



“TEFAP has resulted in a major uptick in our overall distribution, and has enabled us to provide participating partners with a consistent source of staple foods.”

*Rick Condon, Sr. Vice President of Operations,
Maryland Food Bank*

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a Federal program run by the USDA that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food at no cost.

How Does It Work?

After years of facilitating the program, the Maryland Department of Human Resources contracted with the Maryland Food Bank to become one of the state’s TEFAP distributors in 2013.

The food distributed through the TEFAP program is selected and purchased by MFB and distributed by the TEFAP partner network across the state of Maryland.

Where Does the Food Go?

Once MFB receives TEFAP product, it distributes it to TEFAP-authorized distribution partners in areas across the state. The government assesses the need in each county based on poverty and unemployment levels, then MFB distribute TEFAP resources accordingly.

The Maryland Food Bank distributes TEFAP product through some of our most reliable partners, who in turn provide food to hungry individuals in their respective communities. These partners receive an allocation of TEFAP food once a month. Some of the partners that distribute TEFAP for the food bank include:

- Food Pantries
- Emergency Shelters
- Soup Kitchens
- Pantry of the Go Sites

MFB TEFAP Distribution

FY 2017	4,868,232 pounds
FY 2016	8,574,323 pounds
FY 2015	7,260,677 pounds
FY 2014	6,758,104 pounds



The Emergency Food Assistance Programs

“The TEFAP program has made an incredible difference in the lives of our clients. The amount and variety of food offered not only meets their nutritional needs, but helps to supplement what they’re able to buy on (usually) low incomes.”

*Reverend Andre Samuel,
Director of Fishes & Loaves Pantry*

What Kind of Food Is It?

The USDA prioritizes nutrition when it comes to TEFAP, providing the food bank with nutrient-rich foods such as:

- Canned Fruits
- Canned Vegetables
- Juices
- Meat/Poultry/Fish
- Dried/Canned Beans
- Pasta Products
- Milk
- Rice/Grits/Cereal
- Soups

A Great Collaboration

TEFAP makes up a large portion of the food we receive and distribute at the Maryland Food Bank. We’re able to utilize our network of partners and our expertise in the industry to move the food very efficiently.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

All FNS nutrition assistance programs, State or local agencies, and their sub-recipients must post the following Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8330. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at:

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-9410
2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov
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