

147900

University of Washington, Seattle Services & Activities Fee Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Request

UW Food Pantry

Unit Leads

Chris Jaehne

Special Assistant to the Vice President for Student Life

UW Food Pantry Staff Director

River Elewski

UW Food Pantry Student Director

Contributors

Angelina Durbin

UW Food Pantry Food Recovery Coordinator

Vani Jain

UW Food Pantry Social Media Coordinator

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UW Food Pantry Food Drives Coordinator

Budget Request Highlights

In this section, please list all line items for any changes in request amount greater than \$1000, along with a short description of each line item and the amount requested. For all other changes under \$1000, please list the total summed figures in a final "miscellaneous expenses" item at the bottom. Please ensure that all the SAF funded line items below and previous SAF allocation total add up to the requested amount. Our goal with this section is to provide an overview of the current financial state, along with any changes in SAF funding that are being requested this year.

Each unit's FY27 request may only represent a maximum increase of 6% or \$38,000 over the unit's allocation for FY26 (whichever is higher in context of the unit's FY26 allocation).

While we would love to fund everyone's full request, SAF is financially constrained by the Washington State Legislature. RCW 28B.15.069 limits the amount that the Services and Activities Fee (SAF) is allowed to increase each year. For FY27, the SAF amount can be increased by a maximum of 4%. Requests beyond the maximum increase will be returned to units for corrections/updates.

Our unit's request in FY23 was **\$76,013.00** and our award was **\$76,013.00**.

Our unit's request in FY24 was **\$87,643.00** and our award was **\$87,643.00**.

Our unit's request in FY25 was **\$106,744** and our award was **\$106,744**.

Our unit's request in FY26 was **\$193,864** and our award was **\$115,447**.

Our request for FY27 is **\$153,447**, which represents a **32.9% (\$38,000)** increase from FY26.

In this section, please break each increase into its own sections (e.g. wage & benefits changes, increases in current employee hours/FTE, funding new positions, etc.). Example sections have been provided (you may delete the example sections).

Wage & Benefits Increases **\$0,000**

In order to maximize the creation of a permanent staff position in the Food Pantry, we are not asking for wage and benefits increases to current positions this year.

New Permanent Staff Position **\$38,000**

We believe that a permanent staff position in the UW Food Pantry is vital to the long-term stability and growth of the Pantry. We are requesting funding for a 0.65 FTE (26 hours per week) permanent position, with the goal of gradually increasing this

position to full-time over the next several years. Turnover and hour caps on student positions make nearly insurmountable barriers to the long-term planning, partnership growth, and strategic planning necessary to increase the Pantry's capacity and effectively meet the food security needs of UW students. A permanent staff position in the Pantry will allow us to increase our open hours, increase and stabilize our food-buying budget over time by applying for grants and building community partnerships, create better systems for data management and reporting, and leverage these changes into strategic long-term planning to support UW students.

Grant Budget Increases

\$0,000

In order to maximize the creation of a permanent staff position in the Food Pantry, we are not asking for a grant budget increase this year.

Supplemental Funding for Operations

\$0,000

In order to maximize the creation of a permanent staff position in the Food Pantry, we are not asking for a supplemental funding increase this year.

FY27 Proposed Staff Wages and Benefits		Wages	Benefits	Total
Pantry Director (Permanent)	\$33.89/hr x 26hr/wk x 52wk/yr	\$45820	\$14891	\$60711
Operations Manager (formerly Student Director)	\$26/hr x 15hr/wk x 52wk/yr	\$20280	\$3285	\$23565
Food Recovery Coordinator	\$23/hr x 15hr/wk x 52wk/yr	\$17940	\$2906	\$20846
Food Drives Coordinator	\$23/hr x 15hr/wk x 52wk/yr	\$17940	\$2906	\$20846
Social Media/Education Coordinator	\$23/hr x 15hr/wk x 36wk/yr	\$12420	\$2012	\$14432
Total		\$114400	\$26000	\$140400

Full Budget Overview & Justification

In this section, you will have the opportunity to explain your request in greater detail via the guiding question(s) below. You are encouraged to use graphs, charts, or other visual tools. Your goal for this section is to provide the SAF committee (and the public) with sufficient (and substantive) context and justification for the use of these funds.

