

Connecting people to support services addresses the causes and effects of food insecurity.



“I’ve met a family of four that was in dire need of a place to live due to the living environment affecting the health of one of the youth. I was able to refer them to rapid rehousing as well as our emergency food network.”

– Damaris, Food Assistance Referral Coordinator

HOW IT WORKS

All patients at The Holyoke Health Center are screened for food insecurity through doctor-approved questions. Those who screen positive are referred directly to a Food Bank employee located at the center who connects them to Food Bank assistance and resources and those provided by our community partners.

Our food Assistance Referral Coordinator puts the patients’ needs first by tracking their outcomes with our community partners as well as our own assistance.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community Partners enable us to address the underlying causes of hunger and provide access to our emergency food network of pantries and meal sites.

In addition to Food Bank programs (Mobile Food Banks, Brown Bag: Food for Elders, SNAP and nutrition outreach) patients are referred to providers of housing, day care, utility assistance and more. Our current partners include:

- The Holyoke Medical Center
- Wayfinders, Inc.
- The Valley Opportunity Council
- Catholic Charities, Inc.
- MassHire Holyoke
- Holyoke Pediatrics

Our Food Insecurity
Screening Referral Initiative
is made possible by:



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

