**The Phlash Meals Program**

***What?***

Beginning Fall 2017, UW Green Bay will have a dining meal donation program on campus – the Phlash Meals Program. Students, faculty and staff who have meal plans that allot them a fixed number of meals, or who have dining points, will be able to donate some of those meals and points into a pool that can be used by students with food insecurity needs. Students who need meals will be able to request meals and they will be electronically added to their dining account.

***Why?***

A growing number of college students face issues of housing and food insecurity. A large national study in 2016 found that 48% of students reported food insecurity in the last 30 days, with 22% reporting levels of food insecurity that qualify them as hungry (Dubick, Mathews & Cady, 2016 - Hunger on Campus). In addition, 15% of food insecure students reported experiencing some form of homelessness in the past year.

At UWGB last year, 43% of first year students reported regularly facing financial challenges that interfered with their ability to be successful in college, including lack of money for food, housing and basic care.

We currently have a campus food pantry (The Campus Cupboard), and the Phlash Meals Program is a valuable addition to our toolkit to help UWGB students achieve their college goals.

***How Can You Help?***

Please consider donating meals or dining points, or even making a cash donation, to the project. Donations will be collected during a drive in the last weeks of the semester.

Please promote this program to students. We will have a website, posters and postcards soon, and you can request them by contacting Denise Bartell, bartelld@uwgb.edu, 920-465-5041.