- 1. How are expenditures distributed across the programs and/or services your unit offers? Please provide a general overview of how much spending is allocated to each category of expense, such as staffing, materials, etc., as is applicable.**

There are four main expenditure categories for the food pantry:

- 1. Staff wages and benefits – supported by SAF:** Supports the wages and benefits for the Student Director, Food Recovery Coordinator, Food Drives Coordinator, Social Media Coordinator and Education Coordinator positions.
- 2. UW Farm Contract – supported by SAF:** Allows produce from the UW Farm to be donated to the pantry.
- 3. Food supplies – supported by the Any Hungry Husky Fund:** Monetary donations are conservatively spread throughout the fiscal year to ensure a stable food purchasing budget that currently averages \$8,000 per month.
- 4. Food Recovery equipment and supplies- supported by a grant from the Campus Sustainability Fund (non-recurrent):** these funds help support equipment purchasing (coolers, freezers, thermometers, etc.) that ensure safety and efficacy in our efforts to recapture (what would otherwise be) food waste from on-campus HFS dining partners and off-campus food establishments.

For our Fiscal Year 2027 request, we anticipate spending approximately **\$140,401** on staffing. This includes student and newly proposed position staffing and benefits and does not figure in the approximately 25% of professional staff time dedicated to the food pantry which is provided via the Office of the Vice President for Student Life. Depending on the funding we receive for FY27, this represents about **56%** of our total budget.

We also anticipate spending approximately **\$101,250** on food and office supply purchases, which represents approximately **~40%** of our budget. The remaining **~4%** of our budget goes to other expenses such as the UW Farm contract fee, UCAR transportation costs, and contractual services such as technology fees.

2. Please give a summary elaborating on how SAF Funding has been used to support students *(Please refer to dollar amounts in this discussion when possible).*

- a. In what ways has SAF funding been essential to supporting your unit's on-going services and role in the university? Please provide at least one specific example of a program/service.

Over the past several years, the UW Food Pantry has seen a significant increase in visitors and volunteer activity. During Fall 2023, we saw double the number of visitors compared to Fall 2022. During Fall 2024 we set a record weekly visit count with **738 visitors in one week** and a record quarter visit count with a total of **7561** visits. In Autumn 2025 alone, we saw **7712** people, an increase of 2% from last year's record, with **642 average weekly visitors** and a **new weekly record of 764 visitors**. With [a 2019 UW study](#) showing roughly 20% of UW students indicating food insecurity and Federal cuts to SNAP benefits increasing stigma and challenges to food access, the UW Food Pantry is helping a greater portion of those affected access food.

SAF funding allows us to keep our funding streams separate so we can use other grants and monetary donations to buy the food distributed in the pantry. Without SAF funding, we would have to drastically cut staff hours, thus reducing our open hours and overall services to the campus population.

As an essential component of our budget year over year, SAF funding allows us to ensure we have paid staff positions at an appropriate wage level for the work the staff performs. The pantry currently has five student staff employees that keep the pantry running, advance our services, and partner with other campus stakeholders on a variety of projects. The pantry currently maintains between 25-30 open hours each week. As demand for services increases, so have the demands on student staff. Maintaining wages and building staff capacity allows us to ensure that we can safely meet the increased demand and begin to pursue avenues to lessen the pressure on the UW Food Pantry.

The Student Director position is compensated at a rate of \$26/hour and is currently capped at 19.5 hours per week, while all other student staff positions are compensated at \$23/hour and are capped between 10-15 hours per week. The Student Director provides leadership to pantry staff, represents the pantry at events and presentations, serves as a liaison to campus and community partners, executes food ordering and budget analysis, and coordinates pantry volunteers in addition to acting as shift lead during pantry open hours. The pantry averages between 80-100 in-pantry volunteers each quarter. The Student Director is responsible for creating the volunteer schedule, developing volunteer training protocol, managing attendance, and conducting regular, ongoing volunteer training and surveys to ensure that all students who volunteer in the pantry are equipped with the tools they need to succeed and feel supported and happy while in the Pantry. Last spring, the pantry began a new lead volunteer program that supports volunteers who have

been with the pantry for multiple quarters in taking on more responsibility. This program has had extremely positive feedback from volunteers and helps support students in building leadership skills.

SAF funding has been essential to supporting the Food Recovery Coordinator staff position. In addition to serving as a shift lead, this staff member is primarily responsible for scheduling food recovery volunteers, performing outreach to community partners, and coordinating with dining managers to recover excess prepackaged meals and produce from food business on and off campus. The Food Recovery Program's coordination is managed by this staff member, who also manages a group of about twenty volunteers who assist in transporting excess meals to the pantry and safely distributing them to visitors. This program not only serves to reduce food waste and contribute to the UW's sustainability goals but also provides accessible, ready-to-eat meals for pantry visitors. According to our Autumn 2025 visitor survey, ready-to-eat meals are highly valuable to pantry visitors due to their convenience. However, ready-to-eat meals are typically much more expensive at grocery stores, making them less accessible to visitors who may be experiencing food insecurity. The Food Recovery Program aims to remove this barrier.

