

WHAT IS "FOOD INSECURITY"?

Census data indicates that nearly 150,000 people in BRAFB's service area are food insecure. Being food insecure means that a person lacks access to enough food or enough nutrition at some times during a month or year. Food insecure people are not always hungry, but often do not know where their next meal will come from.



Food sustains life and provides hope.

WHAT DOES THE BLUE RIDGE AREA FOOD BANK DO?

BRAFB is the largest organization alleviating hunger in western and central Virginia. We acquire food from national donors, local donors, and the USDA, and make that food available to about 250 partner agencies throughout our 25-county, 9-city service area. BRAFB partner agencies, in turn, distribute food to food insecure people. In 2012, the BRAFB network distributed more than 20 million pounds of food.

Blue Ridge Area Food Bank (BRAFB)

www.brafb.org

WINCHESTER AREA BRANCH

Serving: Winchester and the Counties of Clarke, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Page, Shenandoah, and Warren

1802 Roberts Street

Winchester, Virginia 22604

540-450-3023

CHARLOTTESVILLE AREA BRANCH

Serving: Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Culpeper, Fluvanna, Greene, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock

1207 Harris Street

Charlottesville, Virginia 22906

434-220-5428

LYNCHBURG AREA BRANCH

Serving: Bedford, Lynchburg and the Counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, and Nelson

501 12th Street, Suite B

Lynchburg, Virginia 24504

434-845-4129

SHENANDOAH VALLEY BRANCH

Serving: Buena Vista, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro, and the Counties of Augusta, Bath, Highland, Rockbridge, and Rockingham

P.O. Box 937, 96 Laurel Hill Road

Verona, Virginia 24482

540-213-8413

BLUE RIDGE AREA
FOOD BANK

a member of
FEEDING
AMERICA

JOINING THE BRAFB NETWORK:

Frequently Asked Questions

about
participating
in the

Blue Ridge Area Food Bank

charitable food
distribution network

HOW CAN MY GROUP HELP PEOPLE WHO ARE FOOD INSECURE?

Fighting food insecurity takes committed volunteers, sustainable funding, and lots of space for food storage and distribution. If your organization has one or more of these resources, here's how you can put them to work for those in need:

- ◆ Most counties and cities in the BRAFB service area are already served by a number of partner agencies. In those communities, your group can **volunteer** with a BRAFB partner agency, hold **food drives**, or **raise money** for food programming.
- ◆ Volunteering can include picking up or stocking food, greeting clients, recordkeeping, planning events, and many other opportunities.
- ◆ If your county or city is a **target area** where the BRAFB network needs additional partner agencies to meet food distribution goals, you may be able to apply to become a BRAFB member.

In 2012, BRAFB distributed 21 million pounds.



IS MY COUNTY OR CITY A TARGET AREA?

Call the phone number on the back of this brochure for the BRAFB branch that serves your county or city and the Partner Services Coordinator will provide the status of your county or city. If you are not in a target area, the Partner Services Coordinator can help you learn about partner agencies in your area whose efforts you can support.



Fresh produce is increasingly available.

IF MY GROUP IS IN A TARGET AREA AND WANTS TO APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP, WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

- ⇒ Partner agencies must be 501(c)(3) entities whose mission is to serve needy people.
- ⇒ Partner agencies must be willing to distribute food to **the community at-large** at least four times a month.
- ⇒ Partner agencies must be able to follow specified food safety guidelines, maintain accurate records, have multiple sources of support, and follow other contractual and legal requirements of the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank.



Volunteers make it all possible.

- ⇒ To be considered for BRAFB partner agency membership, contact the Partner Services Coordinator at the local BRAFB branch listed on the back of this brochure and request an application.