



Food For Thought



Central Pennsylvania Food Bank
3908 Corey Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 (717) 564-1700 | 3301 Wahoo Drive, Williamsport, PA 17701 (570) 321-8023

SEPTEMBER | 2019

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

Everyone deserves “a seat at the table,” and with an investment from the York Memorial Health Fund, and in partnership with Catholic Harvest Food Pantry, New Hope Ministries, York County Food Bank, and the York County Food Alliance, we are committed to build that table!

In June, we released, “**A Seat at the Table,**” a comprehensive analysis of the charitable food system in York County, PA. The report was born out of Governor Tom Wolf’s “*Setting the Table, a Blueprint for a Hunger Free PA*” initiative launched in 2017. The Governor’s report and our follow up specific to York County is aimed at helping the county become hunger free. The report uses baseline county level data to address gaps in food accessibility. It uses maps to identify locations in the county where food insecurity is high and access to charitable food is low. **Nearly 12 million pounds of food are required to meet the needs of more than 55,000 people struggling with hunger in York County. More than 100 charitable food distribution programs are working hard to fill that need.**

Data regarding the charitable food system was collected and analyzed by The Food Trust, a nationwide anti-hunger research and advocacy organization. The Food Trust distilled information from sources including Feeding America, The American Community Survey, the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, the York County Food Bank, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a survey of the county’s charitable food providers.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

EVALUATING THE CHARITABLE FOOD SYSTEM IN YORK COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA



2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: SUSAN HUBLEY
Capital Blue Cross

VICE PRESIDENT: REBECCA RALEY
Partnership for Better Health

SECRETARY: DANIEL REISTETER
Pennsylvania Bankers Association

TREASURER: ED O'GORMAN
River Wealth Advisors, LLC

JIM ADAMS
Retired, Wenger Group

GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission

MILZY CARRASCO
City of Lancaster

LINDA COSTA
PA State Association of Boroughs

MARIANNE DEPASQUA
Pennsylvania College of Technology

SCOTT ESWORTHY
Brown Shultz Sheridan & Fritz

DEB FERREIRA
Deloitte Consulting

RON FRICK
Lycoming County United Way

SABINA GRANT-SPENCER
Harrisburg City School District

JANICE KOPELMAN
Retired - PA Department of Health

TAMMIE LOWRY
UGI

LEAH MALLETT
PSECU

DAVID MANBECK
Boyer & Ritter

KATHLEEN MCKENZIE
Highmark

FRANK PELLEGRINO
Carlton Associates, LLC

VALERIE PRITCHETT
ABC27-WHTM TV

SUSAN ROOF
Retired - Significa

ERIC SAUNDERS
New Hope Ministries

SCOTT SHERRY
Nationwide

MATT SIMON
Ahold, USA

NORTHERN TIER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CHAIR: MARIANNE DEPASQUA
Pennsylvania College of Technology

DR. RYAN ADAMS
Lycoming College

DONNA BASTIAN
Retired

ALICE FOX
New Love Center

RON FRICK
Lycoming County United Way

ANNE FURMAN
Furmano Foods

SID FURST
CFI

LEEANN GEPHART
Riverview Bank

JAIME HYNOSKI
Weis Markets

LAURA KITTLE
AmeriCorps

CAROL PIOLI
Food Bank of State College

JAVA WITH JOE

Dear Friends of the Food Bank,

We just completed another highly successful mission year and our Team and our Friends are already working hard to make sure the next one is even more impactful. We have entered the fifth year under our Bold Goal 2025 Plan, and while we are proud that we are ahead of plan in closing county-level “meal gaps,” we also know that at the neighborhood level many Central Pennsylvanians need more access to healthier food.

To launch deeper work on these challenges, we partnered with the York Memorial Health Fund, the York County Community Foundation, and several key partner organizations to evaluate the charitable food system throughout York County. On June 21st, we conducted a press conference to share the major findings and recommendations from this “Seat at the Table” project, and the report is available on our website.

Our learnings from this endeavor are helping us to transform our work in York County and across all areas of central Pennsylvania. We believe our enhanced mission approach, **“Better Access, Better Food, Better Together,”** will help us improve even more lives and strengthen even more communities as we continue our journey to our Bold Goal 2025. We won't be satisfied until everyone struggling with hunger in central Pennsylvania has access to enough healthy food every day to live their best life. And we are inspired by our Friends like you that make this journey and this mission possible.