Our Food Drives Coordinator organizes food and product drives to keep the pantry well-stocked with diverse choices to meet the needs of the over 700 weekly visitors. In the Autumn 2025 quarter, we have seen about 3,500 pounds of drive donations to the Pantry. SAF funding is critical to supporting the Food Drives Coordinator in conducting outreach to community partners, coordinating successful drives, and processing donations to get them out on the shelves and into students' hands. Additionally, the Food Drives Coordinator builds relationships with RSOs and other on-campus partners to promote the pantry's mission and bring more students in the food justice work as patrons, volunteers, or advocates. This past quarter, we have held community events that include a bulk repack session, a food drives bin decorating session, and collaborative drives that build a strong community around the pantry and support student food security needs.

Our Social Media Coordinator is responsible for updating our social media, coordinating outreach campaigns, and communicating real-time information about pantry resources. This ensures that students are aware of food availability, new items, hours of operation, and emergency updates. Through this position, our Instagram platform reaches thousands of students each quarter, helping drive consistent engagement and awareness of the services we provide. These efforts contributed to the student visitor numbers and supported the distribution of nearly 40,000 pounds of food and hygiene products to students facing food insecurity in the 2024-2025 year. SAF funding of this position ensures that students are supported with resources and timely communication. With SAF funding, the pantry can maintain a consistent and strategic communication pipeline that empowers students to access nutritious food, understand their rights and resources, and stay engaged with community support networks.

The Nutrition Education Coordinator supports students by providing accessible nutrition education and resources to promote health and food security. SAF funding

helps sustain these efforts by covering the cost of educational materials, such as printing recipe cards and pamphlets, and supporting the production of the pantry's monthly newsletter. SAF funding has also been essential in expanding the pantry's educational outreach efforts. In May 2025, the pantry hosted its first cooking workshop in partnership with the ASUW Food Co-op and Anime Nation UW. The workshop had around 30 attendees and taught them how to make Japanese curry using pantry items and providing meal kits to take home. Since then, multiple student organizations have expressed interest in collaborating with the pantry to host workshops. Nutrition education is crucial as most visitors to the Pantry are students who may have limited cooking experience and lack consistent access to healthy food.

- b. How have your unit's services and programming changed over time, and how have you adapted the use of SAF funding?

The primary purpose of SAF funding for the UW Food Pantry is to support the student staff who make it possible to provide food assistance to the UW community. With food insecurity on the rise, SAF Funding allowed the pantry to invest in additional outreach to improve community access. In 2025-2026, SAF funding allowed the pantry to maintain consistent hours, increase community partnerships, and improve its services.

Since our founding, there have been **91,273 visits to the food pantry**. In recent years, the UW Food Pantry has adjusted to growing need by expanding community outreach efforts to help capture more of the nearly 20% of students experiencing food insecurity while building our own capacity to support significant demand in our diverse food sourcing methods. Over the past year, the UW Food Pantry has solidified partnerships, sourced additional produce for visitors, reduced food waste on campus, and increased our social media presence.

In the past year, the Food Recovery Program has expanded to off-campus vendors for the first time under the supervision of the current Food Recovery Coordinator. This expansion has increased the total volume of food recovered each quarter and the variety of ready-to-eat items available in the pantry. The use of SAF funding for this position has enabled the Food Recovery Coordinator to expand beyond shift lead duties and volunteer coordination. She now utilizes her position to regularly present to UW Dining to advocate for the Food Recovery Program, performs outreach in the greater UW community to establish new partnerships, and closely trains lead volunteers to take on their own food recovery projects.

