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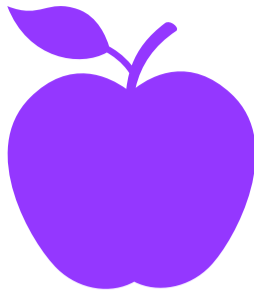
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WHY STUDENT PANTRIES

Three top reasons students avoid school:

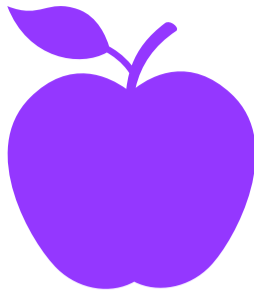
- They feel like they don't fit in
- They need school supplies
- They don't have the required uniform

Additionally, many students in our schools are hungry. They live with food insecurity. Hunger and malnutrition hurt their development, grades, and future success. The GSA Student Pantry can help!

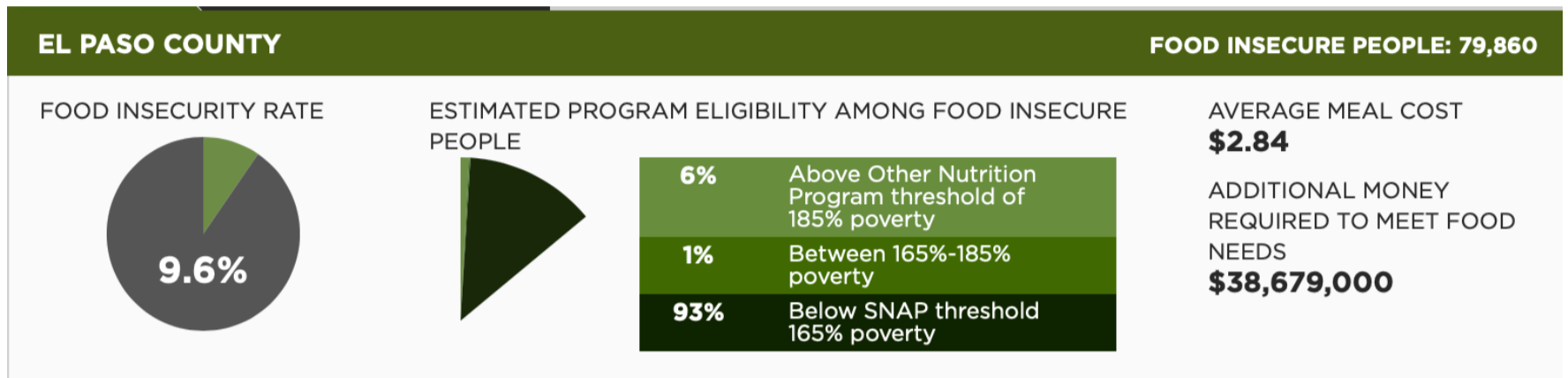
Thanks to a recent change in [Texas law](#), a school can start a Student Pantry. Student organizations can accept, store, and distribute donated and leftover unopened food to students who might not have food to eat later at home. A pantry also can reduce food waste in cafeterias.

Proposed Items for the GSA Student Pantries:

- Food, Hygiene, & Household Goods
- Located in public high schools in El Paso County, open to the feeder pattern and community
- Managed and operated by the high school's Gay Straight Alliance student organization



OBJECTIVES & GOALS



In El Paso, the food insecurity rate is 9.6%.

<https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2017/overall/texas/county/el-paso>



THERE ARE TWO FORMS OF HUNGER:

- Students who may be food insecure and don't know where their next meal may come from.
- Students who are not food insecure but still may be hungry due to growth and development.

The U.S. food insecurity rate is 12.9%; more than 41 million people are food insecure.

In Texas, the food insecurity rate is 15.4%.

In Texas and the U.S., the lack of food availability is typically seen in low-income households and with families who are affected by multiple, overlapping issues like affordable housing, social isolation, health problems, and medical cost.

1 in 6 children may not know where they will get their next meal.



