

# Missouri Food and Nutrition Security State Profile

---

## Purpose

The purpose of the Food and Nutrition Security Profile (Profile) is to provide an overview of state and regional efforts and infrastructure to advance food and nutrition security. Although not exhaustive, the Profile serves as a resource to support greater collaboration across disciplines and sectors to improve equitable access to food. The intended audience includes public health practitioners, food policy councils, community-based organizations, food banks and pantries, school district wellness councils, food sovereignty organizations including Indigenous groups and coalitions, and others with a mission to improve food and nutrition security.

The Profile serves as a companion to the [National Food and Nutrition Security Profile](#) and will be reviewed and updated biennially. If you have any questions or comments about your Profile, please contact the Center for Advancing Healthy Communities at [CAHCinfo@chronicdisease.org](mailto:CAHCinfo@chronicdisease.org).

## Food Banks, Pantries and Feeding Programs

[Feeding Missouri](#) is a coalition of six foodbanks listed below and are also members Feeding America's [network](#).

### [Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

### [Harvesters Community Food Network](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

### [Ozarks Foodbank](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

### [Second Harvest Community Food Bank](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

### [Southeast Missouri Food Bank](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

### [St. Louis Area Foodbank](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

### Independent food bank

### [Operation Food Search](#)

- View the [programs offered](#).
- View the [counties served](#).
- View the [partner agencies](#).

## Select Food and Nutrition Security Programs

### **Food Is Medicine Programs**

- Find the [Double Up Food Bucks](#) program in your state.
- Locate the [Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program \(GusNIP\)](#) grantees in your state:
  - *Current Produce Prescription Funding:*
    - [Mid America Regional Council Community Services Corporation](#) (2022-2025)
    - [Southeast Missouri Foodbank](#) (2022-2025)
  - *Current Nutrition Incentive Program Funding:*
    - [Mid America Regional Council Community Services Corporation](#) (2020-2024 and 2021-2024)

### **Community Nutrition Education Programs**

- [Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program](#) (EFNEP)
  - The implementation agencies are Lincoln University and the University of Missouri-Columbia.
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education](#) (SNAP-Ed)
  - The Missouri Department of Social Services is the state agency responsible for the state SNAP-Ed program. The implementing agency is the University of Missouri.
- [Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program](#) (SNAP)
  - [Missouri SNAP Directory](#)

### **Senior Nutrition Programs**

- [Elderly Nutrition Program](#) led by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.
- [Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program](#) led by the Missouri Department of Agriculture.



## **Child Nutrition Programs**

[United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\) Child Nutrition Programs](#) contacts for implementing agencies of programs are listed below:

- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast Program
- Special Milk Program
- SUN Meals (Summer Food Service Program)
- The Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program
- USDA Foods in Schools

## **Emergency Food Response**

- USDA Food and Nutrition Service [State COVID-19 Waivers and Flexibilities](#)
- [State Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Regional Contact](#) – Region 7
- [Emergency Food Assistance Program \(TEFAP\) Contacts](#)

## **Food (Policy) Coalitions and Councils**

- View [list of food policy councils](#) in each state through the John Hopkins Center for Livable Future's 2021 Food Policy Network Map.
- [Greater Kansas City Food Policy Coalition](#)
- [Joplin Area Food Action Network](#)
- [Known and Grown St. Louis](#)
- [Missouri Coalition for the Environment - St Louis Food Policy Coalition](#)
- [Empower Missouri - The Food Security Coalition](#)

## **Other Key Food and Nutrition Security Organizations**

- [University of Missouri - Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security](#) aims to better understand and address the causes and consequences of hunger and food insecurity.
- [National Farm to School Network – Missouri](#) increases access to local food and nutrition education to improve children's health, strengthen family farms, and cultivate vibrant communities.
- [Missouri State Farmers Market Association](#) connects the Farmers Markets of Missouri with resources and access to partnerships to build healthy, sustainable and vibrant local food systems in their communities.
- [Regional Response Team](#) improves the health and well-being of underserved communities by mobilizing the nonprofit, philanthropic, and public sectors to collaboratively address life-threatening crises and system dysfunctions.
- [City Greens Market](#) provides access to fresh, quality, and affordable produce in the Forest Park Southeast neighborhood to promote healthy living in the community, and to provide a welcoming and comfortable space for community members to interact.



- [Urban Harvest](#) St. Louis grows healthy produce across a network of urban farms in the heart of St. Louis and donates the majority of the harvest to nonprofit partners serving communities with limited or non-existent access to healthy, nutritious food.
- [USDA Local Food Directories](#)

### Data Sources and Resources

- [MO Profile of Hunger, Poverty, and Federal Nutrition Programs](#) – Food Research and Action Center
- [Missouri 2023 Hunger Atlas](#) – University of MO, Interdisciplinary Center for Food Security
- [Food Security in the U.S.](#) – USDA
- [Child Nutrition Programs Dashboard](#) – USDA
- [Food Environment Atlas](#) – USDA
- [Map the Meal Gap](#) – Feeding America

## State Public Health Contact for Food and Nutrition Security

### Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

Pat Simmons, State Chronic Disease Director  
[pat.simmons@health.mo.gov](mailto:pat.simmons@health.mo.gov)

Sarah Young, Missouri Physical Activity and Nutrition Program Manager  
[sarah.young@health.mo.gov](mailto:sarah.young@health.mo.gov)

### Maternal Child Health (MCH) Program

Martha J. Smith, MCH Director  
[Martha.Smith@health.mo.gov](mailto:Martha.Smith@health.mo.gov)

### Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program

Angela (Angie) Oesterly, WIC Director  
[angie.oesterly@health.mo.gov](mailto:angie.oesterly@health.mo.gov)

For additional information or questions about this Profile, please contact the Center for Advancing Healthy Communities at [CAHCinfo@chronicdisease.org](mailto:CAHCinfo@chronicdisease.org).

The Improving Food Security, Access to Safe Physical Activity, and Social Connectedness project, commonly known as Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC), was a national project of the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors that was supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Cooperative Agreement #OT18-1802, Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services through National Partnerships to Improve and Protect the Nation's Health, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The contents of this profile are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CDC/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) and its more than 7,000 Members seek to strengthen state-based leadership and expertise for chronic disease prevention and control in states and nationally. For more information, visit [chronicdisease.org](http://chronicdisease.org).