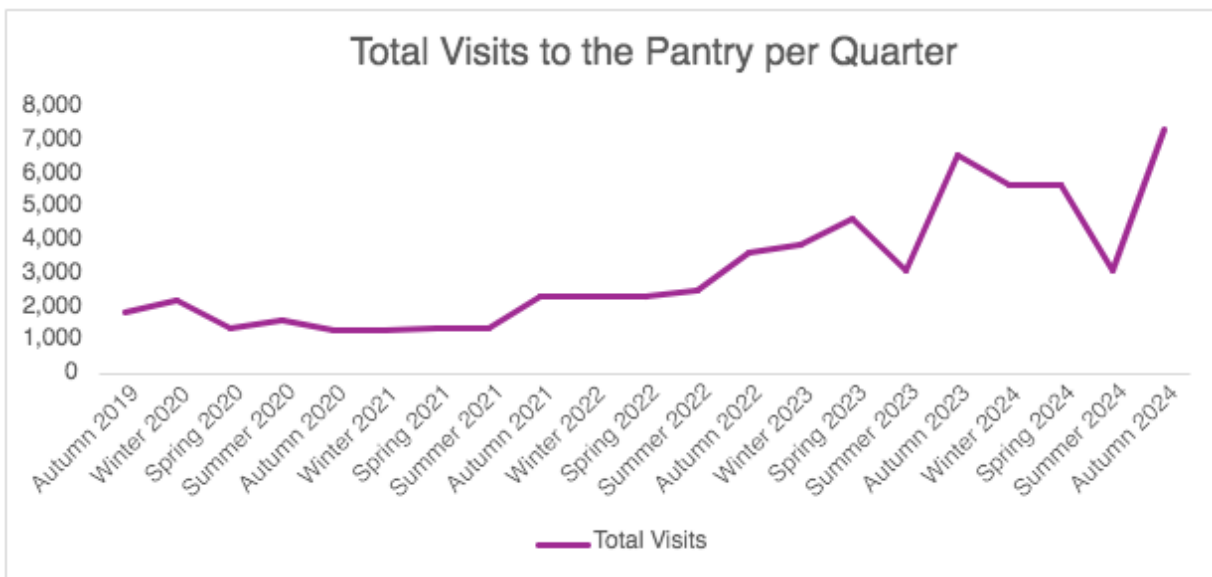
Also in the past year, food drives and product drives have become increasingly vital in meeting our community's basic needs amid the escalating affordability crisis and the continued defunding of government welfare programs. We have seen the number of students utilizing the UW pantry continue to rise dramatically (see figures below). In the Food Drives Coordinator role, adaptability has looked like taking on great responsibility in organizing and proactively planning drives,

maintaining consistent communication with drive partners, and monitoring pantry needs to source donations that address acute gaps such as allergy-friendly foods, culturally-appropriate foods, and hygiene and menstrual products.

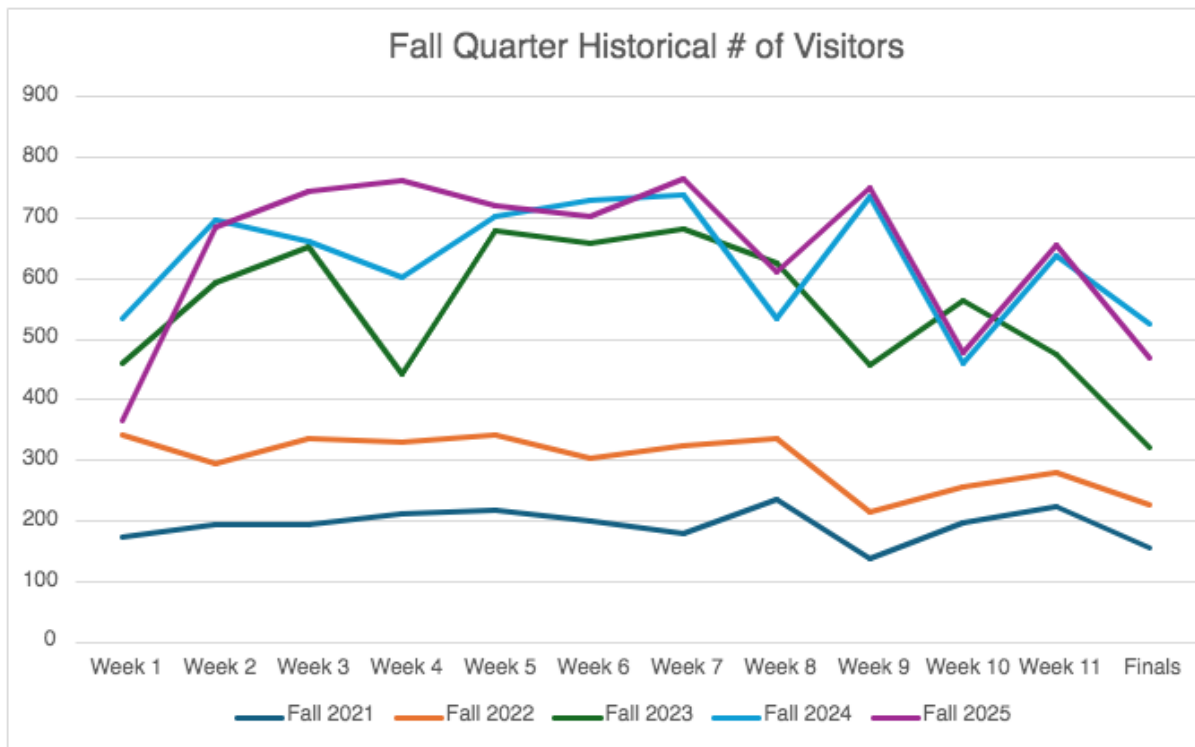
Over time, the pantry's communication needs have grown significantly as student traffic increases and our community partnerships expand. Social media is a primary way that students discover our services and learn more about additional resources. Our Social Media Coordinator and Nutrition Education Coordinator positions have adapted to support more student staff hours dedicated to outreach, communication, and collaboration with local partners and UW departments. Our education and outreach programs include graphics and posts highlighting culturally relevant food items; promoting food drives; highlighting community donations and partnerships; coordinating campaigns with UW partners and RSOs including the UW Women's Volleyball and Basketball teams, Huskies for Housing, and the UW farm; sharing resources and information in the wake of federal SNAP changes; educating students on how to access the pantry and reduce stigma around food insecurity; and more. As student needs and communication platforms evolve, SAF funding continues to allow the Pantry to meet students where they are online, in real time, with accurate and supportive information. SAF support ensures that our outreach stays consistent, responsive, and aligned with the Pantry's mission of promoting student food security and well-being.

