



# Student Assembly Food Insecurity Initiative

Executive Overview

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# Background of the problem

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## Rising Costs of College

- Cornell University Tuition Rates have increased by 19% over the past 5 years for the Endowed colleges
- Cost of living on campuses, including food costs, have soared within recent years

## Lack of Cornell Resources

- Very low on the administrative agenda
- Current resources are limited to weekly lunches and a small pantry at 626 Thurston
- General student apathy towards the issue

## High Food Illiteracy

- Students lack knowledge of healthy food alternatives and ways to successfully buy and support themselves on a budget

# Mission Statement & Purpose

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Mission Statement: To fight the problem of food insecurity on Cornell's campus by providing access to healthy, affordable food and increasing food literacy

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Purpose: To develop a food cooperative for Cornell students that provides financial aid and educational programs on healthy and cost-effective eating

## Food Cooperative



Providing Cornellians an alternative option for healthy groceries on the Ithaca campus

## Financial Assistance



Ensuring all students have equal access to quality food for breakfast, lunch, and dinner

## Food Literacy



Increasing each students' understanding of healthy eating and food budgeting

# Food cooperative

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## Definition

Food distribution outlet organized as a cooperative. Food cooperatives are usually consumers' cooperatives where the decisions regarding the production and distribution of its food is chosen by its members.



## Sources

Local farms (Early Morning Farm, Wood's Earth, etc.), Friendship Donation Network, Dilmun Hill Student Farm, Ithaca Farmer's Market, Farmer's Market @ Cornell, local donations (Ithaca Bakery, Wegman's, etc.), Healthy Food for All



## Location

Willard Straight Hall



## Funding

Students Helping Students Grant, Alumni Outreach, Grant Funding, and local fundraising efforts

# Food Literacy & Education

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## Cooking Courses

Student and administration led cooking classes directed towards college students with nutritional value, food safety, and affordability as educational priorities

## Educational Programs

Provide information on programs such as SNAP while offering classes aimed to develop food-budgeting skills and health-conscious tendencies

## Rentals of Kitchen Essentials

Allow pot, pan, utensil, etc. usage to students with Cornell identification for extended periods of time

## Meal Planning

Encourage healthy eating by hosting workshops and providing materials on basic nutrition, healthy portion sizes, and how to stock your apartment with the right ingredients to build nutritious meals

