

# NOURISHING PENNSYLVANIA

## A 2026 HUNGER LANDSCAPE



# AGENDA

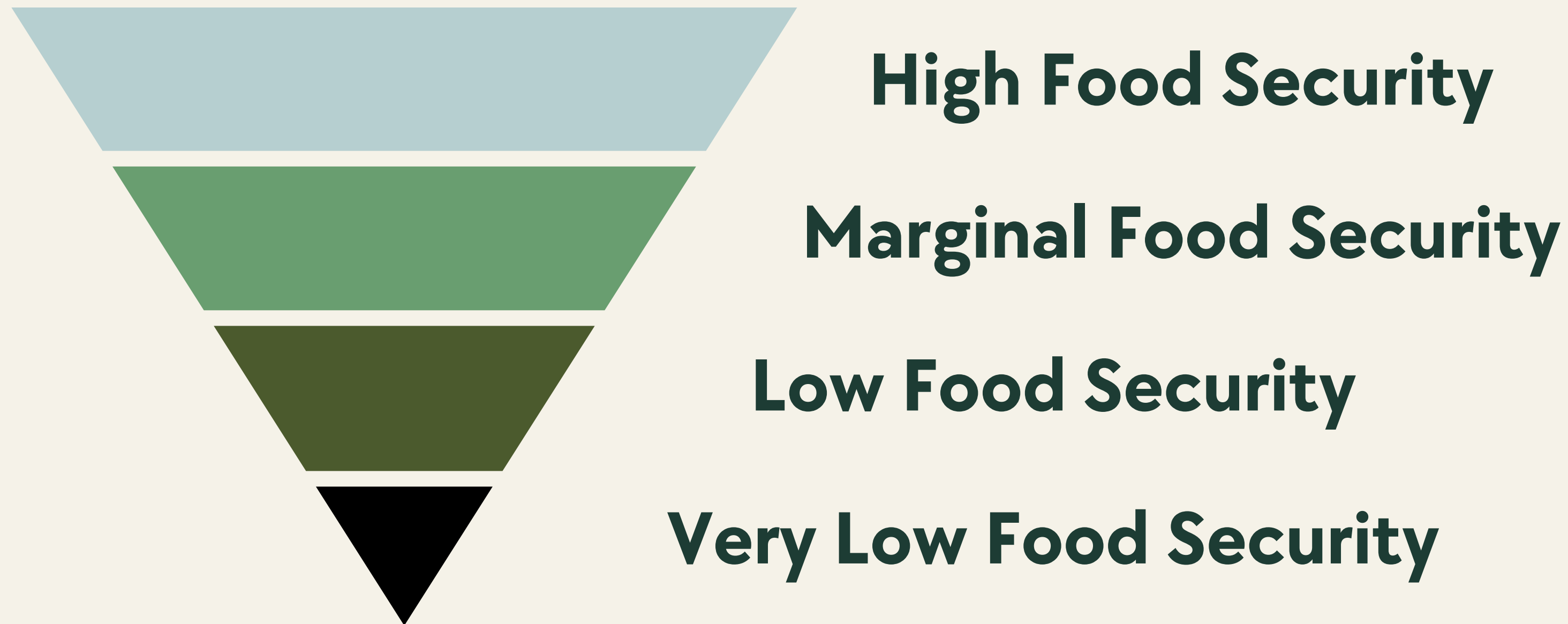
- State of Hunger in Pennsylvania
- The Policies That Impact Our Network
- Our Advocacy
- What You Can Do
- Q&A

# WHAT IS **FOOD INSECURITY**?



**The limited or uncertain access to adequate nutritious foods.**

# WHAT IS **FOOD INSECURITY**?



# FOOD INSECURITY IN PA

- Overall Food Insecurity Rate: **13.2%** | 14.3%
- Child Food Insecurity Rate: **18.1%** | 19.2%
- Number of Food Insecure Pennsylvanians: **1,710,480** | 47,389,000

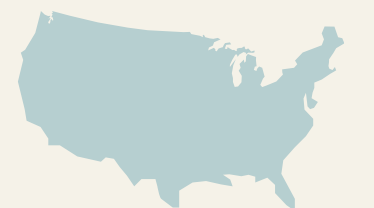
# POLICIES WE **ADVOCATE** FOR

## **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

- SNAP provides food benefits to low-income families to supplement their grocery budget so they can afford the nutritious food essential to health and well-being.

## **The Emergency Food Access Program (TEFAP)**

- TEFAP is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of people with low income by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. USDA provides 100% American-grown USDA Foods



# POLICIES WE ADVOCATE FOR

## State Food Purchase Program (SFPP)

- Provides critical, flexible funding that enables food banks to fill gaps in their food sourcing.
- Has not kept up with inflation. Food banks are purchasing less food with same amount of money.



# POLICIES WE ADVOCATE FOR

## **Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System (PASS)**

- PASS strengthens Pennsylvania's food system by purchasing Pennsylvania-grown products for Pennsylvania families, supporting both neighbors and local agriculture.
- Win-win for farmers, food banks, and neighbors in need
- In 23-24 FY alone, PASS generated a total economic output of \$9.6 million across the Commonwealth.



# POLICIES WE ADVOCATE FOR

## Senior Food Box Program (SFBP)

- Helps food banks develop innovative methods for home delivery
  - DoorDash, Meals on Wheels, etc.
- Seniors are some of our most vulnerable. Access to healthy food helps reduce effects of malnutrition and helps seniors age in their homes.



