

RAIDERS COVE

Resource Center

Year-end Report
2019-20



43% OF STUDENTS INDICATED THAT THEY STRUGGLED TO BUY GROCERIES WHILE IN COLLEGE

31% OF STUDENTS INDICATED THEY SKIP MEALS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE MONEY FOR FOOD

51% OF STUDENTS INDICATED THEY WOULD USE A RESOURCE CENTER ON CAMPUS

56.5% OF STUDENTS SAY THEY COULD COOK BUT NUTRITIOUS FOODS ARE TOO EXPENSIVE

Raiders Cove is a resource center dedicated to tackling food and clothing insecurities at Mount Union. Raiders Cove is staffed by AmeriCorps members through partnership with Ohio Campus Compact and ServeOhio.

These members serve as Resource Center Coordinators, assisting students with their non-academic needs through community resources. The program launched throughout the state in August 2019 with two members serving at Mount Union.

MEET THE COORDINATORS

Logan Cooper '20

Major: Sociology

Minors: Intervention Specialist, Psychology

"Participating in the growth and development of Raiders Cove has been a truly spectacular opportunity that I will always appreciate! Its success and continuation are direct examples of the supportive, caring community that Mount Union prides itself on. I hope this service leads to additional support and acknowledgment of student needs and necessary resources. I look forward to seeing how the next AmeriCorps members advance Raiders Cove and our campus!"

Destanee O'Neil '20

Major: Psychology and Early Childhood Education

"Serving as an AmeriCorps Member has been a life-changing experience. I have learned about nonprofits and discovered my passion for them. Learning more about higher education was a great experience as well. This position allowed me to grow and reach my full potential. The best part about is the relationships you make. I have made relationships with community members, staff members, and peers. I am thankful for this opportunity and excited to see Raiders Cove grow!"

Key Partners

Alliance Community Pantry

Raider Student Media

Green Raiders

Office of the Integrative Core

Math Learning Center

Raiders Cove established partnerships with campus and community groups. We worked with the Alliance Community Pantry during the Regula's Center's Trick-or-Treat for Canned Goods. With their help, we were able to receive enough food to kickstart our pantry!

Other donations came directly from the campus community. In February, Raiders Cove hosted the campus-wide employee coffee hour, UMUGs. This event was a great success, prompting employees to learn about student resources and donate to support Raiders Cove.

February also featured a partnership opportunity with the Green Raiders. Their annual pop-up clothing closet granted us continued marketing exposure and a sizable donation as they gifted their remaining items to Raiders Cove.

In March, we piloted a Grab & Go Snack Initiative. With the help of the Integrative Core Office and Math Learning Center, we were able to provide easily accessible snacks. This initiative proved to be beneficial for various student groups and we plan to expand to more offices throughout campus.

March also included generous donations from various groups. We received a refrigerator from Raider Student Media and a freezer from The Alliance Community Food Pantry. These donations will allow us to expand to perishable food options.

After success with Grab & Go Snacks, The Integrative Core Office and Math Learning Center donated a mobile food cart for pop up events and continued campus exposure.



A Note from the Coordinators

Raiders Cove has been a great experience for us. We have been able to work together to positively impact the Mount Union community. We would not have been able to bring Raiders Cove to campus without the help of President Dick Merriman. He ensured this initiative would be on our campus and has supported the decisions we have made. The next group we would like to thank are the Founding Deans. They gave their constant support and many ideas that could be implemented in Raiders Cove. We would also like to thank Stephanie Dodd and Farrah Chrstos, our program directors through Ohio Campus Compact. They have been a wonderful help through this whole year and both have been awesome sounding boards. Lastly we would like to thank Abby Honaker, Kyle Woodrow, and Jesse Cunion for being a part of the team. None of our progress would have happened if it weren't for them in our corner. We also learned so much about the process of higher education and we are thankful for them for being there through it all.