Food Insecurity in Shaker Heights

A Review of Data and Policy

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Food Security: When people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and preferences for an active, healthy life.
5,078 People in Shaker Heights live at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, which means they are eligible to receive food bank benefits in Ohio.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Poverty</th>
<th>Shaker Heights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Persons living below poverty</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (Age 0-17) living below poverty</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families with children living below poverty</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors (Age 65+) living below poverty</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons in deep poverty (under 50% of poverty)</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons in or near poverty (under 200% of poverty)</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SNAP

SNAP

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- 1.4M Ohioans – 8.7% of Shaker Heights residents
- Responsible for significant reductions in poverty (17% in 2015 alone)
- Worth $170M in economic input each month

Average Ohio Household

- White
- Working (with three out of four households having more than one person)
- Single Parent (mostly mothers)
- One out of two have someone with a disability
- One in four has someone over the age of 60
- Average benefit does not cover a full grocery budget
Older Adults

- Food Insecurity is an Older Adult Issue
  - 1 in 6 older adults are food insecure (17.6%) – about 457,000 people over 60
  - Food insecurity = 60% more like to experience depression
  - Older adults visiting food pantries in Ohio has increased by 20 percent with a total of 449,115 people age 60 and over visiting food pantries in the first quarter of 2017
Older Adults

- Older Americans Act
  - Home delivered meals
    - Locally administered, homebound individuals
  - Congregate meals
    - Group setting
  - Money flows through Area Agency on Aging (WRAAAA)
    - Responsible for paying match to draw down funds, using local levy dollars, CSBG, provider contributions, etc
Older Adults

• Challenges
  • Waiting lists
  • Staffing
  • 1 meal may not be enough

• Opportunities
  • Creating partnerships with local restaurants for congregate meals
  • Only 40% of eligible seniors are accessing SNAP

1 home-delivered meal costs $7
This means we could provide older Ohioans with 1 month of daily delivered meals for the same cost as 1 day in a nursing home.

1 year of Home-Delivered meals $1,820 < 1 day in a hospital $2,608
Connection to Health

• Kids
  • Food insecurity has been shown to affect key developmental milestones, with connections to behavioral problems, school absenteeism and poor academic performance

• Higher Costs
  • Food insecurity is associated with an increased incidence of chronic disease, nursing home admissions and higher rates of diabetes-related hospitalizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>33</th>
<th>Food access and food insecurity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Healthy food access. Percent of population with limited access to healthy food, defined as the percent of low-income individuals (&lt;200% federal poverty guideline) living more than 10 miles from a grocery store in rural areas and more than one mile in non-rural areas (2015)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Food insecurity. Percent of households that are food insecure (2015-2017)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Federal
  • SNAP Limits for ABAWDs
  • Would raise county exemptions for high-unemployment counties to 7%
• Evidence suggests work requirements do not act as an incentive
• Disproportionate impact on minorities
Policy Discussions: Other Policy

• HB 200
• OAFB
  • 10M from TANF ($1.20/per person per month)
  • Ongoing advocacy campaign
• FPL Rule
  • Would tie FPL inflation to a different number
Hello

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