Some visitor and sourcing-related highlights include:

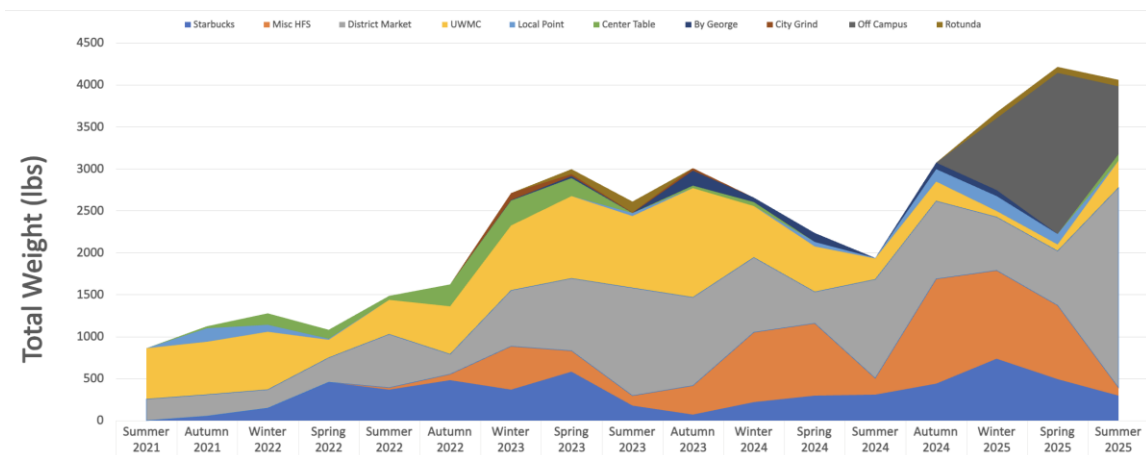
1. Record numbers for weekly and total visitors Autumn 2025



2. Record numbers of weekly visitors. Week over week visitor comparison from Fall 2021 to Fall 2025.



3. Significant growth in food recovered by the Food Recovery Program.



Other Supplemental Data/materials that may be helpful for the SAF committee:

Responses from the Autumn 2025 Pantry Visitor Survey indicate a high need for food access support among our community members.

20. Excluding all food support available in Seattle (including UW Food Pantry), please indicate how often the following statements are true for you in the context of the last 30 days.

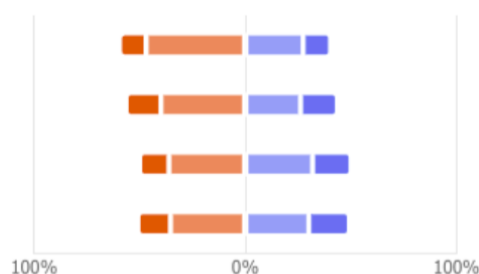
Often Sometimes Rarely Never

"I can't afford to eat balanced meals."

"I eat less than I feel I should because there isn't enough money for food."

"The food that I buy just doesn't last, and I don't have money to get more."

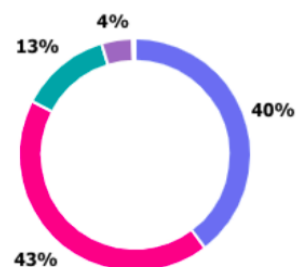
"I cut the size of meals or skipped meals because there isn't enough money for food."



