



HUNGER IN SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN

FACT SHEET



An estimated **189,300** individuals receive food from the Food Bank of South Central Michigan's (SCM) hunger-relief network annually

- 47% of households served have incomes of less than \$10,000 a year
- 34% of all households served have incomes between \$10,000 and \$20,000 annually
- 70% of all client households have incomes below the federal poverty level
- 82% of all individuals receiving food were food insecure, meaning they didn't know where their next meal was coming from
- 31% of all clients served by the Food Bank of SCM are children 17 or younger, while 18% are 60 years of age or older
- 60% of households served had to choose between food or paying the utilities/heat bill
- 39% of all households served had to choose between food or paying the rent/mortgage
- 81% of Food Bank of SCM households with children are classified as being food insecure, using USDA guidelines. (USDA's definition of food security is: Access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. Food insecurity is: Limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways).
- 35% of adults served by the Food Bank of SCM indicated it was often true that the food they had didn't last and they didn't have money to get more in the last 12 months
- 55% of Food Bank of SCM client households have unpaid medical/hospital bills
- 27% of all Food Bank of SCM client households had an adult in poor health
- 77% of all agencies using Food Bank food said loss of that food would have a major effect on their food programs
- 23% of all households had at least one person who had been in the military
- There are 9,162 volunteers regularly volunteering within the Food Bank's hunger-relief network
- 60% of client households receive SNAP (Food Stamps) but 44% said this benefit lasts less than 2 weeks