Ending Hunger is Possible: A Plan for Oregon

Oregon House Committee on Human Services and Housing

May 22, 3013

Oregon Hunger Task Force

Creating Policies for a Hunger-Free Oregon





How hungry is Oregon?



Currently -

- Our rate of hunger remains high but unchanged.
- 1 in 5 Oregonians are using SNAP.
- Nearly 178,000 women and children use WIC.
- Over half of all students in Oregon are eligible to receive free or reduced price meals at school.
- Approximately 270,000 people eat from an emergency food box each month.

Food programs provide meals for families.





Ending hunger is possible; Oregon has a plan.



CCA Regional Food Bank Astoria Columbia Pacific (Food Bank St. Helens Mid-Columbia OFB-Washington **Community Action Council OFB-Metro Services** Regional Food Bank of Tillamook County County Services The Dalles Portland Hillsbo Tillamoo Yamhill Regional Food Bank McMinnville Marion-Polk Food Share Salem

Linn-Benton Food Share Corvallis

Eugene

UCAN Food Bank

South Coast Food Share Coos Bay

Josephine County

Food Bank

FOOD For Lane County

ACCESS Food Share

Medford

Food Share

of Lincoln County Newpo

FOOD INSECURITY RATES

Source: 2011 Feeding America Map the Meal Gap

SM





NeighborImpact

CAPECO Food Share

Community

La Grande

Connection

Southeast Oregon ● Regional Food Bank

Ontario





EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Source: 2012 Oregon Food Bank Hunger Factors Assessment





Hunger Factors Survey 2011-12

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Source: 2012 Oregon Food Bank Hunger Factors Assessment



27% Two-parent households

21% Single, living alone

14% Couples, no children

11% Other

9% Multi-generational

9% Single parent/female

7% Single person living with housemate

2% Single parent/male

WHY EMERGENCY FOOD?

Source: 2012 Oregon Food Bank Hunger Factors Assessment

56%	Ran out of SNAP benefits
48 %	High food costs
40%	High cost of gasoline/fuel
35%	High heating costs
27%	Unemployed for a long time
25%	High rent/mortgage
24%	Unusual expenses recently
23%	Debt
18%	Retired: fixed income too low
18%	Working, but wages too low
13%	Too sick to work
10%	Public assistance not enough



Food-related calls are consistently one of 211info's top caller needs. These services, especially SNAP, have provided a foundation people can count on. We've gathered caller need and demographic data from January 2012 to December 2012 across Oreaon.

211 info caller data represents only a portion of the need. 211 was not available statewide until February 2013 and not all people who need assistance turn to 211.

CLIENT SCENARIO

A 60-year-old man called because he couldn't afford to pay his water bill. In the course of the conversation, the call-taker asked if he received SNAP (food stamps) benefits. He said, "No, I usually give, not take." But he had recently been unable to pay his bills because of an injury, and he was willing to apply for SNAP benefits. SNAP helped free up some much-needed room in his budget. This type of call is very common in the 211info call center.

TOP PROGRAM REQUESTS



ETHNICITY



January 2012- December 2012

Total number of calls: 24,093



To put that in perspective, if we answered a hunger-related call every minute it would take us more than 16 straight days to meet everyone's need.

60 77

49

233

292

475 163

115

35 2 147

REFERRALS

SnowCap

81

2

26%

Male

13

37

GENDER AND AGE

74%

Female

0-19 years old: 3%

20-29 years old: 24%

30-39 years old: 23%

40-49 years old: 19%

50-59 years old: 17% 60+ years old: 14%

17

5

53

8

211 was not available statewide until February 2013. Data from 2-1-1 line and 1-800-Safener

FOOD CALLS PER COUNTY*

42

42

66

1,062

83

9.531

2,750

517

851

451

TOP FOOD PANTRY

873

863

685

oregonfoodbank.org





Voices Focus Groups



In the last 17 years, we have held Voices focus groups at 106 emergency food distribution sites.

OUR 2013 FOCUS GROUP LOCATIONS:

Colton Helping Hands, COLTON Fossil Community Food Pantry, FOSSIL Friends Church, KLAMATH FALLS Salvation Army, PENDLETON Portland Adventist Community Center, PORTLAND New Hope Foursquare Church, SALEM St. Vincent de Paul, GEARHART

Solutions & Effective Strategies:



Together, we can end hunger before it begins.

