



## Healthy Campus Case Study



**HEA** | HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS

# The Pantry – addressing food insecurity at DCU

### Name of institution and initiative lead

Dublin City University  
The Office of Student Life

### Date and timeframe

2023-2024 Academic Year

### What was the reach?

2800 students recorded

### Aims and Objectives

The Pantry is a cost-of-living crisis response that aids students to combat food insecurity experienced throughout third level institutions due to the high cost of living.

### Aligned frameworks, policies, or strategies

DCU Student Life Strategy  
DCU Care and Connect (University Student Wellbeing Initiative/ Strategy)  
Dublin City University Strategy  
HEA Healthy Campus Charter and Framework

### Project Collaborators

Office of Student Life Staff (Padraig Sheehan, Joshua Dunne, Ann-Marie Brophy).  
DCU Care & Connect Group  
DCU Restaurant  
DCU Marketing & Comms  
DCU Health & Safety

### Key Learning Points

**Marketing and Comms** The Pantry Store became a victim of its own success in many ways. We began marketing and promoting the initiative through social media predominantly. After approximately a fortnight, we made the decision to no longer promote it as the demand was far outreaching the supply. This ensured that those who were most in need were able to access it.

**Stigma** We very intentionally selected a location front and centre of our student centre where The Pantry was impossible to miss showing that we were proud to showcase it in the hope students would not feel shame walking to a hidden room in a corridor.

**Sustainability** Sustaining the initiative is key, we have begun talks with the Educational Trust for sponsorship and FoodCloud for delivery of the service.

Healthy Campus Process	Whole Campus Approach	Topic	Population Group
Consult	Campus Environment (Facilities & Services)	Healthy Eating / Food	Students
Create		Mental Health & Wellbeing	
		Health & Sustainability	
		Other	



Ollscoil Chathair  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City University

