



# Impact Report

## Spring 2021

# Responding to student needs.

Tarleton students' field work explores resource gaps.

The Tarleton Purple Pantry initiative continued to face increased needs as we focused on student success and student retention -- we alleviate one area of concern as our students focus on their studies. To do this work, we rely on our donors, grant funders, and many volunteers to not only keep products on our shelves, but who also strengthen our understanding of our students and the needs they may experience.

As spring 2021 launched, we found the record-setting fall numbers continued into the new year. We experienced a deeper reliance on our student volunteers and partners. The Department of Social Work at Tarleton State University has been a strong and reliable pantry partner as they connect future social workers to the Purple Pantry as volunteers and as research teams. These students learn hands-on skills working shifts in the pantry while also conducting community-based inquiry to learn more about the needs of Tarleton students. In spring, we had three student groups from Social Work. Two student groups were located in Stephenville and one group in Fort Worth. Their research projects focused on nutrition, parenting needs, and academic materials. We have used their formal and informal input in many ways, but the needs of our students who parent was an interesting result of one group's survey work. Purple Pantries knew we could do more.



Both our Stephenville and Fort Worth sites responded by providing additional resources for students who parent both on our shelves and with our outreach partners at TexConnect. TexConnect added a new online resource button to direct our students who parent to campus, community, and related resources. Purple Pantry sites also expanded their shelf space to include new and more items to help our students who parent.

While the start to 2021 held much promise, we can think of nothing more exciting than the dedication and energy of our student volunteers -- their ideas are changing resources, changing student experiences, and will someday change their communities. We share this spring 2021 impact report in the hopes you can also see the power of a community working together to focus on holistic student success.

Sincerely,



## Coming soon...

The Purple Pantry @ Fort Worth will be expanding to better meet our students' needs! We look forward to fresh, frozen, and refrigerated food options, hygiene supplies, academic materials, and a featured area focused on child-friendly items. Our students who parent are sure to find more of what they need on our shelves. Look for your invitation to the Fort Worth Purple Pantry's open house early this upcoming fall term.



# Spring 2021 by the numbers...

23,900+

items provided to students  
during spring 2021



7,900+

items donated to the Purple Pantry  
during spring 2021

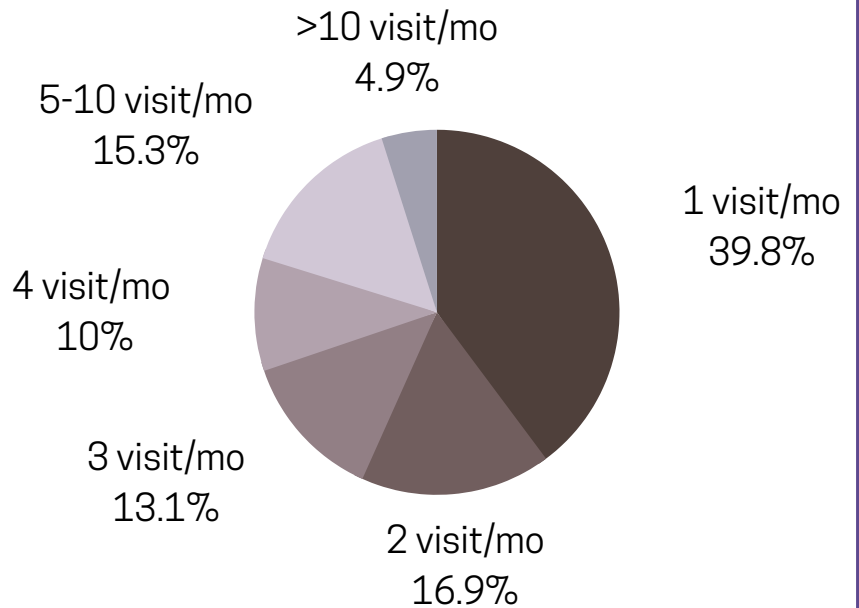
**1,914** eggs, **260.5** gallons of  
milk, **103** lbs. of ground beef,  
**295** lbs. of ground pork  
provided to students in spring 2021



