



REPORT

From the office of the...

Food Collective Centre Director

TO: Members of the Executive Board
 FROM: Hannah Philip
 SUBJECT: Food Collective Centre Report [#7]
 DATE: January 17th 2019

YEARPLAN UPDATE

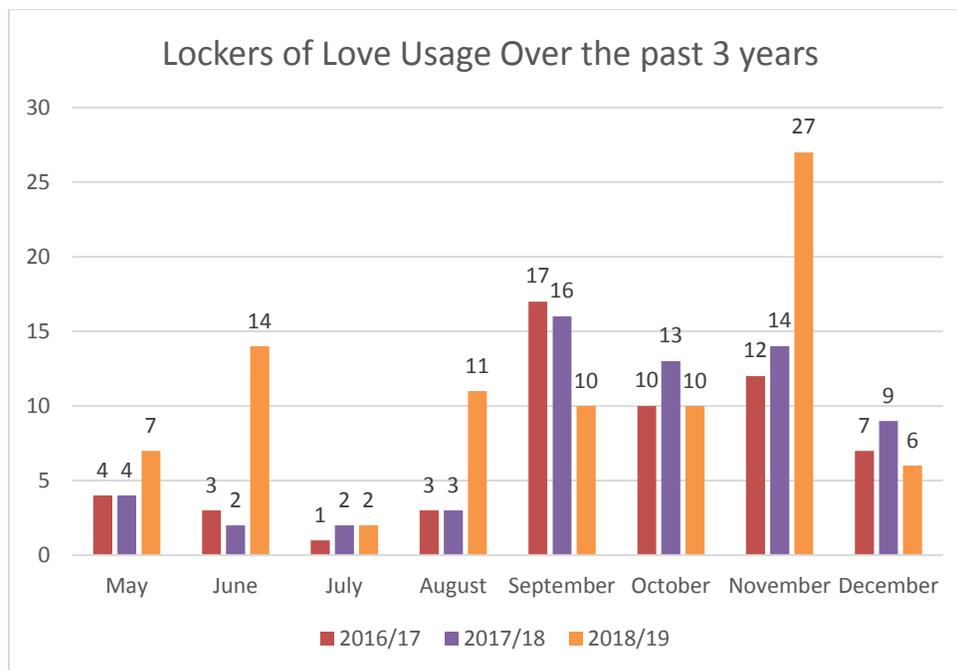
Food Collective Centre is sailing smoothly! Last month we had Study Snacks and Support- a recurring event where we bring snacks and coffee to students to help them through that late-night exam study grind.

We ran our third Good Food Box event of the year which went smoothly, and our second Community Kitchen workshop.

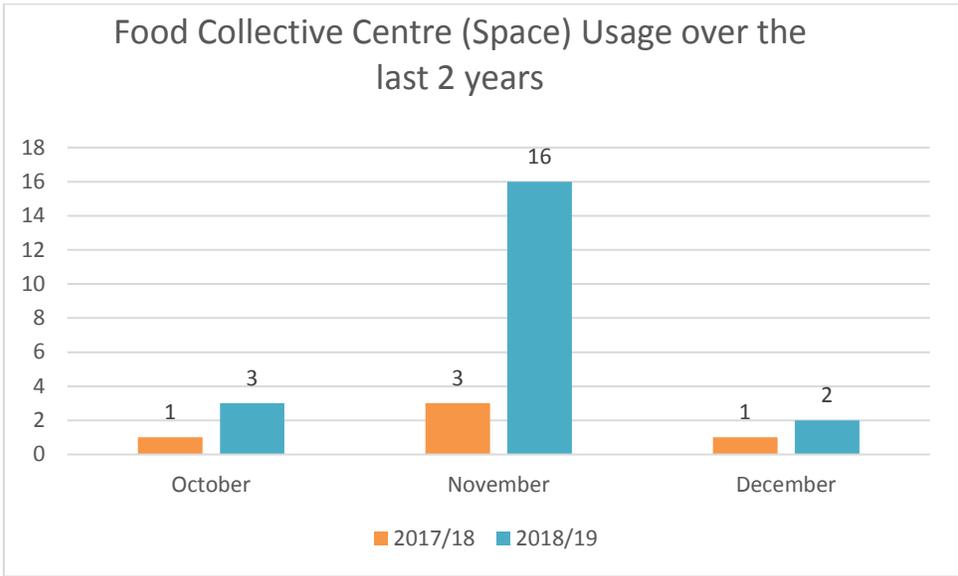
This semester we're hoping to move away from our Second Course events for a healthier, heartier alternative called Ladles of Love in collaboration with The Grind (more details below).

