The Impact of Charitable Food Assistance in Fayette County

Fayette County Community Action Food Bank is the Partner Distribution Organization (PDO) of Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank which serves Fayette County.

- 865,090 meals were distributed to individuals and families throughout the county in fiscal year 2014-15.

- Fayette County Community Action Food Bank, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and local partners served 5,449 individuals* throughout the county during January 2016.

- Out of those who received food assistance in January 2016, 284 individuals were first-time recipients, meaning they had never received emergency food assistance during the previous twelve months.

The Impact of Food & Nutrition Programs in Fayette County

State Food Purchase Program

A state funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Fayette County Community Action Agency is the lead agency. Income eligibility: below 150% of poverty level.

$277,519.43 was allocated to the county in fiscal year 2013-14. These funds helped feed 5,210 households, which included 2,408 children and 854 seniors.*

Fayette County was allocated $267,866.49 for fiscal year 2014-15.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

A federally funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Fayette County Community Action Agency is the lead agency. Income eligibility: below 150% of poverty level.

8,235 cases of TEFAP commodities were distributed throughout the county in fiscal year 2014-15.

The Numbers

Food Insecure Population: 20,930
Food Insecurity Rate: 15.4%
Food Insecure Children: 7,020
Child Food Insecurity Rate: 25.8%
Population in Poverty: 25,018
Poverty Rate: 19.0%
Children under 18 in Poverty: 8,022
Children under 18 Poverty Rate: 30.7%
Seniors over 65 in Poverty: 2,519
Seniors over 65 Poverty Rate: 10.4%
Unemployment Rate (Feb. ‘16): 7.2%
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps)

A federally funded entitlement program administered by the PA Department of Human Services. Income eligibility: below 160% of poverty level or below 200% of poverty level for households with individuals over age 60 or with a disability.

31,829 individuals in Fayette County received SNAP benefits in March 2016.

In fiscal year 2014-15, $50,646,408 in SNAP benefits were redeemed at 137 SNAP-authorized stores in the county. For every $5.00 in new SNAP benefits, $9.00 in economic activity is generated.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)

A federally funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Hunger-Free Pennsylvania partners with Fayette County Community Action Agency to distribute the boxes. Income eligibility: seniors below 130% of poverty level.

In 2015, approximately 916 low-income seniors throughout the county received a monthly box of nutritious food.

National School Lunch & Breakfast Programs

A federally funded entitlement program administered by the PA Department of Education. Income eligibility: below 130% of poverty level for free meals and 185% for reduced price meals.

10,144 children throughout the county received free or reduced-price school meals during the 2014-15 school year.

Summer Food Service Program

A federally funded entitlement program administered by the PA Department of Education. Income eligibility depends on type of site.

85,612 meals were served to children over the course of the summer of 2015.

Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

A federally funded entitlement program administered by the PA Department of Education. Income eligibility depends on type of site.

17 sites served a total of 202,713 meals and snacks throughout the county in fiscal year 2013-14.

Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

A federally funded program administered by the PA Department of Health. Fayette County Community Action Agency administers the program. Income eligibility: women and children under age five below 185% of poverty level.

On average, 2,636 women, infants and children in the county participated in the WIC program each month during fiscal year 2013-14.

In the same year, $2,012,899.04 in WIC benefits were redeemed at 18 WIC-authorized stores in the county.

Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program

A federal and state funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Income eligibility: WIC participants or seniors below 185% of poverty level.

In 2014, vouchers worth $20 were used by approximately 1,300 WIC participants and 2,400 seniors at authorized farm stands and markets.

Congregate & Home-Delivered Meals

Federal and state funded programs administered by the PA Department of Aging. Southwestern PA Area Agency on Aging (AAA) administers these programs. Eligibility is based on age or in-home assessments by AAA.

A total of 250,067 meals were served or delivered to 2,541 seniors* during fiscal year 2013-14.

*Duplication may be possible.