WHAT ARE THE ROLES OF THE SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL GSA STUDENT PANTRIES?

Addressing food insecurity:

- Schools are often the main food source for many children living in poverty.
- Texas law allows schools to start their own School Food Pantry.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF STUDENT PANTRIES?

- Student Pantries are one tool we can use to combat hunger and food insecurity among students who are the most in need of such assistance
- Student Pantries help students become more successful in school and extracurricular activities
- Student Pantries can help decrease food waste.



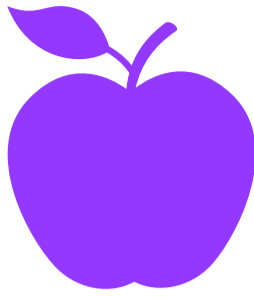
HOW DOES A STUDENT PANTRY WORK?

In San Antonio ISD, school nutrition leader [Jenny Arredondo](#) has overseen the establishment of 10 School Food Pantries in campuses across the district.

- Read this [handbook](#) from a school that has implemented a food pantry.

Student Pantries collect uneaten surplus food, from breakfast, lunch, snack, and dinner programs - to reduce the amount of food wasted, this food is then given to students in need.

Student Pantries that win the quarterly Superior Health Plan Grants also receive \$5,000 in funding which can be used to purchase a clothes washer and dryer plus laundry necessities such as detergent and softener. In addition to laundry supplies, this funding can provide hygiene and feminine products for students in need.

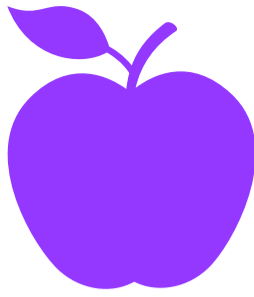


COST

How much will the GSA Student Pantry cost my campus?

\$0! Starting a School Food Pantry doesn't require any budget.

- Your GSA Student Pantry can rely on students adding unopened or untouched leftover food on prepared schedules, saving food from being wasted and provides other students with a nutritious food for free.
 - Your GSA Student Pantry is strongly encouraged to apply for the **Superior Health Plan Community Grant**, see <https://www.superiorhealthplan.com/providers/resources/provider-programs/provider-grants-program.html>
-
- Q3 Application Deadline: 30 Sep 2019
 - Q4 Application Deadline: 31 Dec 2019



WHY THE GSA LEADERSHIP?

- Your GSA Student Pantry is immigration status / legal status neutral - documentation, residency questions are prohibited.
- Your GSA Student Pantry is designed to remove the stigma connected to food insecurity.
- Your GSA Student Pantry creates an opportunity to establish authentic Gay-Straight Alliances on your campus and in the community. GSA Student Pantries provide leadership roles for an underrepresented demographic to fully participate in the mainstream student body as well as serve a need in the community.
- GSASP-specific scholarship of \$500 minimum (50/50 match)

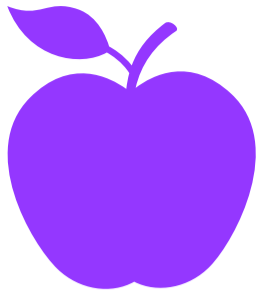
HOW WILL THE TXSBOE1 GSA COMMITTEE SUPPORT MY CAMPUS?

CAMPUS

- Approve Cords
- Scholarship specific to this initiative, \$500 min

TXSBOE1 GSA COMMITTEE

- 50/50 financial support
- 50/50 financial support
- Grant Application
- GSA Development
& Leadership Support



PILOT LOCATIONS

Bowie High School, El Paso ISD

Principal: Francisco Ordaz fordaz@episd.org
GSA Sponsor:

Del Valle High School, Ysleta ISD

Principal: Antonio Acuña aacuna@yisd.net
GSA Sponsor:

Fabens High School, Fabens ISD

Principal: Anthony Prado
GSA Sponsor:

