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| Ensures students are not having to ‘go without’ | Addresses a significant need for basics like sanitary products and food | Joint working between HISA and the Centre for Health Science teams | Invaluable resource for students based on-site | Well received with a high volume of use during the last year The Cubby Initiative CfHSHISA W | **Goal:** To ensure Nursing students have access to food and basic supplies during their studies.  **Submitted by:** Melissa O’Keefe **Project:** To set up and deliver monthly in-person and virtual tutor groups, with a mental health nursing perspective. **Benefit to:** Nursing, Optometry, and Oral Health Sciences students.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | ****Key message: Provide essentials during the cost-of-living crisis**** | | | Students struggling financially report having to choose between things like food and heating | | | The stress caused by financial difficulties and effects such as going hungry have a negative impact on students’ ability to study | | | By providing free food and toiletries, basic human needs are being met | | | For students based at the Centre for Health Science, this will be an invaluable resource | | | **Project delivery** |  | | An area within the Centre for Health Science was identified and stocked with essentials including food, sanitary products, and toiletries | | | The resource is accessible when the main building is open | | | The Cubby is delivered jointly with the Centre for Health Science, and funded with budget from UHI Alumni and HISA | | | HISA staff ensure it is maintained and kept fully stocked | | | Since its inception a high volume of items have continuously been accessed by students, with sanitary products proving most popular | |   **Impact:**  The cost-of-living crisis has severely impacted students, with many struggling to afford basic necessities. By creating this resource which is stocked with items which can be taken for free it allows students to concentrate on their studies and ensures they have continuous access to the supplies they need. |