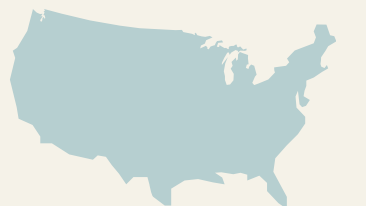
# **CURRENT ADVOCACY**

## **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

**Major changes to program in HR 1: Cost share,  
work requirements, changes to eligibility**

## **The Emergency Food Access Program (TEFAP)**

**Asking for increase to program funding  
and infrastructure development**



# CURRENT ADVOCACY

**State Food Purchase Program (SFPP)**

**+\$12 million | \$23.18M FY25**

**Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System (PASS)**

**+\$4.5 million | \$6.5M FY 25**

**Senior Food Box Program (SFBP)**

**Hold The Line At \$1 million**



# COMMUNITY HUNGER MAPPING



## Center Neighbors

Build a neighbor-centered data infrastructure focused on continuous service improvement



## Build Relationships

We are committed to collaborative implementation in the long term



## Focus on Action

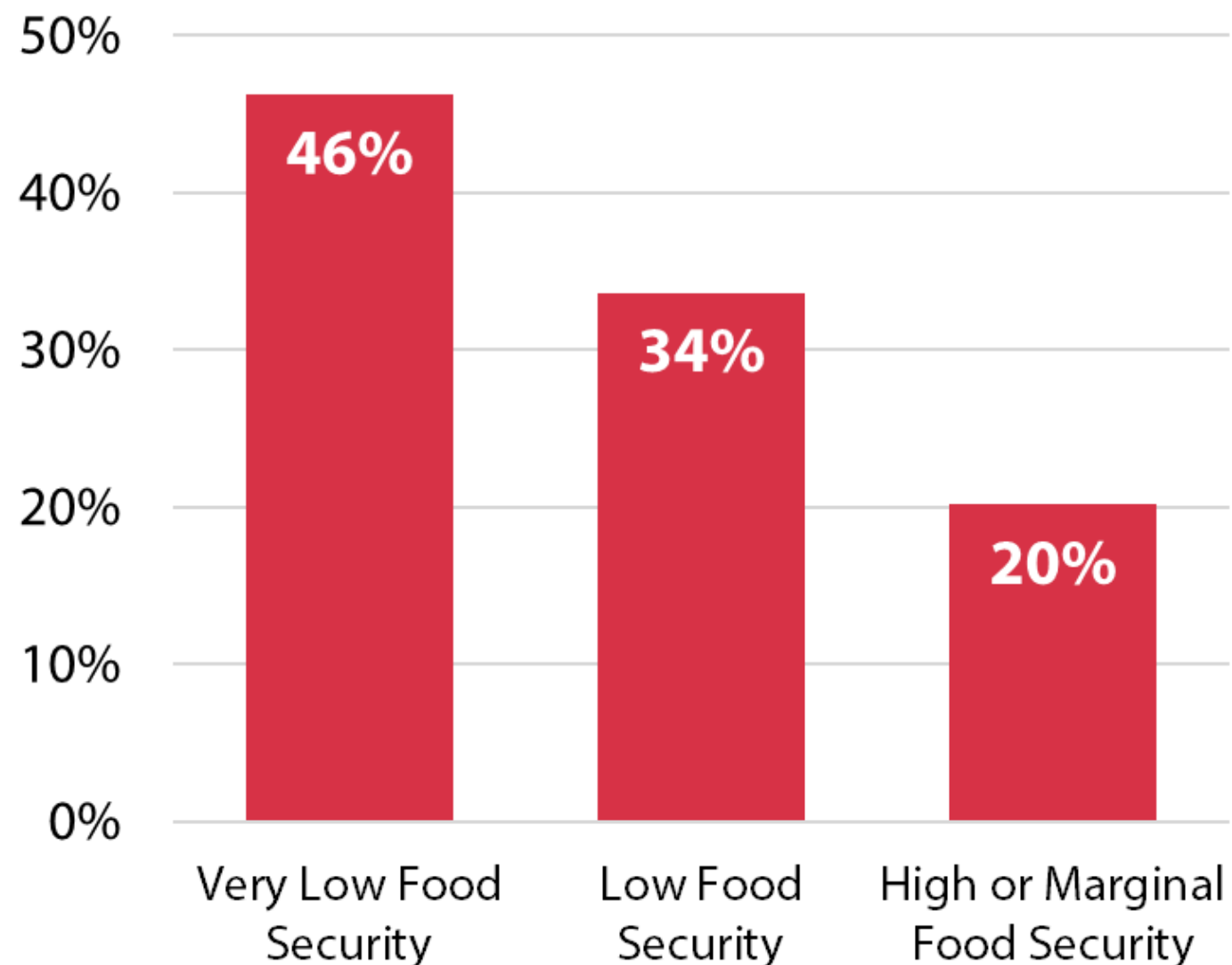
Develop actionable policy and programmatic recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders

Community Hunger Mapping projects are localized food security and charitable food system assessments in which we examine several components:

1. Food Insecurity at Local Levels
2. Charitable Food Access
3. Government Program Utilization
4. Intersecting and Upstream Issues

# COMMUNITY HUNGER MAPPING

**Household Food Security Status for Food Pantry Visitors (Lancaster County)**



## Very Low Food Security will be a Critical Measure of Success Over Time

- Very low food security rates are high at pantries – between 40% and 50%.
  - A quarter of food pantry visitors report skipping meals or going hungry every month.
  - There are significant differentials by household type.
- Reducing very low food security should be the charitable food network's main measure of success.

# HOW TO BE AN ADVOCATE

- **Speak Up!** Share your story and the work that you are doing.
  - **Center** the discussion around our neighbors.
  - **Collaborate** with other community organizations.
  - **Ground** your messaging in factual information.
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- Advocacy is permissible and will not endanger your 501(c)3 status!  
**BUT**, non-profit organizations **MUST** remain nonpartisan and follow specific IRS rules regarding advocacy activity and lobbying.



Q&A

# CONTACT US

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