

A Resolution in Reiterating Restructuring the Basic Needs Committee & Creating a Basic Needs Student Advisory Board

WHEREAS, the UCLA Basic Needs Committee lacks student voices and productive collaboration such that undergraduate students are largely unaware of the resources and programs available, with only one student organization being represented on the committee and other students being internal to the Community Programs Office¹;

WHEREAS, the UCLA Basic Needs Committee does not widely promote its meetings to the student body and did not update their website with meeting minutes for the 2020-2021 academic year up until May 2021, which is now only current up to the first month of winter quarter²;

WHEREAS, an updated budget was posted on October 2020³ for a three-year span, but does not provide detailed yearly breakdowns of expenditures or outreach for departmental or student input for budget allocations;

WHEREAS, the UCLA Basic Needs Committee is housed under the Community Programs Office and directly managed by CPO administrators, and this is not the first instance in which they have failed to address or comment on the lack of financial reports provided to the public⁴;

WHEREAS, the UCLA Basic Needs Committee justify their lack of transparency on the basis of sensitive information when basic needs is not a delicate subject nor a place to disclose individual, private information but rather a hub of resources to support, aid, and/or provide fundamental necessities to the most vulnerable communities;

WHEREAS, a letter on January 29, 2021 from CPO staff acknowledged the fluctuation of transfer applicants for the Food Box Distribution events and that their *team has managed these new challenges—including decreased student and full-time staff support for event execution, increased reliance on outreach without in-person word-of-mouth, and ever-changing COVID-19-related public health restrictions—and will continue to work collaboratively with our campus partners to reach these student communities*⁵ yet have not reassessed their outreach to different student groups and organizations outside of the CPO Office;

WHEREAS, in the Basic Needs Committee Meeting SQ #2 on May 21st, 2021, the UCLA Basic Needs Chair verbally mentioned that they would not support USAC demands regarding

¹ Basic Needs Organizational Flow Chart - <https://basicneeds.ucla.edu/file/1c075ae5-4528-411f-9714-b274330afc54>

² Meeting Notes 2020-2021 - <https://basicneeds.ucla.edu/meeting-notes-2020-21>

³ UCLA Basic Needs Plan - <https://basicneeds.ucla.edu/file/91c72d75-427b-4205-b242-98ecd086d9be>

⁴ <https://dailybruin.com/2020/01/14/public-information-is-lacking-for-over-2-million-used-by-two-campus-committees>

⁵ “CPO Basic Needs Transfer Student Data 2019-21” - Antonio Sandoval - January 29, 2021 sent via email

Basic Needs, such as the “Resolution in Restructuring the Basic Needs Committee & Creating a Basic Needs Student Advisory Board” passed by the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Students Association Council⁶, further dismissing student voices, which coincides with the recent change in Council administration;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that student representatives from the Undergraduate Students Association Council work closely with the UCLA Basic Needs Committee to ensure that the restructuring of the committee comes to fruition, which includes that the Committee welcome and invite students from the remaining 14 USAC student offices, who are not internal partners of the committee, into witnessing the restructuring process;

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that every academic year the UCLA Basic Needs Committee be comprised of two subcommittees with a one-term co-chair each: a Basic Needs Committee with department representatives, external partners, and student organizations and a Basic Needs Student Advisory Board with student leads to represent each respective program under the UCLA Basic Needs Framework to best advocate for current issues and voice student input;

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that UCLA update their definition of Basic Needs in alignment with current unforeseeable events and that it actively transition to the UC’s intervention pyramid approach⁷ in such that overtime its framework is structured on the premise of proactivity;

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the UCLA Basic Needs Committee work in collaboration with the UC Basic Needs Village and other UCs such as the University of California, Santa Cruz⁸ and the University of California, Berkeley⁹ who have both administrative-led and student-led facilitation and committees and additionally have compiled a comprehensive list of student offices, clubs, and/or organizations in which they shall maintain communication with throughout each academic year;

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the UCLA Basic Needs Committee publish quarterly transparency reports and assessments and an annual end of the year report to identify gaps in programming to better coordinate and serve the student body;

⁶ “Resolution in Restructuring the Basic Needs Committee & Creating a Basic Needs Student Advisory Board” - <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/resolution.2021.A%20Resolution%20in%20Restructuring%20the%20Basic%20Needs%20Committee.pdf>

⁷ Basic Needs Intervention Pyramid - <https://sites.google.com/berkeley.edu/bnc-dashboard/#h.radtxe9z8b5n>

⁸ The UCSC Basic Needs Team - <https://basicneeds.ucsc.edu/about/basic-needs-team.html>

⁹ Basic Needs Security Report - https://diversity.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/ucb_basic_needs_report.pdf

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that UCLA require a case management team for its Basic Need Committee that is committed to advocating for and actively outreaching to students in underserved communities;

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students' Association Council supports, promotes, and reiterates both the creation of a student-led basic needs committee entitled the Basic Needs Student Advisory Board and the restructuring of the UCLA Basic Needs Committee to include other departments and student organizations, as passed by the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Students Association Council.