

# FOOD BANK FACT SHEET

## AKRON-CANTON REGIONAL FOODBANK FACTS:

- A non-profit organization with a vision of a thriving community free of hunger
- Provides food and other essential items to member agencies in eight Northeast Ohio counties: Carroll, Holmes, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas & Wayne
- Member agencies operate nearly 500 food pantries, hot meal sites, shelters and other hunger-relief programs in the neighborhoods and communities where people need food
- Distributed more than 28.8 million pounds of food and other essential items in 2016, enough to provide more than 24 million meals through our distribution and SNAP outreach.
- This year, the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank is on track to distribute more than 8.5 million pounds of fresh produce to its network for free.
- Provides food and essential items to approximately 263,200 different individuals each year

## ACRF HUNGER FACTS:

- 1 in 7 individuals in our service area is food insecure, meaning they lack regular access to safe and nutritious food
  - More than 1 in 5 children in our service area is food insecure
  - 30 percent of the members of households served by the Foodbank are children under the age of 18 years old
  - 80 percent of individuals served by the Foodbank have a high school diploma or higher education
  - 81 percent of individuals served by the Foodbank report purchasing the cheapest food available, even if they know it's not the healthiest option
  - 1 in 5 families served by the Foodbank report having at least one member that has served in the military
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#### GREATER CLEVELAND FOOD BANK FACTS:

- The Greater Cleveland Food Bank is the largest hunger relief organization in Northeast Ohio
- It is on track to provide 55 million meals in 2017 to hungry people in Cuyahoga, Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Ashland and Richland counties.
- The Food Bank operates a community food distribution center, providing food and other critical grocery products annually to more than 800 local food pantries, hot meal programs, shelters, mobile pantries, programs for the elderly and other nonprofit agencies.
- It also prepares more than 5,000 of nutritious meals in the Food Bank Kitchen and takes hundreds of calls a day in its help center, where low income callers are referred to local agencies

#### GCFB HUNGER FACTS:

- One in six residents from the six county service area was food insecure in 2015 (16.8%). That's a total of 312,560 people.
  - More than one in five children from the service area lived in a food insecure household in 2015 (21.1%). That's more than 86,000 children.
  - Cuyahoga County had the highest number of food insecure residents in the state of Ohio in 2016 at approximately 235,200 individuals. Cuyahoga County has one of the largest number of food insecure children in the state of Ohio, at 58,370 children.
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## THE CAMPUS KITCHEN FACTS:

- The Campus Kitchen at Kent State (CKKSU) is a student-powered response to hunger based out of a professional kitchen on Kent State University's campus and utilizing food from dining services, local farmers, and grocers.
  - By recovering food that otherwise would go to waste, the kitchen is able to prepare 300 nutritious meals each week for those struggling with food insecurity.
  - Operations take place five days per week and consist of recovering food that otherwise would go to waste, cooking nutritious meals, and delivering and serving at local not-for-profits; operating a food pantry for food insecure students, faculty, staff and community members; and engaging with the community at the local farmer's market.
  - Food is delivered to Kent Social Services, Center of Hope, Upper Room Ministries and Springtime of Hope.
  - The Campus Kitchen engages with the community every Saturday at the Haymakers Farmers' Market, as well as partners with the Nutrition Outreach program at Kent to provide nutrition education to children, youth, and senior adults.
  - CKKSU is part of a nation-wide organization known as The Campus Kitchens Project (CKP).
  - CKP is empowering the next generation of leaders to implement innovative models for combating hunger, developing food systems and helping communities help themselves.
  - The mission of The Campus Kitchens Project is to use service as a tool to accomplish the following: strengthen bodies by using existing resources to meet hunger and nutritional needs in our community; empower minds by providing leadership and service learning opportunities to students, and educational benefits to adults, seniors, children and families in need; and build communities by fostering a new generation of community-minded adults through resourceful and mutually beneficial partnerships among students, social service agencies, businesses and schools.
  - The volunteer opportunities offered to students allow them to apply theory learned in the classroom to real-world scenarios.
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