the fall semester on December 12, 2016, although the pantry will remain available through December 22, 2016). Professor Tai will be making a collection of food from these drop-off points with PTK Students on **Wednesday, November 2, 2016.** 

Finally, the following campus events have addressed, or will address, the problem of Food Insecurity at Queensborough:

- Between **Wednesday**, **October 26 and Monday**, **October 31**, NYPIRG, acting with the Newman Center, sponsored "Trick or Eat," a food collection initiative. Members of Queensborough's Lambda Sigma Chapter were among several student organizations participating in this event.
- **Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**, during Club Hours, the Newman Club will sponsor a Sandwich Drive. Donations of Bread, peanut butter, and jelly/jam are still being accepted, as are commitments to participate in sandwich preparation.
- Wednesday, November 18, between 6-9 PM, in the Student Union Upper Level, the Queensborough Student Association and NYPIRG will be hosting a "Hunger Banquet" to raise awareness concerning Food and Housing Insecurity

• Wednesday, November 23, from Noon to 2 PM, Service Learning Partners Drs. Lana Zinger, Amy Traver, Christine Mooney, Cheryl Tokke, Beata Szpura, and Sharon Ellerton, and their classes, will be joined by students from sponsoring organizations (including Queensborough's Lambda Sigma Chapter of PTK), to host a Hunger Awareness Day in the Medical Arts well. The event will feature student research, and displays on Food Insecurity, at CUNY, and across the nation. Everyone in our Queensborough Community is very cordially invited to attend!

Respectfully submitted,
Emily S. Tai
Associate Professor of History
Chair, Subcommittee of the Academic Senate on Food Insecurity