Franklin High School, El Paso ISD

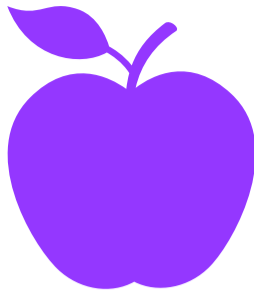
Principal: Shawn Mena mshmena2@episd.org
GSA Sponsor:

Mountain View High School, Clint ISD

Principal: Robert Trejo roberto.trejo@clint.net
GSA Sponsor:

Transmountain Early College High School, Canutillo ISD

Principal: Barbara Brinkley-Lopez bblopez@episd.org
GSA Sponsor: Jesus Marquez jrmarqu7@episd.org



TXSBOE | GSA STUDENT PANTRY COMMITTEE

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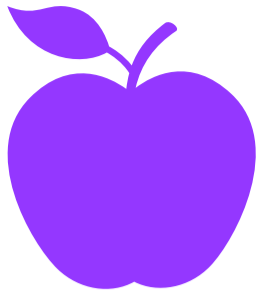
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RESOURCES

HOW TO START A GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE (GSA)

<https://www.aclu.org/other/how-start-gay-straight-alliance-gsa>

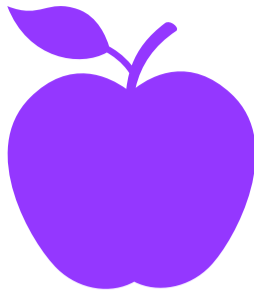
Read the [Texas School Food Pantry Law](#)

Feeding America: [School Pantries: Helping Kids Thrive In School](#)

Rural Health Info Hub: [School Food Pantries](#)

Salud America: [New Action Pack: How to Start a School Food Pantry](#)

Texas Education Agency: [Student Fairness in Feeding Act Resource Page](#)



GSA BYLAWS (TEMPLATE)

ARTICLE I - Name

The name of the organization is the _____ High School Gay-Straight Alliance, herein referred to as _____ GSA.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

_____ GSA is a club that provides accepting and supporting spaces to all students where they can socialize and interact with one another in a safe and accepting environment. Furthermore, _____ GSA helps students become leaders in their schools by presenting them with opportunities to have socio-emotional growth throughout activities that have direct impact to the community.

ARTICLE III - Membership: Qualifications and Privileges

_____ GSA is a club that any _____ student can be a member of. The club has a President, a VicePresident, committee Chairs as deemed necessary, and members at large.

Section 1: Members at large

Any student of _____ High School can be a member of _____ GSA. Members need to participate actively in meetings as well as activities that _____ GSA engages in. Meetings times and place will be voted by members. Members that miss more than three meeting will lose their voting privileges.

Section 2: Vice President & President

Voting members will elect the Vice President by nominating a _____ GSA member from the Junior class. The elected Vice President will serve for a full year working alongside and learning from the President. The following year the Vice President becomes the President on the _____ GSA club

Section 3: Secretary

Voting members will nominate and elect a Secretary that will keep records of meetings, nominations, and votes. The Secretary will serve a full year.

Section 4: Committee Chairs

Committees will be created by the Vice President and President as deemed necessary. Committee Chairs will be then nominated and voted by _____ GSA members. The Chairs will serve a full term.

ARTICLE IV – Officers Responsibilities

Section 1. Nomination and Election

Officers shall be the following, each to serve for a term of one year and election shall be by majority vote from all active members of the _____ GSA club. The election must be held by the end of September of the year in progress. In the event of an invalid election at the annual meeting for any reason, current officers will remain seated until their successors are elected at the next regular meeting.

Section 2. Duties of Officers

A. President

The President shall preside at all formal meetings of the GSA, and shall perform all duties associated with the office. The President will be in charge of activities such as the student pantry, the pride parade, fundraising, among others. The President has to create committees to run each one of the activities and keep very well informed of them. The President will be working on all activities with the Vice President in order to assure continuity of the goal of the club. If the President is unable to fulfill the duties, they shall be assumed by the Vice President.