# Spring 2021 Student Users

**2,045**  
**Student Entries**

**January**....273 visits  
**February**..409 visits  
**March**.....476 visits  
**April**.....572 visits  
**May**.....287 visits



**60.2%** Repeat Users per Month



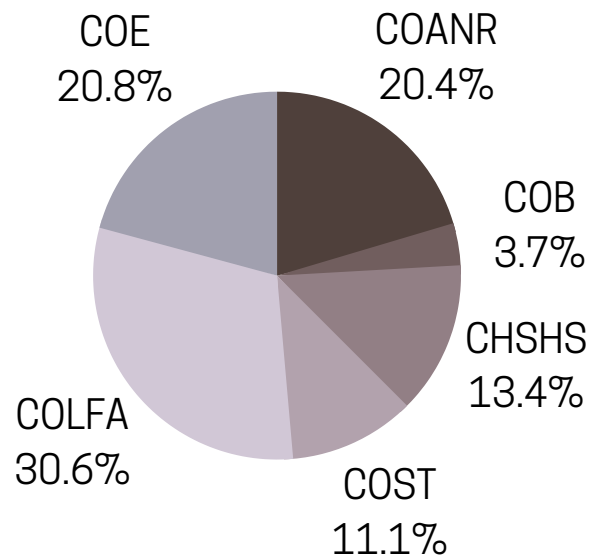
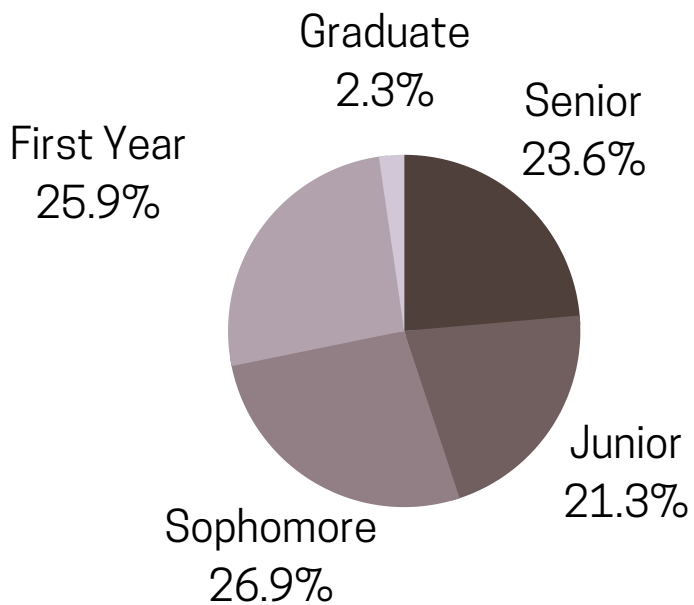
## Did you know?

Students experiencing quarantine or isolation had access to the Purple Pantry. They could receive a wellness kit in isolation or use the pantry during quarantine.

# Student User Profile

**68%**  
Pell Eligible

**63.9%**  
First Gen



## Top Majors

1. Music
2. (Pre) Nursing
3. Animal Science



# Inventory Trends

What items moved quickly during Spring 2021?

## Fridge & Freezer Items

Milk  
Frozen proteins  
Yogurt  
Produce  
Butter



## Shelf-Stable Items

Pasta (canned/dry)  
Tuna  
Cereal  
Condiments

## Hygiene & Academic Items

Deodorant  
Toothpaste  
Hand Soap  
Pens  
Spirals





The Tarleton Purple Pantry meets students' needs with the generosity of our donors and the dedication of our volunteers.

*Thank you!*

Contact us to learn how to help, how to get involved, or to request a tour.

✉ [purplepantry@tarleton.edu](mailto:purplepantry@tarleton.edu)

@PurplePantryTSU  



[www.tarleton.edu/purplepantry](http://www.tarleton.edu/purplepantry)

Friends of the Tarleton Purple Pantry 