Visitor survey response from Fall 2025.

Breakdown of UW Food Pantry visitor affiliation with UW.

Undergraduate Student	238
Masters Student	257
PhD Student	76
Staff Member	26
Faculty Member	2



Roughly 40% of 2025 visitor survey respondents are undergraduates (increased from 33% last year), 43% are master's students, and the remaining 17% are PhD students, staff, or faculty members at the UW.

Comments from the Autumn 2025 Visitor Survey:

"Thank you very much for running the pantry. I've been using this service every week, and you all truly helped me and my partner. I appreciate your support!"

"Thank you UW food pantry, as an international student this program helps me in a lot of ways"

"Pantry is one place at UW that really helps me manage my finances with everyday food items. Really grateful to have it here on campus."

- c. Are there programs/services that SAF has funded in the past that your unit no longer provides?

No.

- d. Are you currently using your unit's allocation for new programs or services that were not originally requested as an item in your SAF budget request?

No.

- 3. What is the nature of your reserves/fund balances? For what purposes do you hold reserves? How were they accrued?** (Reserves/Fund balances are termed and considered differently in every unit. If you are unsure of what these terms mean or would like clarification on anything, please reach out and ask.)

We do not maintain a reserves fund with SAF. The small surplus that we may experience from month to month is due to hourly staff not working the scheduled amount of hours. All SAF funds go directly to supporting the student staff managing the pantry and other operations.

Budget Breakdown

In this section, please include a breakdown of your requested revenues/expenses for FY27 your unit's budget for FY26, and your unit's actuals for FY25.

The template and instructions can be found here: [SAF FY27 Budget Breakdown.xlsx](#)

Budget Breakdown				
Operating Revenues	FY27 Request	FY26 Budgeted	FY25 Actuals	Notes
SAF Funds	\$ 153,447	\$ 115,447	\$ 106,744	
Core Funds				
Grants				
Other Student Fee:				
Auxiliary Revenues	\$ 96,000	\$ 94,000	\$ 78,000	Auxiliary revenues come from the Any Hungry Husky Fund (AHHF), which is a donated fund used exclusively for food purchasing. In FY25 we budgeted \$60,000 for food purchasing and additionally received a \$10,000 donation from Pepsi and an \$8,000 donation from ASUW. In FY26, we budgeted \$84,000 for food purchasing and received a \$10,000 donation from ASUW.
Total Revenue	\$ 249,447	\$ 209,447	\$ 184,744	
Change From Previous FY (%)	19.10%	13.37%		
Operating Expenses	FY27 Request	FY26 Budgeted	FY25 Actuals	Notes
Salaries & Wages				
<i>Permanent</i>	\$ 45,819		\$ -	
<i>Student/Temporary</i>	\$ 68,580	\$ 82,224	\$ 74,241	
Retirement & Benefits				
<i>Permanent</i>	\$ 14,891			
<i>Student/Temporary</i>	\$ 11,110	\$ 17,020	\$ 17,076	
Supplies and Materials	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,613	
Professional & Purchased Services			\$ 4,370	
Travel	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500		
Utilities			\$ 230	
External Funding A				
Capital Projects/Ex				
Other Operating Ex	\$ 103,500	\$ 91,500	\$ 100,140	UW Farm MOU (\$7500 per year) and Food Purchasing (AHHF)
Total Expenses	\$ 249,150.00	\$ 195,994.00	\$ 199,670.00	
Change From Previous FY (%)	27.12%	-1.84%		
Fund Balance	FY27 Request	FY26 Budgeted	FY25 Actuals	Notes
Unallocated	\$ -	\$ 4,622	\$ 7,214	
Allocated	\$ -	\$ 47,223	\$ -	
Restricted	\$ -	\$ 44,891	\$ (32,640)	Restricted funds are AHHF. FY26 Budgeted reflects expenses to date. We do not anticipate having a fund balance by the end of FY26. In FY25, the AHHF was able to absorb the spending over budgeted amount. We do not plan to have a fund balance in FY27.
Total Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ 96,736.00	\$ (25,426.00)	
Change From Previous FY (%)	\$ (1.00)	(4.80)		
Total Change From Previous FY	\$ (109,892.00)	\$ 150,541.00		
Total Change From Previous FY (%)	0.27%	-273.07%		

Information on Other Revenues:

If you have other sources of revenue, please give an overview of those anticipated revenues (including new sources) and how you expect them to change in the coming years. If relevant, include a breakdown of services & positions funded by SAF vs other revenues.

