

Building a Stronger Food System in Oakland County

Understanding the Landscape

Oakland County Health and Human Services engaged Public Sector Consultants beginning in 2023 through 2025 to explore food insecurity in Oakland County.

Being food secure means that a household has access to nutritionally adequate and safe foods for their household members without resorting to unsafe or unlawful methods to get it.

What is food security?

Feeding America reports that **11%, or 140,000** Oakland County residents struggle to afford food.



With rising food costs, even more families are facing tough choices about their meals.

Through **research, community conversations, and feedback** from the Oakland County Food Landscape Community Coalition created key objectives to improve food access, support local food systems, and ensure everyone can get the food they need were identified.

Building a Stronger Food System Together

The Oakland Food Landscape Study Community Coalition and the Oakland County Health and Human Services Division are taking action to tackle food insecurity with a community-driven plan focused on three key areas:



Expanding access to nutritious food – Removing barriers, supporting culturally relevant food programs, increasing food literacy, and reducing stigma around assistance.



Reducing food waste and strengthening local food businesses – Cutting waste so more nutritious food is available and affordable, while building a stronger, more sustainable food system that benefits everyone by supporting food rescue programs, local farmers, and small food businesses.



Fostering collaboration – Bringing together food system partners and community members to align efforts and create lasting solutions.

These efforts aim to make it easier for Oakland County residents to find food that meets their needs when they need it most. Oakland County Health and Human Services is committed to turning this plan into action, prioritizing proven strategies, innovation, and community input every step of the way.



Learn more about the Oakland Health and Human Services
www.oakgov.com/community/health