

Campus Pantry Reusable Bags - Progress Report

Email

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Project Manager Name

Daniel Gallardo

Requested Metrics

of people in the core project team involved in planning and execution of the project (break out by students/staff/faculty): 4 students in total (myself, 1 graphic designer, 2 student staff) and 1 full time staff.

of estimated cumulative hours spent on this project (break out by students/staff/faculty): 27 hours of tabling (3 hours per each day)

Project-specific:

of students reached or educated: We have educated and interacted with a total of 1082 students, faculty and staff.

of tabling events held: 9 tabling events throughout the semester.

of volunteers engaged with the project: 6 volunteers involved in educating, preparing, and distributing bags throughout the semester.

Project Accomplishments

For this project, we have edited and finalized a design for the reusable bags. Upon receiving the funds from the grant, we were able to purchase a total of 1125 reusable cotton tote bags (13x5x13) from SafeGuard, a local vendor here in Tucson.

We began distributing the reusable bags on the first week of February (2/4, 2/5, and 2/7). During this week, we partnered with Students for Sustainability to help educate our users on the benefits of using reusable bags over single use ones. In each bag, a small info flyer displaying the impacts of reusable bags was placed. After the first week of February, we continued to provide bags upon request to extend the lifespan of our bag supply and to ensure that any new user who will need a

bag throughout the semester will still be able to receive one.

We continued to do info tablings on the first Tuesday of every month (and additional dates when there were sufficient staff/volunteers available) to continue educating users on sustainability practices. These dates were 2/14, 3/4, 3/6, 4/1, 4/3, and 5/6. We tabled at both our main location at the Student Union Memorial Center as well as our secondary location at UAHS to expand our outreach and make sure that all of our users are able to receive a bag. As of submitting this progress report, we have given out a total of 1082 bags and still have 43 left to give.

Next Steps

Since we still have bags left, we plan on continuing to provide the bags throughout the summer while we are open. This will be beneficial for new students on campus, especially those in New Start.

Challenges Faced

One challenge faced in this project was coordinating pricing logistics with our vendor to ensure we were able to cover fees associated with this project while also taking advantage of discounts we were eligible for. This was easily managed through very efficient communication with the vendor! They were truly very flexible and helpful during this process. Another challenge faced in this project was advertising and making social media posts for this project as we did not have a student staff dedicated to managing our social media pages during this time. This was managed by partnering with the Campus Sustainability Fund student staff to create posts and reels that help explain the purpose and goal of this project!

Project Support

The Campus Sustainability Fund have already provided the support we needed throughout this project by helping us with social media content! This has helped us tremendously in spreading the word as we have had folks arrive to our space and requesting a bag that they learned about through our posts. I don't believe we will need any additional support for the future of this project as it is coming to the end of its timeline.

Photo Link

Media/Links

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