





Mission

To lead the movement and nurture the belief that together we can improve the lives of Marylanders by ending hunger.

About the Maryland Food Bank

The Maryland Food Bank is a nonprofit hunger-relief organization, leading the movement to end hunger throughout Maryland. For more than thirty years, the Maryland Food Bank has partnered with communities across the state to distribute food to individuals and families in need. Through carefully-crafted programs, the food bank aims to meet the immediate needs of Marylanders while simultaneously working to find long term ways to reduce hunger statewide. Currently distributing 79,000 meals per day—nearly 29 million meals annually—the Maryland Food Bank will continue to expand its efforts until hunger ends.

The Maryland Food Bank operates from three facilities: one in Baltimore, one in Salisbury, and one in Hagerstown. Through an extensive network of soup kitchens, pantries, schools and other community-based organizations, food is distributed throughout 22 counties, including Baltimore City, and Somerset, Wicomico, and Washington counties—some of the most food-insecure regions in Maryland.



FINDING FOOD

Food is donated by farms, manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers, Feeding America, government agencies, other food banks and individuals. The Maryland Food Bank also purchases high-demand items like peanut butter, cereal and tuna fish wholesale to supplement donations.



STEWARDING FOOD

A fleet of Maryland Food Bank trucks criss-crosses the state, picking up food and bringing it to warehouses in Baltimore, Washington and Wicomico counties where it is sorted, packed and stored prior to distribution.



DISTRIBUTING FOOD

A menu of available foods is published daily and the Maryland Food Bank's network of kitchens, pantries, shelters, schools and other community-based organizations place orders for the types and quantities of food best suited to their community. The food bank also oversees direct service programs to ensure food reaches those most at risk of hunger—children and seniors.



REACHING THOSE IN NEED

Through a strong network of partners and outreach programs, food reaches families in need. The Maryland Food Bank is constantly reviewing hunger data and comparing it against county-by-county distribution levels to ensure equitable service to all in need.



About Hunger in Maryland

Based on median income, Maryland is considered the richest state in the country.

Why, then, is hunger such a pervasive problem in our communities?

Since it was first founded, in February 1979, the Maryland Food Bank has fought to eradicate hunger. In the last seven years alone, the Maryland Food Bank has tripled its distribution, and now provides nearly 29 million meals to families in need each year.

Unfortunately, increases in distribution have been met by continuing increases in need.

In the Maryland Food Bank's service area, nearly half-a-million individuals have reported food insecurity, or the inability to consistently access food. That means nearly 1 in 7 people experience hunger. For children, that figure increases to 1 in 6.

These numbers come from Feeding America's Map the Meal Gap Report, which uses feedback from actual clients and data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Census Bureau and U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, to create a comprehensive picture of hunger in Maryland. According to

the most recent Map the Meal Gap Report, individuals within the Maryland Food Bank's service area miss 84.7 million meals each year. This is the gap that the Maryland Food Bank and all other food assistance sources must bridge—over and above what we are currently doing—to end hunger in the region.

To make matters worse, 38 percent of food-insecure individuals in the Maryland Food Bank's service area do not even qualify for federal or state food assistance programs like WIC, Free and Reduced Price School Meals and SNAP (formerly known as food stamps). This means more than 183,000 Marylanders must rely solely on the Maryland Food Bank and our network to meet their most basic needs.

With this knowledge, the Maryland Food Bank takes its mission very seriously. Each year, food bank staff analyze the latest food insecurity data, and map out ways to find more nutritious food and increase distribution to underserved communities. Simultaneously, the food bank works to mobilize the public, securing much-needed donations of food, funds and time, while nurturing the belief that together we can—and will—end hunger in Maryland.

Fast Facts

- More than 773,200 Marylanders are food insecure, meaning they don't know where their next meal is coming from.
- Within the Maryland Food Bank's 22-county service area, more than 483,490 people are food insecure.
- In the Maryland Food Bank's service area, 172,620 children are food insecure.
- In 2012, 13.1% of Maryland households reported food insecurity
- Hunger in Maryland is not limited to urban centers.
 Many struggle with food insecurity in rural and suburban areas such as Somerset County, which rivals Baltimore City for the highest participation in Free-and-Reduced School Meals.

Annual Report

You can view our FY 2013 Annual Report by visiting the Publications page under News & Events on our website: www.mdfoodbank.org/news-events/publications/

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