The Impact of Charitable Food Assistance in Washington County

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

- 1,146,679 meals were distributed to individuals and families throughout the county in fiscal year 2014-15.

- Greater Washington County Food Bank, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and local partners served 8,028 individuals* throughout the county during January 2016.

- Out of those who received food assistance in January 2016, 524 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 Washington County

**State Food Purchase Program**

A state funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Greater Washington County Food Bank is the lead agency. Income eligibility: below 150% of poverty level.

$238,398.60 was allocated to the county in fiscal year 2013-14. These funds helped feed 5,301 households, which included 4,104 children and 706 seniors.*

Washington County was allocated $226,024.31 for fiscal year 2015-16.

**The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)**

A federally funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Greater Washington County Food Bank is the lead agency. Income eligibility: below 150% of poverty level.

6,101 cases of TEFAP commodities were distributed throughout the county in fiscal year 2014-15.

The Numbers

- Food Insecure Population: 23,960
- Food Insecurity Rate: 11.5%
- Food Insecure Children: 7,490
- Child Food Insecurity Rate: 17.9%
- Population in Poverty: 21,377
- Poverty Rate: 10.5%
- Children under 18 in Poverty: 5,691
- Children under 18 Poverty Rate: 13.8%
- Seniors over 65 in Poverty: 2,652
- Seniors over 65 Poverty Rate: 7.2%
- Unemployment Rate (Feb. ‘16): 5.7%
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.

25,242 individuals in Washington County received SNAP benefits in March 2016.

In fiscal year 2014-15, $25,188,934 in SNAP benefits were redeemed at 138 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

A federally funded program administered by the PA Department of Agriculture. Hunger-Free Pennsylvania partners with Greater Washington County Food Bank to distribute the boxes. Income eligibility: seniors below 130% of poverty level.

In 2015, approximately 591 seniors with low incomes throughout the county received a monthly box of nutritious food.

Summer Food Service Program

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

28,646 meals and snacks were served to children throughout the county 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.

In fiscal year 2013-14, 38 sites served a total of 761,188 meals and snacks throughout the county.

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.

10,305 children throughout the county received free or reduced-price meals during the 2014-15 school year.

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

A federally funded program administered by the PA Department of Health. Community Action Southwest administers the program in Washington and Greene Counties. Income eligibility: women and children under age five below 185% of poverty level.

On average, 2,675 women, infants and children in the county participated in WIC each month in fiscal year 2013-14.

In the same year, $1,940,086.85 in WIC benefits were redeemed at 16 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 800 WIC participants and 2,900 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 251,957 meals were served to 2,991 seniors* during fiscal year 2013-14.

*Duplication may be possible.