The Any Hungry Husky Fund is a discretionary, donor-support fund that is used for 100% of our food purchases. We occasionally receive additional donations that are used for food purchases and operational expenses. The Campus Sustainability Fund helped support equipment purchasing (coolers, freezers, thermometers, etc.) that ensure safety and efficacy in our efforts to recapture (what would otherwise be) food waste from on-campus HFS dining partners. Through the combination of these funding sources, we have been able to cover operating expenses.

We received a grant through Harvest Against Hunger that allows us to buy produce from King County farms and will reapply for this grant this coming year.

Additional Questions**1. The following questions will help us understand your unit's priorities.****a. How would you adjust your operations if you did not receive your full FY27 request? Please elaborate on the potential impact on staffing and services.**

Without complete SAF funding of staffing wages and benefits, we would likely have to cut our staff hours and open hours (UW EH&S and the King county Public Health require a staff member trained in food safety to be in the pantry at all times during open-hours). This would substantially reduce accessibility to huskies needing food assistance and dampen our overall service to the campus population. Like most people, the pantry visitors who need food assistance have many barriers to getting to the pantry, including demanding jobs, class schedules, and family obligations.

We have successfully been able to expand food access, as seen in our visit history, in large part because of the SAF funded staff hours. Maintaining 25-30 open hours a week allows us to ensure food access equity in the UW food system. A permanent position would allow us to increase our open hours and to create flexibility to remain open in the event of student staff illness or other necessary absences.

If we do not receive the full SAF Funding, including the funding for a permanent professional staff member, the small team of 5 student staff will likely not be able to sustain the continuous growth of demand. As it stands, our food procurement is unstable given the Any Hungry Husky Fund (AHHF) constraints. This fund procures nearly half of the pantry's food. While visits to the pantry have doubled, the AHHF has stayed relatively stagnant; essentially meaning that we have the same amount of funds available to procure double the amount of food. The pantry also sources a significant amount of food from food drives and food recovery. These areas, led by the Food Drives Coordinator and Food Recovery Coordinator, take significant time to coordinate volunteers and logistics and do outreach to ensure the successful and safe procurements to distribute. Without full SAF funding, new opportunities will be stymied to effectively pursue these essential food resources. This will likely lead to food shortage, leaving our fellow huskies with inadequate emergency food resources and access. Further attempts to diversify and stabilize possible revenue streams also require staff time and attention.

We hope to expand the permanent professional staff member into a full-time position over the next several years. A full-time professional staff member qualifies the pantry for further financial and staffing support that we cannot currently access. For example, hosting a Americorps VISTA employee requires a staff member with full time FTE dedicated to the pantry. Additionally, a permanent staff member would reduce the burden on student staff members who currently must balance their class schedules with pantry shifts. A permanent, non-student staff member would be able to cover for student staff in the event of illness without having to coordinate around classes, thus providing more consistency in the Pantry's open hours and reducing demands on student staff.

During the past year, the UW Pantry staff have utilized specialty knowledge, connections and skillsets to promote large efforts to develop safety procedures for pantry visitors and staff, destigmatize access to food, share nutrition and wellness education, reduce campus food waste, bolster community outreach, and connect with additional resources to address food insecurity. A reduction in staff wages would reduce the quality of candidates and our ability to broaden related services. To meet the demand, current staff positions have to trade off maintaining open hours for connecting with RSOs, retailers, and donors that may offer necessary food donations. Additionally, it would vastly decrease our ability to present at marketing events and in classes across campus in our effort to promote the pantry as a resource for students, faculty and staff, and to seek donations and volunteer involvement.

b. What if you received 4% less than your FY26 allocation? Please elaborate on the potential impact on staffing and services.

With a 4% decrease from our FY26 allocation, we would have to remove a full position from the team or reduce the hours that each position is paid for. This would impact the open hours of the pantry, reduce the equitability of access, and decrease our availability to the UW community. It would also reduce our ability to source food through food recovery, food drives, and community partners, further decreasing the resources that we would have available to give to those who need support.

c. What student services/programs are integral to your mission that you would not cut even if you received an amount less than your FY26 allocation? Why?

We would continue to provide food resources for students with decreased hours and decreased availability and variety of food.

2. If you are projecting a net deficit for your overall FY27 budget, please provide additional context for this net deficit (e.g. reallocation of carryover funds from previous fiscal years, extraordinary expenses necessary to meet operational needs, etc.) and how this might impact your operations. (Optional – Answer “N/A” if not relevant to your unit)

N/a

3. What is one program/service your unit would like to work towards building to enhance students' out-of-class experience at the University? How much would it cost?