B. Vice President

The Vice President shall preside at all formal meetings of the GSA in the absence, or upon request, of the President. The Vice President shall carry out duties assigned by and along with the President and shall accede to the office of President at the expiration of the term of office or in the event that office becomes vacant. The Vice President will become the President during the student's Senior year.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep a record of all formal meetings, keep all the records of the _____ GSA club, and shall conduct all correspondence of the organization. If the Secretary is unable to perform the duties, the President shall appoint a successor from among other active members.

D. Committee Chairs for the Student Pantry

Four _____ GSA members will be elected to run the Student Pantry. These members will be responsible for creating a student friendly list of items that most students like and/or need. This will be done by sampling a percentage of the student population with a survey. Chairs will then create an items list of pantry needs. Chairs will be in charge of creating a schedule of who will be running the pantry according to a schedule set by members. There must be at least three members present when the pantry is open.

E. Committee Chairs for the Pride Parade

Four _____ GSA members will be elected to run the meetings for the Pride Parade. Chair members will be in charge of creating a list of supplies needed for the parade, including a float if they want. Chairs will create a work schedule for volunteers working on items for the Pride Parade. Chairs are encouraged but not required to participate in the parade.

ARTICLE V- Meetings

The _____ GSA must hold at least two monthly general meetings as applicable to the student's academic calendar.

Officers may meet without the full active membership to discuss any topics they consider important.

ARTICLE VI – Elections

Elections must be completed by the end of September of the current academic year. The President will be a Senior who was the previous year's Vice President.

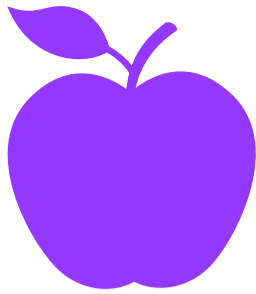
ARTICLE VII – Advisors

There will be at least one Advisor for the _____ GSA club. Advisors must be faculty, staff, or administrator of _____ High School.

Advisors will be in charge of all monies collected by the club. It is the Advisor's responsibility to deposit monies, create and close fundraising activities, in compliance with _____ Independent School District policies.

ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a three-fourths majority vote of the active members of the _____ GSA club.



SUPERIOR HEALTH PLAN COMMUNITY GRANT

<https://www.superiorhealthplan.com/providers/resources/provider-programs/provider-grants-program.html>

Q3 Application Deadline: 30 Sep 2019

Q4 Application Deadline: 31 Dec 2019

Grant Amount: \$5,000

Briefly describe the organization's history, mission and goals.

The Gay-Straight Alliance at _____ High School was established in _____.

The goals of our organization are: _____, _____, and _____.

The 2019-20 school year is our Student Pantry's inaugural year. Our mission is to create a Student Pantry filled with food items, hygiene products, and household goods. We also aspire to offer a washer and dryer for our students to utilize.

Our Student Pantry initiative is one of our Gay-Straight Alliance student organization's main priorities. Our student leaders maintain the inventory, set operation hours, man the pantry, and spread the word throughout the feeder pattern and community.

Briefly describe the purpose of funding request and how it will be used.

Winning the Superior Health Plan Community Grant will help us realize the full potential of the Student Pantry. We will use the funds specifically for:

In addition to this award, we are partnering with our cafeteria to _____ and, _____ for _____.

Number of individuals, geographic area and population who will benefit from these funds (e.g., 30 children, ages 8-12, who are working to achieve grade-level performance in South Texas).

Fill in your campus and feeder pattern data.

Briefly describe any promotional benefits or brand awareness Superior would receive in exchange for this grant.

Our GSA Student Pantry will prominently feature and share Superior Health Plan pamphlets with our students, teachers and community members. The combined effort of the Pantry and sharing Superior's benefits with our community intends to increase healthcare access, promote wellness, and _____.

Describe the sustainability of this grant (e.g., grant money will be used to host a one-time event or it will be a part of a six-month initiative, etc.).

The GSA Student Pantry will be in operation during the 2019-2020 academic calendar year, September/October 2019 through May 2020.