For Immediate Release



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Augusta Technical College Unveils Paws Food Pantry with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Augusta, GA - November 29, 2023

Augusta Technical College celebrated the official opening of the Paws Pantry, a food pantry project aimed at addressing student food insecurity, with a ribbon cutting ceremony during a soft launch event.

In July 2022, Augusta Technical College secured the Liaison IMPACT Grant, providing essential funding for the Paws



Pantry initiative. This project establishes a confidential space for students to request and receive both food and personal items. Collaborating with Golden Harvest Food Bank as a partner agency ensures sustained success and longevity for the Paws Pantry.

College President Dr. Jermaine Whirl welcomed attendees and introduced guest speakers during the launch event. Amy Breitmann, president of Golden Harvest Food Bank, highlighted the impact of food insecurity and emphasized the importance of stable access to healthy foods. Russell Lahodny, President of the Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, underscored the positive community impact of such resources.

Kaylei Martin, the Augusta Technical College Paws Pantry representative, delivered a closing statement, expressing gratitude for the overwhelming support. The ceremony concluded with a symbolic ribbon cutting, officially marking the opening of the Paws Pantry.

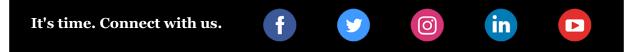
As part of the soft launch, students had the opportunity to apply for food pantry items through a confidential booth. Guests explored the newly established pantry space and accessed additional information and resources.

Photos from the ribbon cutting.

About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit <u>augustatech.edu</u>.

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