If financial resources were not a restriction, we would leverage a full-time permanent staff position to host an AmeriCorps VISTA member and initiate a Basic Needs Strategic Plan for the University of Washington in collaboration with other basic needs units on campus. This would allow the food pantry to better anticipate and serve the needs of students in conjunction with the rest of the UW resource landscape. Understanding the needs of students fully and what other resources are available on campus would allow the pantry to plan to meet those needs over time, thereby better anticipating student food insecurity in addition to making more accurate and appropriate student referrals.

4. How does your unit ensure that student fees do not subsidize non-student, academic, research, and other costs that are the primary responsibility of the University and its colleges?

Staff and faculty are eligible to utilize the Food Pantry; however, we do not create any extra hours for them. They can access the pantry during the same hours as students. No direct funds provide a service to UW employees. We do not offer research or academic assistance. While the additional requested position is a permanent staff member, we will still maximize available student positions and hope to increase our support for student positions in the future.

5. What active roles do students and their views play in your unit's decision making?

Every year we distribute a survey that assesses student need, interest in various food types, and desire for specific food provided by the pantry. This survey informs our food-buying. We strive to provide nutritious, culturally appropriate, and accessible food for all student visitors, and this survey helps us tailor our programming to student needs.

We also incorporate feedback from pantry volunteers. Last spring, we introduced a lead volunteer program that has been very successful. This program allows students who have volunteered with the food pantry for multiple quarters to step into a leadership role. This program was developed in response to volunteer interest. Every quarter, we survey volunteers regarding their experience in the pantry and incorporate their feedback into our training and operations. We deeply value student feedback and strive to make the pantry serve student needs to the best of our abilities.

6. How are you utilizing the SAF logo? In what ways do you spread awareness of your affiliation with SAF? Attach an example if applicable.

The SAF logo is included on our website. We also include SAF in any information we provide about our funding and operational planning to community partners or in educational settings. Attached below is one example of how we spread awareness of our affiliation with SAF.

Many thanks:

Housing & Food Services (HFS) provides the UW Food Pantry with the physical space, utility, custodial support, and expert consultation at no cost.



UW Dining (HFS) is also providing unsold ready-to-eat food from campus grocery stores and cafes to the UW Food Pantry.



UW Farm provides the UW Food Pantry with locally grown produce on a regular basis as their harvest allows. The UW Farm is a student powered operation with two campus locations and aims to be the campus center for the practice of urban agriculture and sustainability.

Starbucks has an ongoing commitment to address food insecurity through its national FoodShare program. The UW on-campus locations became the first campus-based stores in the country to participate in this program by shifting pre-packaged food items to the UW Food Pantry for redistribution.



The Services & Activities Fee annually supports the UW Food Pantry in funding the five student staff, along with an annual fee paid to the UW Farm.

The ASUW Bean Basket operates a student run cooperative that sells a variety of food staples, seasonings, teas, dried fruits, and nuts. By operating in this way they are able to keep food costs low for students and other campus partners. Learn more about the Bean Basket Food Vouchers.



Office of Student Financial Aid provides critical access to financial support for UW students, through scholarships, grants, loans, emergency aid support, and food security grants, the office helps ensure fiscal stability for UW students.

7. When projecting out 1-3 fiscal years, what challenges, if any, do you foresee for your unit (policy changes, financial, etc.)? How could SAF be helpful in navigating these challenges? *(Optional – Answer “N/A” if not relevant to your unit)*

Given the trend of the last three years and the rising cost of living in Seattle, we expect the pantry to face a great increase in demand over the next three years. In order to meet this demand, the pantry will need to increase our food procurement and maintain or increase our open hours. This will require increasing our staff capacity in addition to our food procurement.

SAF can assist the pantry in these challenges by supporting wages and benefits of qualified staff members. Having additional time to utilize the attention and talents of staff members would allow the pantry to pursue additional streams of monetary income and food resources. In anticipation of this need, we have compiled some potential additional grants and program options. However, some of these opportunities require a full-time staff member dedicated to the pantry to be eligible to receive those allocations. Additional staff support is also required in order to dedicate time to grant writing and application.

Additional staff also allows for further pursuit of community partners for food sourcing and increased number of open hours. Increased open hours allow us to more equitably provide resources to visitors who have various schedules and time constraints. We are also unable to maintain hours during academic class breaks due to the nature of student staff positions. Having a permanent staff member would allow us to provide support to the UW community in the time between academic quarters.