



MAHN Food Distribution Update and Thank You



In addition to our weekly Food Resource Program routes, the monthly food distributions helped to provide nutritious food to our network.

As of March 31, MAHN provided 28,650 lbs. of eggs, 27,448 lbs. of poultry, 5,663 lbs. of beef as well as more than 33,000 lbs. of canned and dried foods at these distributions. We thank the Emergency Food and Shelter Program and The WW Smith Charitable Trust for the generous funding to buy needed staple pantry items from Oct. 2022 - Apr. 2023. Although our mass distributions are ending, we are grateful for the community building that has happened at these events. Our last distribution for the Mainline, Norristown, and Intercounty coalitions was held April 12 and the final distribution for the Nutrition and Eastern coalitions will be held on April 27.

MAHN is Growing!

To better serve our expanding network, MAHN has made two new hires: Daniel Price, Sustainability Development Coordinator and Gillian Heckert-Mitchell, Innovation Coordinator. Please join us in welcoming these two new assets to our community!



Daniel, a lifelong Montgomery County resident, brings extensive experience serving the public in prior roles with the Pennsylvania Senate, West Chester Business Improvement District and the Mosaic Community Land Trust.

His recently acquired M.S.H in Nonprofit Leadership will also serve him well as he builds a sustainable future with individual donors as well as government and corporate entities for MAHN's network.

Gillian will become a familiar face to those in our food pantry and free meal network. She brings to MAHN a deep background in volunteer recruitment, training and stewardship. As Innovation Coordinator, Gillian will be responsible for building relationships with hunger relief partners and helping them bring their pantry improvement ideas to fruition. Currently, Gillian is compiling a Montgomery County Food Service Providers Guide for the MAHN network.



Spring Freedom from Hunger Success

Thanks to our friends at the Valley Forge Tourism & Convention Board, more than \$2500 was raised to buy food for the organizations in our network! This added spring campaign not only raised much needed funding, it also helped increase awareness of the ongoing hunger crisis in Montgomery County.

We'd also like to give a shout out to the caring individual donors and great local businesses that supported this campaign. Though there are too many to name, we'd like to especially thank Imprint Beer Co., Morgan's Brooklyn Barbecue, and Cork & Candles.



Help us feed the hungry in Montco!

Our Goal **30K LBS.** in food & supplies



valleyforge.org/hunger

VALLEY FORGE MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

By the Numbers

MAHN and our network of pantries and free meal providers are forever grateful to Grocers Against Hunger, JBS Meats, Accardi Foods and the many other organizations that have offered food, supplies and monetary donations.

1st Quarter of 2023:

- Grocers Against Hunger: 58,219 lbs.
- JBS, Accardi and other donors: 28,982 lbs.
- Pantry shared food: 39,304 lbs.
- MAHN purchased food: 44,680 lbs.
- **Total pounds of food distributed: 171,185**

Unfortunately, supply still runs short of demand. With the changes to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (see accompanying article on the next page).



MAHN's United Way designation code number is 55222



Hunger in Montgomery County

Rachel Ravina, an award-winning journalist from The Reporter recently published an in-depth article titled *"Montgomery County food pantries brace for 'food insecurity tsunami' amid end to COVID SNAP benefits."* This 'must read' piece highlights the anticipated continued increase in need as families struggle to keep up with inflation. To get a clear understanding of this issue, Ravina interviewed nonprofit leaders across the county including Leeann Rooney (Patrician Society), Sheldon Good (Manna on Main Street), Cindy Wedholm (Mattie Dixon Community Cupboard), Brandon Trombetta (Keystone Opportunity Center) and our own Amanda Musselman.

The article, published March 30, 2023, is available online at TheReporterOnline.com or by emailing mahn@montcoantihunger.org.

More MAHN News

**PEER-TO-PEER
LEARNING
CIRCLES**

WHAT?	TRAUMA 101 TRAINING
WHEN?	MAY 19, 12:00PM-2:00PM
WHERE?	VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM

1. PLEASE INVITE VOLUNTEERS, BOARD MEMBERS, AND STAFF.

2. EACH MEMBER MUST SIGN UP INDIVIDUALLY.

3. A WEEK OUT FROM MAY 19, INDIVIDUALS WHO REGISTERED WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL WITH A LINK TO JOIN THE ZOOM FROM LAKESIDE TRAINING INSTITUTE.

TRAUMA 101 PRESENTERS:
JANET OESTERLING AND APRIL MATT.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE OF MAY 15

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trauma-101-tickets-615817074447>

REGISTER FOR TRAUMA 101 HERE:
<https://bit.ly/3KWB8G5>

Amanda Meets the Commissioners!



On March 2, Amanda Musselman, MAHN's Executive Director, presented vital information to the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners with Dr. Tamra Williams, Director of Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, on the status of food insecurity in the county. Their Power Point presentation included:

- Explaining changes in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Social Security Income
- Highlighting existing resources
- Identifying areas of ongoing need and plans to address those needs

She also pointed out that SNAP is the first line of defense against hunger. According to Feeding America, for everyone 1 meal they provide, SNAP can provide 9. Additional statistics raised included the fact that 7% of Montgomery County residents are food insecure, pantries are seeing an average of 33% increase in traffic, and the decrease in food supply for pantries is countywide. Finally, Amanda offered insights on what the community can do to help.

To view the full presentation to the Montgomery County Commissioners, go to:
<https://bit.ly/3USewuG>

Coalition Meeting Dates

MAHN invites all network organization and the community to attend the next peer-to-peer meeting in your area. Here we will exchange ideas and discuss operational challenges. We hope you can join us!

**Inter-County Coalition
(Pottstown Area Providers)**
Wednesday, April 26 at 2:00 PM
Bethel Community Church
575 North Keim Street, Pottstown, PA

**Nutrition Coalition
(North Penn Area Providers)**
Thursday, May 18 at 9:00 AM
Bean Bag Food Program, Zion Mennonite Church
149 E. Cherry Lane, Souderton, PA

Main Line Coalition (Main Line Area Providers)
Thursday, May 18 at 1:30 PM
Bethel AME Church
163 Sheldon Ln, Ardmore, PA

Eastern Coalition (Eastern MontCo Providers)
Monday, July 24 at 2 PM
Hatboro Community Cupboard
505 North York Road, Hatboro PA