

So...what is Tiger Pantry?

Tiger Pantry is a student-run food pantry that offers assistance to members of the Mizzou family, whether they are students, faculty or staff. The Pantry was founded in 2012, and since its founding has distributed over 90,000 pounds of food.

Why was Tiger Pantry founded?

Inspired by the University of Arkansas' Full Circle Pantry, Nick Droege, who was serving as the Director of Student Services on the MSA Executive Cabinet, decided to investigate the need in our Missouri, Columbia and Mizzou communities. Immediately, efforts to form an organization that would provide food assistance in the community were started. For a list of the facts uncovered, please refer to our [website](#).

Soon, Droege received unanimous support from the campus, including from Dr. Anne Deaton, who agreed to be the advisor for the project. Dr. Deaton's commitment to the project presented Droege with the tools to connect with various resources both on and off campus. One major resource was Peggy Kirkpatrick, the Director of the Central and Northeast Missouri Food Bank. Kirkpatrick quickly worked with the team to get Tiger Pantry off the ground and establish this student run food bank as an agent of the Central and Northeast Missouri Food Bank.

Organization Culture

The mission statement of the organization states: "Tiger Pantry strives to provide food assistance for those in need within the University of Missouri community. We hope to change the perception of hunger on campus and to offer resources to students, faculty and staff so that they may focus on the experiences uniquely available at Mizzou."

The purpose of Tiger Pantry is: "To provide food resources and education to members of the University of Missouri family in need while exemplifying the University's four core values of Respect, Responsibility, Discovery, and Excellence."

One thing that has been important to the Tiger Pantry team from the beginning is to not ask questions of the clients. All client visits are confidential and the team

does not ask any questions regarding clients' circumstances. Tiger Pantry operates under the Non-Discriminatory Statement below:

The University of Missouri does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability or status as a protected veteran. Any person having inquiries concerning the University of Missouri's compliance with implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or other civil rights laws should contact one of the following:

Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resource Services/Affirmative Action Officer

University of Missouri

1095 Virginia Avenue, Room 101

Columbia, MO 65211

(573) 882-4256 Director of MU Equity/Title IX Coordinator

University of Missouri, Memorial Union S303

Columbia, MO 65211

(573) 882-9069

Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

U.S. Department of Education.

How do I use the Pantry?

Clients are able to request food on a once a month and fresh produce once a week. Becoming a client at Tiger Pantry is a simple, two-step process. First, fill out a First Time User Information Form. You can fill this form out on any computer or at Tiger Pantry. The second step is getting your client card. After filling out your First Time User Form, you will receive your client card and ID number during your first visit to the pantry. If you are unable to make it to the Pantry, please e-mail us at tigerpantry@missouri.edu, and we will make other arrangements.

When visiting Tiger Pantry for the first time, please bring your student, staff or faculty ID as well as your university ID number. If you are a returning client,

please bring your Tiger Pantry Client Card. If you have lost your Client Card, we will replace it with a new one.

Keep in mind that Tiger Pantry serves all MU students, staff and faculty. If you fit one of these categories, you can use Tiger Pantry. Tiger Pantry prides itself on a “no-questions-asked” policy. If a member of the MU community feels Tiger Pantry services are needed, we want them to feel as comfortable as possible.

How to Get Involved with the Pantry

There are several great ways to get involved with Tiger Pantry, including but not limited to volunteering, hosting a fundraiser/food drive, donating and more. Tiger Pantry regular volunteers are chosen each semester and work one shift a week. There are also Pick-Up Team Volunteers who work to help ensure that food gets to the Pantry.

Tiger Pantry also offers executive positions that are in charge of overseeing operations of the Pantry and maintaining relationships with other campus organizations. Executive positions serve a calendar year and are chosen midway through the fall semester.

If interested in hosting a food drive, please contact tigerpantry@missouri.edu and check out our [Food Drive Starter Kit](#).

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ratio of students to faculty to staff clients?

In the 2014-2015 school year, our clients were as follows:

- 405 Total (100%)
- 11 Faculty Members (3%)
- 126 Staff Members (31%)
- 94 Graduate Students (23%)
- 174 Undergraduate Students (43%)

For more information, please contact the Assessment Coordinator.

From where does the food come?

Most of our food donations come from food drives. Different organizations contact Tiger Pantry on campus to host drives, which makes up most of our donations. In addition, Tiger Pantry is an agent of the

Central and Northeast Missouri Food Bank and has pickups on a regular basis. If we are short on food after utilizing these two resources, then we go shopping. It is important to note that this money comes from donors. We are not in anyway funded by the Missouri Student Association.

Who uses the Pantry?

Any student, staff or faculty member of the University of Missouri is eligible to use the Pantry.

Can I request food for more than once person?

Tiger Pantry was established to serve members of the MU community and their families. When making a food request, clients are able to state how many individuals they are supporting. We kindly request that only one member of each household applies to become a Tiger Pantry client.

Where is Tiger Pantry located and when is it open?

We are located at 1400 Rock Quarry Road in room number 8 on the east side of the warehouse. We are open in the fall and spring semesters on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. During intersession and summer semesters, we are open on Wednesdays 4:30- 6:30 p.m.

How do we see the users change over summer?

Tiger Pantry experiences a few changes over the summer. First, the Pantry goes from being open three times a week, to only once (Wednesday 4:30-6:30). With this change, Tiger Pantry has fewer client visits as well as pounds of food donated.

What kind of food we carry?

Tiger Pantry prides itself on providing a myriad of food choices to its clients. From soup and canned vegetables, to fresh produce and bread, Tiger Pantry is committed to providing nutritious options to all clients.

What are the resources we offer?

In addition to providing food assistance, Tiger Pantry offers additional resources. One of which is the community board that highlights different events going on in the week as well as a featured resource of the week.

We also have the info-rack that is filled with pamphlets from various student organizations and other resources in Columbia. We keep the info-rack in the lobby area for clients to look through. Tiger Pantry also has the “Take 5 Cart” which is filled with miscellaneous items such as toothpaste and shower shoes. Finally, we also offer different recipes that clients can take home, featuring items from the Pantry. Lastly, Tiger Pantry can now provide SNAP assistance.

Current Executive Board

For a list of our current executive board, please check out our [website](#). In addition, Farouk Aregbe and Elise Wehrman oversee Tiger Pantry.