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Transcript:

Food insecurity is a significant issue where I live. 46 schools in my county, including the one I attend, are Title I. This means that at least 40% of students in these schools are eligible to receive a free or reduced lunch.

While donated food can make a real difference, I've noticed that it doesn't always reach the families who need it efficiently. Pantries can struggle to track inventory, and families may visit only to find items unavailable. This is important because every meal counts, and youth like myself can take a stand in solving local food access challenges.

This is why I am creating Smart Share Pantry — a youth-led initiative that uses an online database to record items in food pantries. Families in need are able to check what's available before visiting, and volunteers can monitor inventory in real time. Youth volunteers will manage the pantry, update the system, and coordinate pick-ups and drop-offs. This connects students, families, and local pantries into a more transparent and efficient food distribution network.

I want families to be able to reliably access the food they need, volunteers to see the tangible results of their work, and fewer donations to go to waste.

To turn Smart Share Pantry into a reality, I will first need to partner with a local pantry or organization like PORCH Marietta, and recruit youth volunteers to manage the online database. From there, we can track usage, and refine the system so it can grow into a scalable, community-driven solution that ensures every donation counts.

[Smart Share Pantry Video](#)

SMART SHARE PANTRY

A youth-led initiative that combines food access with technology

Many families struggle to access food efficiently, and pantries often face unpredictable donation flows. Smart Share Pantry is an online database that records donated food so those in need can see what's available before visiting, and volunteers can monitor inventory in real time.



CREATING REAL CHANGE

- Donated food to reliably reach those who need it
- Reducing wasted donations and food insecurity
- Increase public confidence in organizations like food pantries
- Create a model that can be adopted in many communities
- Youth to gain leadership experience while actively addressing local environmental issues

TURNING THIS INTO A REALITY

- Partnering with a local pantry or PORCH Marietta
- Recruit youth volunteers to help design and manage an online database or QR code inventory system
- Track usage and inventory efficiency, and gather feedback from users to improve the system
- Expand to other locations and organizations