



Communications Internship Fall 2022

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REACH Newsletter

Refrigerator Donations:

- Catholic Charities
- Pernet Family Health Service
- El Buen Samaritano Food Program Inc.
- Yes We Care

Supporting Wellness at Pantries:

- designed to resemble a grocery store
- green/yellow/red scale
- Urges customers to pick a healthy diet



Greater Worcester Community Health Assessment Statistics

- Worcester County food insecurity rate: 8.6% (MA 9%)
- Households receiving SNAP benefits in Worcester County: 12.34% (MA 11.66%)
- City of Worcester food insecurity rate: 8.6%
- Households receiving SNAP benefits in the City of Worcester: 21.59%

Catholic Charities

“Inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Church and the pastoral leadership of the Bishop of Worcester, Catholic Charities is committed to meeting the needs of the poor, the homeless and the infirm and to enhancing the quality of life for all.”

El Buen Samaritano Food Program Inc.

“El Buen Samaritano (EBS) is a community-based, grassroots nonprofit dedicated to providing relief to families who are looking for a helping hand. While primarily operating as a food pantry that distributes boxes of groceries to households, regardless of background, EBS also provides clothing and other resources to families who need them.”

Yes We Care

“To promote equity and support, we provide multi-generational comprehensive programs for underserved, overlooked, low to moderate-income families, youth, and Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC)”

- unique and inclusive trainings
- food assistance
- family-oriented programs in a workshop format
- mentoring/coaching and special events to address critical community issues

Pernet Family Health Service

- Early intervention
- Emergency Assistance
- Maternal and Child Nursing
- Youth
- Parent Aide
- Fathers & Family



Why Donate a Refrigerator?

- COVID-19 spike of food pantry clients
- Increase access to fresh produce
- Give clients choice to pick healthy diets





2022 Worcester Food Security Assessment

- Address gaps in services in specific communities, especially Latino community
- Address misconceptions related to ethnic statistics in food bank utilization
- Focuses on receiving input from those directly affected by food insecurity
- Community partners include:
 - Worcester County Food Bank, Greater Worcester Community Foundation, Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester, the Clark Urban Studies Department, and the City of Worcester Task Force on Food Security

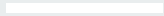


Social Media Toolkit

- Allows community to actually utilize and benefit from the work the REACH program has done
- Spreads awareness of resources, opportunities and common misconceptions
- Link between government organizations and community

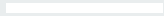
"There is fear among undocumented families. They need help and want to apply for things, but they're terrified of how it will affect their status and their efforts to gain citizenship in the future." - CHA Focus Group participant

- REACH Program donates refrigerator to Yes We Care pantry, concluding the donation project. The REACH program has also donated a refrigerator to El Buen Samaritano, Pernet Family Services, and Catholic Charities to combat worsened levels of food insecurity from COVID-19 and increase access to fresh produce.



- Looking for fresh produce in winter? WDPH donated fridges to these four pantries:
 - (if on instagram, make slide for each pantry)
 - Pernet Family Services: 237 Millbury St, Worcester, MA 01610, (508) 755-1228
 - El Buen Samaritano: 39 Piedmont St, Worcester, MA 01610, (774) 253-1619
 - Yes We Care: 55 Illinois Street, Worcester, MA 01610, (508) 754-4539
 - Catholic Charities: 10 Hammond Street Worcester MA 01610, (508)-798-0191
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- Important Reminder for Users of SNAP: Qualifying for SNAP automatically qualifies you for HIP (Healthy Initiative Plan). This plan refunds SNAP dollars when they are spent at Regional Environmental Council farmers markets





Thank you!