Bridging the Gap Evaluation 2014-2015
Tyson Bryant, Christopher Valdez, and Azenett Garza
Weber State University Center for Community Engaged Learning – Community Research Extension

Background
• Food insecurity negatively impacts academic performance (Alaimo, Olson, & Frongillo, 2001; Averett & Stifel, 2007; Rodgers & Milewska, 2007).
• Mixed results on impact of intervention on academic achievement
• Rodgers and Milewska (2007) showed improvements for Food for Kids students.
• Ecker and Sifers (2013) found BackPack program did not impact hunger reports or academia.
• Most research reports positive feedback from students, parents, and teachers.

Question
• What was the satisfaction and perceptions of effectiveness among participants?

Current Study – Method
• 766 parent and 24 educator participants of Bridging the Gap
• Bridging the Gap mobile food pantry gives two bags of food to students at four schools once per month to increase services, access to healthy food, and quality of learning.
• Educators and parents were asked to complete a survey about their experience with the program.
• Parent surveys (both English and Spanish) were sent home with students, small candy offered for surveys returned to the school
• Surveys collected from schools for analysis

Results
Total responses compiled from relevant questions of both surveys

There were also 1000 reports of increased awareness of and 300 reports of increased use of community resources

Questions? Email: agarza@weber.edu

References