

WHAT IS FOOD INSECURITY?

Food insecurity is defined as whether a person has consistent access to an adequate amount of quality food to live an active, healthy lifestyle.¹

12,110 people are food insecure in Ross County²

Research shows that living in poverty strongly predicts whether a child will be food insecure.³

28% of Ross County children live below the poverty⁴

Sources

¹USDA 2016

² Feeding America 2017

³ Children's Defense Fund 2016

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau 2014



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Volunteers are crucial to the success of Produce Markets. To run smoothly, most rely on at least 15 volunteers. We have many positions available including:

- Paperwork sign-in
- Shopping assistants
- Traffic and crowd control, and
- Clean-up

Connect with us at:

www.unitedwayross.org

www.volunteerrosscounty.org

Phone: (740) 773-3280



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United Way of Ross County



PRODUCE MARKETS

LIVE UNITED

Providing Ross County residents with access to free and nutritional food.



BUILDING A HUNGER-FREE COMMUNITY

WHAT IS THE HUNGER COALITION?

The Ross County Hunger Coalition is a group of local agencies working with other organizations that distribute food through soup kitchens, food pantries, grocery vouchers or other food-related assistance.

HOW DO PRODUCE MARKETS WORK?

As part of the Hunger Coalition, the United Way of Ross County hosts monthly produce drops in Ross County. Produce Markets are community-based produce giveaways providing fresh food to income-eligible clients.

Mid-Ohio Food Bank delivers the food, which is primarily produce, but may also include bread and dairy products. The United Way and community volunteers distribute on average 10,000 pounds of produce directly to families. Each Produce Market has the capacity to feed between 200-300 families, basically providing between 40-50 pounds of produce per household.

WHO CAN RECEIVE FOOD FROM A PRODUCE MARKET?

Product is available to any family in need that is income eligible. Income eligibility is set at 200% of the Federal Poverty Line; income guidelines are below. All persons are required to sign-in each time they receive food.

Household Size	Yearly Income	Monthly Income
1	\$24,119	\$2,009
2	\$32,479	\$2,706
3	\$40,839	\$3,403
4	\$49,199	\$4,099
5	\$57,559	\$4,796
6	\$65,919	\$5,493
7	\$74,279	\$6,189



OUR IMPACT

In 2018, the **United Way of Ross County** distributed over 657,000 pounds of fresh food in Ross County.

A total of 5,644 households utilized this service which equates to 16,260 individual people.

An additional 90,000 pounds of food was distributed to local agencies at a monthly Produce Express markets.

