



*“Thanks to our partnership with the Maryland Food Bank – Eastern Shore, we went from feeding 25 families a month to now feeding well over 200 families.”*

*Annette Thompson of Wicomico County's Redeemed of The Lord Pantry*

Many people are surprised that hunger in Maryland is most prevalent in rural areas. In 1981, the Maryland Food Bank opened a branch in Salisbury in order to better serve the rural populations of the Eastern Shore.

**Eastern Shore Branch hunger by the numbers...**

- More than **42,000 individuals** on the Eastern Shore are food insecure
- A third of that food-insecure population are children — nearly **14,000 kids**
- The Eastern Shore Branch distributed enough food to provide more than **5 million meals** in FY 2018
- Even so, food-insecure individuals on the Eastern Shore miss **nearly 7.2 million meals** each year

The Eastern Shore is characterized by a primarily agriculture-based economy. In many cases, an unsuccessful harvest season may dictate whether a household can afford food or not.

The agricultural economy, however, has also given the Maryland Food Bank – Eastern Shore extensive access to local produce, poultry, and seafood. The Eastern Shore Branch is a vital part of the Maryland Food Bank's Farm to Food Bank Program, a program that teams with farms across the state in a partnership to provide hungry Marylanders with fresh, local produce.

Furthermore, the Eastern Shore Branch has 24 schools participating in MFB's School Pantry Program, which distributes food to children and families throughout the school year. The Eastern Shore Branch also provides food to more than 196 distribution partners in the region.

**Counties Served and Rate of Food Insecurity**

Caroline	11.3%
Dorchester	14.5%
Kent	10.4%
Queen Anne's	6.2%
Somerset	19.3%
Talbot	9.0%
Wicomico	14.1%
Worcester	11.6%

**Total Number of Meals Distributed**

FY 2018	5.0 million
FY 2017	5.1 million
FY 2016	4.9 million
FY 2015	5.2 million
FY 2014	4.5 million



## Eastern Shore Branch

“The Maryland Food Bank – Eastern Shore has witnessed the face of hunger take on many forms, and we are committed to our mission to end hunger throughout the Eastern Shore of Maryland.”

Jennifer Small, Regional Programs Director,  
Eastern Shore

### Ways to get involved:

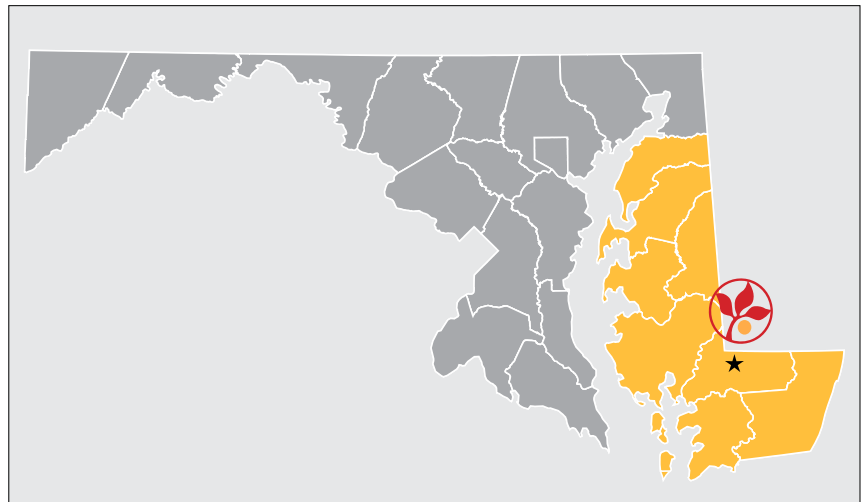
There are many ways you can join the movement to end hunger in Maryland, and every donation — whether it be time, food, or money — makes a big difference!

**Donate Time:** We’re always in need of volunteers at our branch location and on partner farms!

**Donate Funds:** Every \$1 you donate can provide three meals to a hungry Marylander.

**Donate Food:** Any food donated to us is distributed directly to food-insecure Marylanders.

**Join Us Online:** Find us on Facebook ([Facebook.com/MDFoodBank](https://www.facebook.com/MDFoodBank)) and Twitter ([@MDFoodBank](https://twitter.com/MDFoodBank)) or visit [mdfoodbank.org](http://mdfoodbank.org) us to stay up to date on the latest news.



For more information, contact:

### Baltimore • Salisbury • Hagerstown

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