# Financial Structure with Assistance

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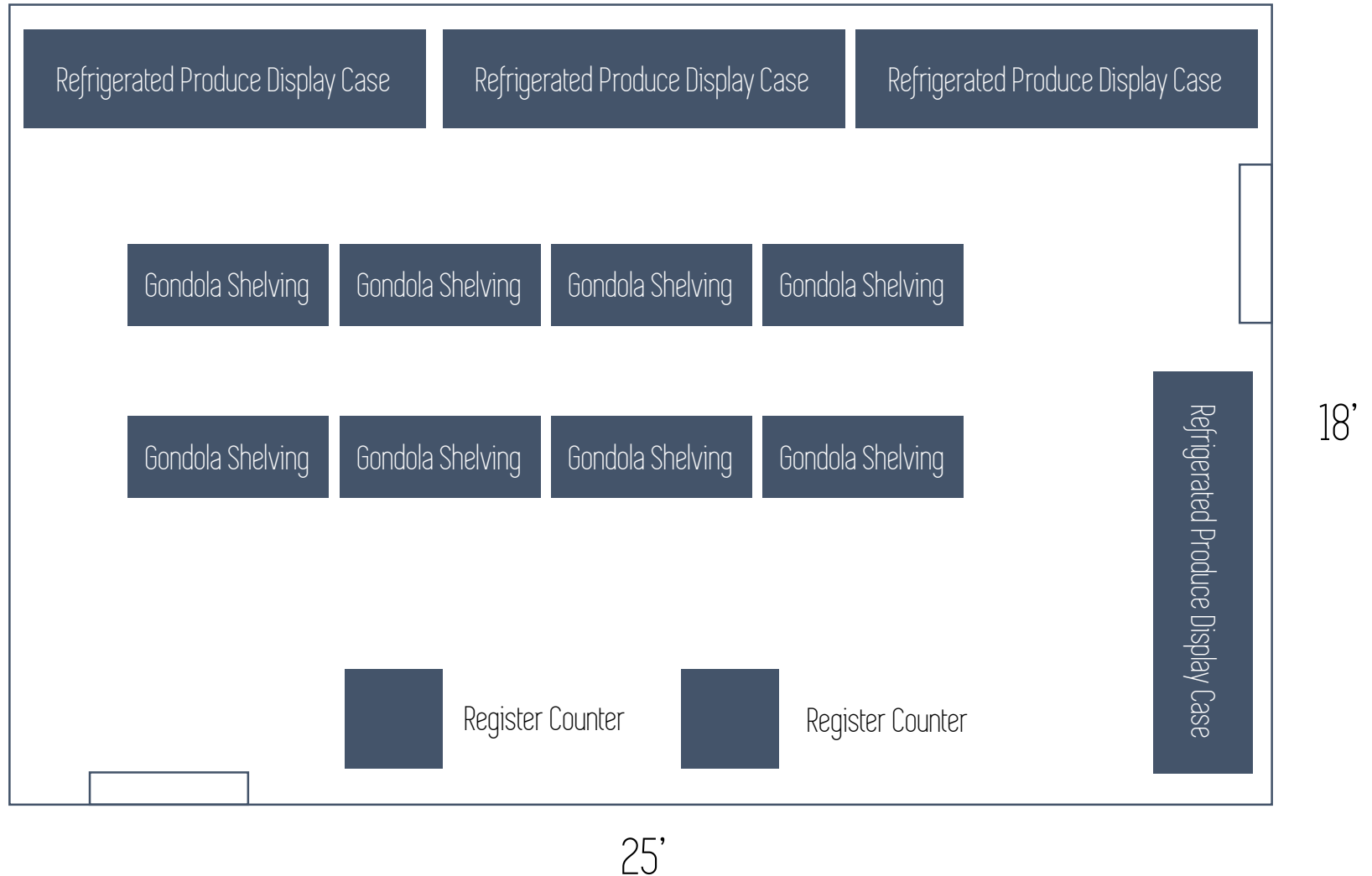
Full Payment

Subsidized  
Payments

SNAP



# Potential Layout



# Proposed Costs

Refrigerated Produce Display Case	x 4 = \$50,000	Painting Costs for 500 sq. feet	= \$5,000
Gondola Shelving	x 8 = \$10,000	Flooring Costs for 500 sq. feet	= \$6,000
Register Counter	x 2 = \$500	Labor Costs for 3 years	= \$50,000
iPad	x 3 = \$1,500	Gas & Electric Costs for 3 years	= \$8,000
	= \$62,000		= \$69,000
Food Subsidy Endowment	= \$100,000		↓
			= <b>\$231,000</b>



# Additional resources

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Name & affiliation	Why?	Contact information
Tisa Hill — Extension Associate in the College of Human Ecology	Potential adviser that specializes in healthy eating and community-level changes	Phone: 607-255-7715 Email: tfh3@cornell.edu
Elizabeth Karabinakis — Healthy Food for All Program Director	Leads collaborative program between local farmers, CSA programs, and households within the community	Phone: 607-272-2292 Email: evk4@cornell.edu
Dilmun Hill — Student-run farm practicing sustainable agriculture on Cornell's campus.	Could be a source of food for project and student farmers could give lessons on food literacy, teaching peers where and how their food is produced	Email: dilmunhill@cornell.edu
Friendship Donations Network — Program that redirects otherwise wasted, nutritious food to people in need	Have donated to like-minded groups, would serve as a source of food that would otherwise be going to waste	Phone: 607-216-9522 Email: info@friendshipdonations.com

# Next steps

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- 1 Build support network:** Contact adviser, CCE, Friendship Donation Network, and CU Agricultural Experiment Station- Dillmun Hill to find feasible sourcing options

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- 2 Outline final proposal:** Develop concrete numbers for final presentation before the Student Assembly and the Financial Aid Review Committee

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- 3 Access Students Helping Students Grant:** Use portion of the money (roughly 1/6) to fund the initiative and begin to generate other forms of funding