Most of our volunteers are re-trained and our physical space is open for all to use! Overall, we find that we're investing more on hygiene products than we have in previous, which is interesting.

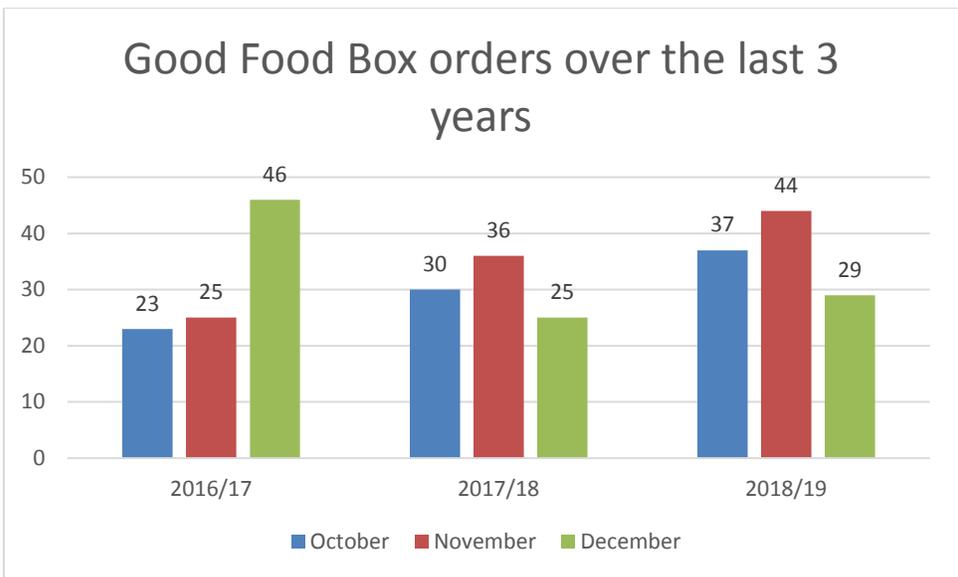
SERVICE USAGE



Lockers of Love Usage sky rocketed in November, hopefully due to increased promotions of our service as opposed to a greater need in our community during that month. Service Usage for December has been low, which is most likely attributed to the fact that McMaster Students aren't on campus for a large part of that month.



Usage of our physical space also increased greatly in November. However, the majority of Food Collective Centre partners still prefer the anonymity of our Lockers of Love program. In terms of items taken, we're seeing a larger portion of our FCC partners who are interested in our hygiene products, but we're still primarily running out of chickpeas, beans and soups.



Good Food Box orders have remained relatively stable, but dropped from November to December. Mostly due to the fact that students are leaving their student houses in Hamilton and were worried about using up the contents of their box especially during exam season when they might have less free time to cook.

PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Community Kitchen workshop: Brunch for dinner

Our Second Community Kitchen workshop of the year went well! We made biscuits, eggs benedict and eggs Florentine (as a vegetarian version). We had good turn out, and taught a few new cooking techniques. Unfortunately, we're still getting used to the oven which took a little longer to cook biscuits than expected, but we're correcting for this in future events by primarily using the stove top.

Study Snacks and Support

Our Study Snacks and Support event in collaboration with FYC went well! We consistently had a lot more turn out than last year, we're not sure if the days we picked were more useful for students or if having the doors open for people to walk in made us a little more visible.