Thank you so much!

A SEAT AT THE TABLE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The report includes detailed maps of food insecurity rates by zip code and nine recommendations including:

- Establishing food pantry hubs in each quadrant of the county and the city to ensure more accessibility to nutritious foods
- Implement best practice pantry models which include extended hours of operation, more nutritious food offerings, and client choice models
- Investment in alternative distribution models such as mobile pantries and pop-up markets to increase accessibility
- Expanding the current child BackPack programs to offer food for the whole family

The release of the report in June was the culmination of nearly two years of data gathering, tracking and analysis. Pennsylvania First Lady Frances Wolf, Auditor General Eugene DePasquale, Human Services Secretary Teresa Miller, and York County President Commissioner Susan Byrnes endorsed the report's findings at a press conference.

We are working hard to implement all the “A Seat at the Table” recommendations in York County, but we will not stop there. The findings in York County will be used to assess food insecurity rates in the other counties we serve and help us work more closely with all our partners to provide better access to better foods in each of these counties. **We know that we are all better together.**

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

To access the full Seat at the Table Report and to learn more, please visit www.centralpafoodbank.org/satt.



Partners involved in the Seat at the Table report, with Pennsylvania First Lady Frances Wolf. From left to right: Joe Anne Ward-Cottrell, York County Food Alliance; Jennifer Powell, Central Pennsylvania Food Bank; Joe Arthur, Central Pennsylvania Food Bank; Pennsylvania First Lady Frances Wolf; Kris Pollick, Catholic Harvest Food Pantry; Lise Levin, York County Community Foundation

HUNGER ACTION MONTH IS HERE!



September is Hunger Action Month, a nationwide campaign to mobilize the public to action on the issue of hunger in our communities. The Central Pennsylvania Food Bank supports the month-long event by asking everyone to take action to fight hunger.

This is your opportunity to join a movement that has a real and lasting impact on our efforts to feed more of our neighbors than ever before.

HUNGER ACTION MONTH PRESENTED BY



Whether it is by advocating and raising awareness, making donations or volunteering, we can all end hunger, one helping at a time!

There are many ways to get involved! Raise awareness on your social media pages by using the special Hunger Action Month profile frame. Orange is also the official color of Hunger Action Month. We encourage your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers to wear orange throughout the month. Post your pictures on social media, tagging us at [facebook.com/CentralPAFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/CentralPAFoodBank) or on Twitter and Instagram [@centralpafb](https://www.instagram.com/centralpafb). Use the hashtags, [#HungerActionMonth](https://twitter.com/hashtag/HungerActionMonth) and [#OneHelping](https://twitter.com/hashtag/OneHelping). For more ways on how you can get involved throughout the month, visit [centralpafoodbank.org/ham](https://www.centralpafoodbank.org/ham).

HUNGER ISN'T SELECTIVE: MEET ELIZABETH



ELIZABETH AND HER DAUGHTERS,
EMILY AND SAMANTHA.

Elizabeth and her family have been visiting New Love Center, a partner agency of the Food Bank located in Jersey Shore, PA, for seven years. Over the summer, Elizabeth regularly took two of her children with her to the center: Emily, eight and Samantha, five. As the girls poured over donated books, Elizabeth talked about their career aspirations: Samantha wants to be a carpenter, while Emily's goal is to be the first female president.

Elizabeth is grateful that the New Love Center, in partnership with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, is helping her pave a way for her girls to make these dreams a reality. She wants to give her children the best opportunities available, and that can be difficult when bills and other expenses take priority over nutritious foods. Elizabeth is a stay-at-home mom and her husband recently found work again after a period of unemployment.

“Right now, with trying to pay bills, it doesn't leave much for a food budget. The center helps to make sure my children have the meals and snacks they need. I'm not worried about myself, my husband is not worried about himself, we want to make sure our children are fed and have what they need. The Food Bank helps.”

A big part of what makes the New Love Center so great, Elizabeth stresses, is the volunteers. She calls them “miracle workers.” When asked to describe what she would say to someone who might be hesitant to visit the food pantry, she says she would emphasize their non-judgmental atmosphere.

