



# Montgomery County Food Council

**Annmarie Hart-Bookbinder,  
MCFC Food Security Programs Manager  
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# Introductions

## **Annmarie Hart-Bookbinder**

Food Security Programs Manager  
Montgomery County Food Council

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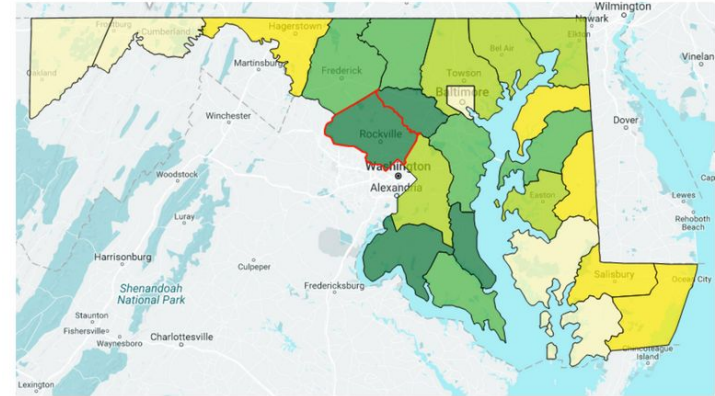
# Mission & Vision

MCFC builds an equitable, resilient and sustainable local food system through collaboration, transformation, and cultivation.

MCFC envisions a vibrant and equitable food system that is healthy for our community, economy, and environment.



**Our scope**  
County food policy, practices,  
and programs within the context  
of state, region, nation, and global



**Our tools**



policy + education +  
community engagement +  
advocacy + partnerships +  
evaluation





# Four Public Working Groups

## **Food Recovery and Access Working Group**

Food Security Community Calls, SNAP Outreach Working Group

## **Environmental Impact Working Group**

Composting, climate change mitigation, food waste reduction

## **Food Economy Working Group**

MoCo Made Initiative, other support for local farms and businesses

## **Food Education Working Group**

Food is Medicine initiatives, Gardening Subcommittee

# Food Security Plan



## A Food Secure Montgomery

What we know now and what we can do

A 5-Year Strategic Plan



- Bill 19-16 passed in July 2016 requiring delivery of Food Security Plan by December 2016
- Plan developed from public discussion forums, listening sessions, in-person interviews and roundtable discussion groups in partnership with more than 300 collaborators, including businesses, nonprofits, local and government agencies and food assistance providers.
- [Food Security Plan](#) released by the County Executive in January 2017
- January 2017-Present: implementation and COVID-19 Response





# Increase Knowledge of Resources and Issues

Hits on website:

Food assistance resource map: **27,063**

COVID-19 resource page in English: **24,876**

COVID-19 resource page in Spanish: **4,399**

Pages pertaining to food security resources: **70,000+**



Number of social media posts sharing information about food assistance resources:

**657**

## The Senior Connection

- 3950 Ferrara Dr, Wheaton-Glenmont, 20906
- 301-962-0820
- <http://seniorconnectionmc.org>
- [susan.girard@seniorconnectionmc.org](mailto:susan.girard@seniorconnectionmc.org)
- 10-4 Monday through Friday
- Volunteers will shop from a list using client's funds and bring the groceries to the client's door.

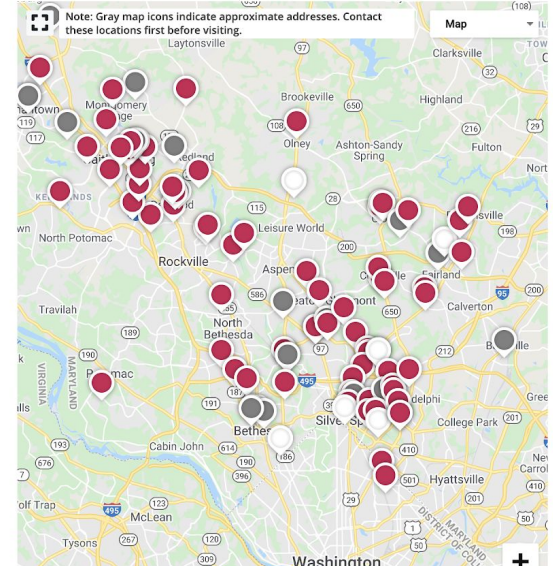
Type: Choice Pantry  
Accessibility: Appointment Required, Service to a Specific Population  
Features: Delivery

## Glenmont United Methodist Church (Manna Partner)

- 301-424-1130
- <http://mannafood.org>
- Tuesdays 4-7PM, Thursdays 2 - 5pm

Type: Pre-Packed Pantry Items  
Accessibility: Appointment Required, Documentation Required  
Languages: Spanish  
Features: Special Diet Accommodations, Fresh Produce

## Catholic Charities/Montgomery County Family Center





# Build the Capacity of Community Partners

## ***Food Security Community Call***

51: Number of calls to date, March 2020 through 2021

98: Average number of attendees per meeting

812: Total number of unique attendees in 2021

4,846: Total attendees, March 2020 through 2021 (including repeat attendees)

## ***Virtual Trainings***

2021 Attendees: 498 individuals from 169 organizations



# Collaboration and Coordination: Local and Beyond



## Local:

- Emergency Assistance Coalition
- Leadership Montgomery
- Community Organizations Active in Disaster
- Thriving Germantown
- Coalition for Smarter Growth - Better Buses Coalition

## Regional:

- MWCOG FARM Committee
- Capital Area Food Bank Regional Playbook Committee
- NCR Food and Water TAC
- Metro DC Food Access Workgroup
- DC Region Urban Agriculture
- Mid-Atlantic Food Access and Resilience Coalition

## State:

- MD Food System Resiliency Council (Co-Chair)
- Nutrition Assistance Program Workgroup
- Statewide COVID-19 Feeding Meeting
- Maryland Food Access and Nutrition Network



# Lead Advocacy & Drive Policy and Process Change

- 2022 Policy Priorities: We recently published our [2022 Policy Priorities](#). These are developed with our working group and community partners, and are used to direct our advocacy work. This year they are:
  - Increase federal nutrition benefit access, flexibility, and eligibility
  - Increase resident and commercial access to affordable land for food production
  - Increase local food and beverage procurement by residents and institutions
  - Support creative funding opportunities to increase economic development and food justice



# Connecting With Us

[Join a Working Group](#)

[Attend a Food Security Community Call](#)

[Join our Mailing List](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page)

[Join our Advocacy Listserv](#)



# Thank you!

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