However, it seems like we were a little redundant because the chaplaincy centre provides freshly brewed free trade coffee and treats on Second Floor MUSC. This April, we're hoping to collaborate with them which will allow us to spend a lot more on fresh fruit and healthy snacks, or simply have this recurring event a little more frequently.

Smoothie Station at FYC's First Year Chill event

We bought fruit and milk for a smoothie station! The event went well (due to FYC's incredible planning).

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

Ladles of Love

Our first Ladles of Love event is coming up on January 24th 2019. This program is in collaboration with The Grind, and seeks to provide students with a heartier, healthier meal in a more central location. We will be purchasing soup from 1280 and using The Grind's space after hours.

Ladles of Love is an alternative to the Second Course program that ran last semester in Bridges. While there were always students lining up for the pastries and muffins we would provide (in collaboration with Hospitality services) I felt that Food Collective Centre had a responsibility to serve healthier meals. Since Ladles of Love will be serving hot vegan soups, bread and fruit, we will probably not appeal to students who were looking for a quick pastry; which means that we will probably be serving less people but reaching our demographic of food insecure students better.

According to the preliminary results from the “Hungry for Knowledge Survey” distributed to McMaster students, around 80% of survey participants have not accessed Food Collective Centre, which may be due to a lack of knowledge around the resources available at McMaster. This event aims to be a space for students to sit and eat with us to encourage conversations around food insecurity but also to let them know about our upcoming events as well as the resources available to them.

Community Kitchen Workshop

Our next community kitchen workshop is coming up on Jan 29th 2018. It will take place in Alumni house Kitchen, with about 10-12 participants. In the past, we’ve run into issues with planning recipes that might be too ambitious in a limited time frame, so we’re hoping to focus on more transferable skills while still making an impressive dish for beginners.

Good Food Box

Our next Good Food Box delivery will be on February 5th. Packing will take place in the Grace Lutheran Church and we use Hamilton Cab’s to deliver to individuals living in Hamilton. Unfortunately we’re running into issues on the back end of our website to order, so we’re directing people to the accounting office to purchase the Good Food Box for this month.

BUDGET

Spent \$91.85 on a Walmart run for hygiene products- pads, toothbrushes, toothpaste, diapers, razors. Spent \$93.34 on Walmart on various soups and cans of tuna. \$415 remaining in Reserve.

Spent \$47.51 on a fan from amazon.ca because our volunteers deserve it!
\$2.49 remaining in office supplies.

Spend \$103 on pizza, snacks, hot drinks and a projector screen for volunteer appreciation as well as a volunteer refresher/retraining/bonding to remind volunteers; \$247 remaining in volunteer appreciation.

Spent \$341.98 total shared with FYC to run Study Snacks and Support! Our share was \$170.99 from our Events budget line. We also spent \$30.55 on fruit and milk for smoothies which brings our events budget to \$837.45.

VOLUNTEERS

We held a volunteer appreciation event in December where we ate food, watched Harry Potter movies and chatted. It was organized as more of a drop-in event, a few volunteers stayed for the entire time, but most of the volunteers who came only dropped by for some food, a quick chat and left. I think we could’ve gotten more turn out if we had planned this event in late November.

Our volunteer training in January took the form of volunteer appreciation 2.0 as we aimed to make training more interactive (i.e. a fun trivia game on FCC protocols with timbit prizes) and pizza and socializing after. I think this

probably worked better as people were less stressed and presenting the information in a game made people more likely to remember things as opposed to a dry presentation.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

Unfortunately, a few of our volunteers let us know that they would not be continuing with us this semester so we're looking for 5 individuals to join our team. This means an additional training date to make our team whole again.

We're having some technical difficulties on the back end of the website for Good Food Box orders. Unfortunately, despite our best efforts it seems like the website has a mind of its own and doesn't want to comply with us so we're directing people to the accounting office instead of online. I think this will probably lower our usage for the February Good Food Box.

SUCSESSES

We have a cool new program! I'm super excited about Ladles of Love and I hope you're excited about it too!