



"When hunger stops, so will we."

www.foodshare.org

MEMBER OF
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AMERICA

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Numbers May Be Lower, but Life Proves Harder for Many

According to Study, 12.1% of Greater Hartford Residents Struggle with Hunger

Hartford, CT – Foodshare has announced the release of the latest Map the Meal Gap report, issued by Feeding America® on food insecurity and the cost of food at both the county and congressional district level. This study reveals that food insecurity in Connecticut is down almost a full percentage point over last year.



Unfortunately, many of our neighbors facing hunger—127,000 people in Hartford and Tolland counties, including more than 36,000 children—are likely falling further behind as they grapple with buying enough food to meet basic needs. Food insecure individuals across the region now face, on average, a food budget shortfall of \$18.29 per person each week, up from \$15.43 only five years ago. In addition, an estimated 40 percent of those struggling, earn too much to qualify for most federal food assistance, including SNAP benefits.

Local anti-hunger organization Foodshare is leading a coordinated response to this need in Greater Hartford, with help from thousands of donors, partners and volunteers. The *Foodshare Walk Against Hunger*, taking place this Sunday at The Hartford's Liam E. McGee Memorial Park in downtown Hartford, is aimed at raising awareness of this issue and building community support to find long-term solutions. To learn more about how you can get involved, visit foodsharewalk.org.

A summary of the report's findings—based on most recent census data—an interactive map of the United States, and the full report are available at map.feedingamerica.org. Keep up with Foodshare's latest news on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/Foodshare) @Foodshare.

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About Foodshare

Foodshare is Greater Hartford's regional food bank, working to nourish our neighbors every, single day by increasing access to healthy food. We will continue this work for as long as there are people in need—but **hunger is bigger than food**. Collecting and distributing 11.5 million of meals worth of food each year gives us a stark understanding of the everyday realities of food insecurity. With your support we are building collaborative partnerships and advocating on behalf

of those we serve, with one goal in mind—building a stronger and healthier Greater Hartford for us all.

Foodshare is changing what it means to be a food bank. Join the conversation online at www.foodshare.org.

About Feeding America

Feeding America is a nationwide network of 200 food banks that leads the fight against hunger in the United States. Together, we provide food to more than 46 million people through food pantries and meal programs in communities throughout America. Feeding America also supports programs that improve food security among the people we serve; educates the public about the problem of hunger; and advocates for legislation that protects people from going hungry. Individuals, charities, businesses and government all have a role in ending hunger. Donate. Volunteer. Advocate. Educate. Together we can solve hunger. Visit <http://www.feedingamerica.org/>. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FeedingAmerica or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/FeedingAmerica.