



REPORT

From the office of the...

Food Collective Centre Director

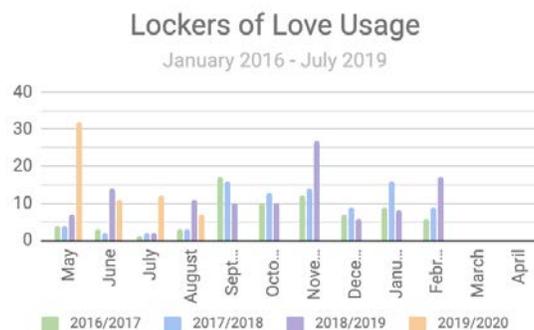
TO: Members of the Executive Board
FROM: Oliver Chow
SUBJECT: Food Collective Centre Report 2
DATE: Wednesday, September 18, 2019

YEARPLAN UPDATE

Since our last EB meeting, we have finished hiring and training all of our volunteers. We revamped our training materials and operating protocols to make sure that volunteers were very clear in their understanding of their roles within the FCC. This was also an opportunity to introduce our Good Food Coordinator into her role with managing and overseeing the volunteers. We are also looking forward to our first Ladles of Love event for the year. All of our graphics and pull up banner are ready for use, and we hope that this first “kick off” event for the year is able to start some discussion around the FCC and normalize accessing food support systems at McMaster. We are also in the process of taking orders for our first Good Food Box of the year. While delivery will not be happening this month, we are still in the stages of potentially acquiring a paid delivery service for future months. Our exec team has had its first meeting and everyone has been formally introduced. We are planning on having more opportunities to bond outside of our work settings to develop stronger relationships for the rest of the year.

SERVICE USAGE

We had 7 orders through Lockers of Love in August. This is slightly lower than last year, but also not a significant difference. With our promotional material coming up soon (in partnership with SHEC), we are anticipating a higher usage in the months to come.



PAST EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- The smoothie station with SSC
 - This event happened during Welcome Week in TwelvEighty/The Grind and I heard that it went very well! Very proud of the team for pulling it together and representing the FCC during this event for first years.
- Volunteer hiring and training
 - High engagement for volunteer applications as well as training
- Graduate Students Resource Fair + Clubsfest
 - Tabling went well and we were giving out lots of our brochures, rave cards, and stickers
 - Many folks were unsure of who we were as a service, but after speaking to us, were very interested in the work that we do
 - Not many people know that there is a food bank on campus - this is something I hope to change through our campaigns and events
- Partnership with SHEC for safe(r) sex products and pregnancy tests
 - We have partnered with SHEC to offer some of their products in our space, as well as through our Lockers of Love program where students can access these materials anonymously and confidentially

UPCOMING EVENTS, PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- Ladles of Love (Thursday, September 19)
- Good Food Box orders (first Tuesday of October for packing)
- Planning for Trick or Eat to begin soon

BUDGET

Only item purchase since last report would be design packages from The Underground

<i>ACCOUNT CODE</i>	<i>ITEM</i>	<i>BUDGET / COST</i>
6501-0318	Good Food Box Graphics	200
6501-0318	Lockers of Love Graphics	100
	TOTAL SPENT IN LINE	300
	REMAINING IN LINE	1595.69
TOTALS		
TOTAL BUDGETED DISCRETIONARY SPENDING		\$6160.00
TOTAL ACTUAL DISCRETIONARY SPENDING		856.85
REMAINING DISCRETIONARY SPENDING		5303.15

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteer training took place over two days, and almost everyone was in attendance. Volunteers were engaged and seemed excited to take on their new roles. We had lots of time to discuss potential conversations that may

occur while interacting in the space, and went through some situations. Our biggest point to stress and for volunteers to take away was that our roles are to support others how they want to be supported. At any point in their accessing of our service, they have complete autonomy to decide whether or not they want to engage with volunteers or fill out an inventory form. We have done our best to prepare volunteers to feel confident in the FCC space, and have made ourselves open as resources should they ever have any questions or concerns.

CURRENT CHALLENGES

One of our current challenges is balancing all of our different programs that we are running. The first month is going to be very hectic, but I believe that our team will be able to pull it together and execute everything smoothly. We are also trying to come up with a delivery mechanism for our Good Food Boxes to make the program more accessible. We have been turned down by Hamilton Cab, Blue Line Taxi, and Skip the Dishes. We are unsure of where to proceed from here, so we have looked into paying for a delivery service with some money that we have received as a donation. This is an ongoing discussion.

SUCSESSES

The FCC has re-opened for the 2019-2020 school year! The volunteers seem engaged and excited, as does the exec team. We have lots of our plate, but we seem to be balancing our service with all the different programs that we are running. I feel like the FCC has become more integrated into the McMaster community, and I hope that we continue to be seen as an integral aspect of student support on campus.

OTHER

There is a new McMaster Food Council that I have been invited to join. It currently looks like meetings will be held twice a semester, and the purpose will be to share and discuss initiatives relating to food, nutrition, food security, accessibility, etc. from different campus groups and leaders. This will be an interesting opportunity to learn more about the different work being done here at McMaster.