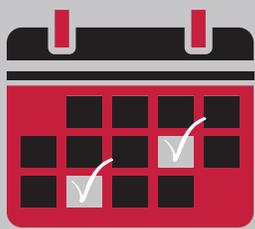
“

“If your family means that much to you, and you don't want to see your children going to bed hungry, come down here. You are going to find that the volunteers do not judge, and they are the nicest people you will ever meet. The pantry is going to help you and your family.”

Thank you!

On behalf of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, we would like to thank the following corporations and foundations for their very generous support.

- Berwick Health and Wellness Fund of the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation
- Community Foundation of the Alleghenies
- Darden Foundation
- Fund for York County of the York County Community Foundation
- Morgan Stanley
- Nationwide Foundation
- Perry County Community Foundation, a regional foundation of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
- Sheetz for the Kidz
- The Great American Milk Drive
- Walmart Foundation



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

*Save the date for our 2020
Soup and a Bowl events!*

**Williamsport Event:
February 21, 2020**
at the Genetti Hotel in Williamsport

**Harrisburg Event:
March 9, 2020**
at the Radisson Hotel in Camp Hill

Watch for more information in the coming months!

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: STATE COLLEGE FOOD BANK

As the Executive Director of the State College Food Bank, Carol Pioli knows how to make a big impact. Carol is in charge of overseeing the entire organization, “whether it is operations, financial, outreach, community engagement – the list goes on,” Carol says. “I almost forgot the most important one – client services!”



**CAROL PIOLI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
THE STATE COLLEGE FOOD BANK,
A PARTNER AGENCY OF THE
CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA FOOD BANK.**

The State College Food Bank, like many of our partner agencies, is a busy operation. They serve 1,600 clients a year, equating to more than 300 families per month. However, something that makes this partner stand out is their food re-donation program. Carol realizes that many other food pantries in the area do not have access to proper resources for their clients due to lack of manpower or transportation issues. In an effort to help, the State College Food Bank staff and volunteers partner with these local agencies to bring them food from the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank-related retailers, as well as donating food they themselves cannot use. Carol raves about how this food re-donation program has grown in recent years.

“

“This is a wonderful partnership that started with two agencies, and has now expanded to include many agencies,” Carol said. “The first year we did this with the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, we donated about 22,000 pounds of food to other agencies in Centre County. The second year, it went to 62,000 pounds and last year, it was at 77,000. So this is an example of how we really work together to reach everyone struggling with hunger, not only within our distribution area, but throughout Centre County.”

Carol is particularly excited about the variety of fresh produce the State College Food Bank can provide their partners’ clients as well as their own. “Because of Feeding America and the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank we always have wonderful produce to share with our clients and partners,” she explains. “You never know what you are going to find at the State College Food Bank in the summer – it could be anything from acorn squash, to a trumpet squash to kohlrabi! You just never know, which is really neat. Our clients like the fresh fruits and vegetables and so do we.” Carol simply describes her service as “sharing our bounty.”

Our partnership with the State College Food Bank and other partners is proving that when we work together, those struggling with hunger have better access to better foods.

We truly are, Better Together



NO FARMS NO FOOD

You’ve seen the bumper stickers, “No Farms, No Food.” It’s no secret that the agricultural community is a key partner in ending hunger. Pennsylvania took drastic action to support agriculture with the passage of the Pennsylvania Farm Bill in June. The new law will invest more than \$24 million in Pennsylvania’s agriculture industry to grow opportunities and resources, remove barriers to entry, and cultivate future generations of leaders within agriculture.

By supporting the agricultural ecosystem, we are creating more opportunities to connect people to healthy food in their communities, reduce food waste, and educate on nutrition. Much of the delicious meat, dairy, fruits, vegetables and other Foods to Encourage that we make available to our network comes directly from farms through state and federal programs.

The Pennsylvania Farm Bill offers infrastructure and resources to bolster the agricultural community, as well as efforts to promote local products and educate others. A big thank you to our legislative leaders and the governor for passing this important, bi-partisan law. Strong, vibrant farms increase the ability of the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank and our partners to do the critical work we do.