Formerly known as food stamps, SNAP stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. SNAP is a federal aid program that provides monetary assistance for buying food. People qualify based on household income. Those enrolled in SNAP receive a monthly stipend loaded onto a payment card — much like a debit card. This stipend can be used to buy food products from most food retailers.

Why SNAP Benefits?

- Every $1 distributed through the SNAP program has nearly double that economic impact on the local community.
- SNAP provides supplemental nutrition for working families, seniors, and other vulnerable Marylanders who are struggling to put food on the table.

What is SNAP Outreach?

The process of applying for SNAP benefits can be intimidating to those who aren’t familiar with government procedures, and, in some cases, issues—like getting to a Department of Social Services (DSS) office or gathering the needed documentation—can deter eligible Marylanders from applying. That’s why the Maryland Food Bank partners with the state to operate the SNAP Outreach program. The SNAP Outreach program sends Maryland Food Bank outreach workers to strategic community centers, faith-based organizations, and residential housing facilities to help eligible Marylanders sign up for and recertify their SNAP benefits.

How Does It Work?

The Maryland Food Bank team holds SNAP outreach events in food-insecure communities nearly every weekday. Information about our network partners is available at each event, helping to provide

“The SNAP Outreach program is about removing the barriers between food assistance and those in need. We seek to empower hungry Marylanders by ensuring they receive the benefits they qualify for.”

The SNAP Outreach Team
“SNAP Outreach has empowered us, helping us access the food assistance that helps get us through the month.”

The residents at Liberty Village

Immediate hunger relief to individuals while also ensuring they receive the long-term food benefits they need. Through our partnership with DHS, our outreach workers are authorized to assist with and submit our clients’ SNAP applications. Outreach workers arrive at each location with the technology needed to set up a mobile office space, and, with the needed documentation, they are able to complete applications on site or over the phone.

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) 877-8339. 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: How to File a Complaint, 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, D.C. 20250-9410;

2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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