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# Resource Navigation for Western Oregon University Students

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# Resource Navigation for Western Oregon University Students

Jennifer Beard & Angela McNally



## Purpose

The purpose of this project was to create a tool to increase Western Oregon University (WOU) student awareness of available community resources.

## Background

- ❑ The majority of students surveyed preferred online communication and were unaware of existing resources
- ❑ Poverty was the top concern indicated in student surveys
- ❑ Social determinants of health are directly related to academic performance (Silva et al., 2015)

## Methodology

- ❑ Analyzed WOU student surveys to assess resource needs
- ❑ CINAHL and PubMed evidence-based search
- ❑ Utilized the Logic Model to guide project implementation
- ❑ Researched community resources that met the needs of WOU students
- ❑ Collaborated with WOU Student Affairs and stakeholders

## Resource Map



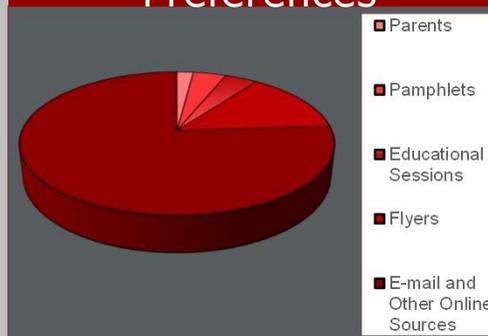
### Central Resource Center

Assists with financial resources for those in crisis

### WOU Food Pantry

Provides food to both students and non-students in need

## Student Communication Preferences



## Results

- ❑ Literature review showed the rate of economically disadvantaged students that attend university is increasing (Freudenberg et al., 2013)
- ❑ Local resource map implemented on the Student Affairs page of the WOU website
- ❑ Includes resources in Monmouth, Independence, and Dallas

## Implications/Limitations

- ❑ Student Affairs office will maintain and promote awareness of resource map
- ❑ Increased community involvement in addressing student needs
- ❑ Limited by a dearth of resources in the surrounding area

## Conclusion

The interactive resource map will increase awareness of the resources available to students on campus and within the community in order to promote access, strengthen academic success, and improve health outcomes.