

March 1, 2020

The Honorable Bill Ferguson President of Senate State House, H-107 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones Speaker of the House State House, H101 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Annual Report on the Activities of the Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program – MSAR #6513

Complete pursuant to Human Services Article §6-406

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is required to submit a report to the Maryland General Assembly, as well as the Department of Legislative Services on the activities of the Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program in accordance with provisions of Human Services Article §6-406. In accordance with this reporting requirement, DHS is pleased to provide you with the enclosed report.

If you should require additional information please contact the Office of Government Affairs at 410-767-8543.

Sincerely,

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Lourdes R. Padilla Secretary

cc: Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)

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# **Report on the Activities of the Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program**

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Completed pursuant to Human Services Article §6-406

March 1, 2020

### **REPORT REQUIREMENT**

This report is hereby submitted in response to the following reporting requirement found under Chapter 3 (Senate Bill 6), Acts of 2007 and Human Services Article § 6-406:

"The Department [of Human Services] shall annually report to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on the activities of the [Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment] Program, including:

- 1) financial reports;
- 2) *distribution of funds;*
- 3) community participation; and
- 4) overall effectiveness of the Program in fulfilling its stated purpose."

Source: Human Services Articles § 6-406

# INTRODUCTION

The Statewide Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program (Program) is established by Maryland law under Human Services Article § 6-401 through 6-406. The stated legislative purpose of the program is to provide funding to distribution organizations to enable the distribution organizations and emergency food organizations to obtain necessary equipment. *Distribution organizations* are non-profit entities that distribute food or equipment to emergency food organizations; emergency food organizations are non-profit entities that provide emergency food services and include soup kitchens and food pantries. Grant funding is provided for capital food preparation, storage or distribution equipment that is critical to the operation of running a food pantry, soup kitchen, food bank, shelter or other facility that provides food or meals to those in need.

## FY 2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

In Fiscal Year 2019, the Maryland Legislature appropriated \$282,530 in State general funds for Nutrition Assistance Equipment Program (SNAEP). The program guidelines and application were posted online and e-mail notifications were provided to previous award recipients. Grant funds were awarded to 50 soup kitchens, food pantries, food banks and shelters in 16 jurisdictions throughout the State.

# **DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS**

The table below details the distribution of SNAEP funds by organization and jurisdiction.

# SNAEP FY19 Program Funding

Jurisdiction	Organization	Award Amount
ANNE ARUNDEL	Anne Arundel County Food Bank	\$4,376.50
	YWCA of Annapolis & Anne Arundel County	\$5,620.58
	Anne Arundel County Total	\$9,997.08
BALTIMORE CITY	Cherry Hill UMC	\$1,951.26
	Fishes & Loaves Pantry, Inc.	\$1,869.60
	Franciscan Center	\$7,366.07
	House of Ruth Maryland	\$4,493.10
	Manna House, Inc.	\$20,413.00
	Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland, Inc.	\$18,560.00
	Mosaic Community Services 619 North Bend Road	\$432.67
	Mosaic Community Services 2225 N. Charles	\$4,354.46
	Moveable Feast, Inc	\$39,248.00
	Olivet Baptist Church	\$1,043.15
	Project Plase, Inc.	\$2,275.22
	St. Edwards Roman Catholic Church	\$1,790.37
	Baltimore City Total	\$103,796.90
	Edgemere Church of God Food	\$1,365.76
BALTIMORE COUNTY	Pantry	ψ1,505.70
	Mosaic Community Services 1931 Greenspring Drive	\$3,634.50
	Mosaic Community Services 6 Denison Street	\$2,305.98
	Mosaic Community Services 2121 Frederick Road	\$432.67
	Morning Star Baptist Church	\$16,000.00
	Woman Missionary Outreach of Grace AME Church	\$833.23

	Baltimore County Total	\$24,572.14
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CALVERT	Chesapeake Cares Food Pantry	\$4,005.68
	End Hunger In Calvert County	\$4,772.34
	Saint John Vianney Food Pantry	\$24,887.77
	SMILE Ecumenical Ministries	\$2,354.66
	Calvert County Total	\$91,905.20
CAROLINE	St. Martin's Ministries	\$5,390.94
	Caroline County Total	\$5,390.94
CARROLL	Mosaic Community Services, Inc. 288 East Green Street	\$5,063.35
	Mosaic Community Services, Inc. 98 Liberty Street	\$1,086.65
	Carroll County Total	\$6,150.00
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CECIL	Deep Roots	\$723.27
	Cecil County Total	\$723.27
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FREDERICK	Wells House (Gale House)	\$2,600.00
	608 Patrick Street	
	Frederick County Total	\$2,600.00
	MOW Garrett County Community	ф <u>с 000 сс</u>
	Action Committee, Meals On Wheels	\$6,888.66
GARRETT	Wheels Western Maryland Food Connect	\$2,153.00
	Garrett County Total	\$9,041.66
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HARFORD	Harford Community Action Agency	\$4,575.57
	Inner County Outreach, Inc.	\$3,892.20
	Mosaic Community Services, Inc. 1216 Magness Court	\$966.65
	Mosaic Community Services, Inc. 4510 Wharf Point court	\$4,187.99
	St Matthew Lutheran Church	\$1,452.50
	Harford County Total	\$15,074.91
HOWARD	Community Action Council	\$15,150.73
	Howard County Food Bank	
	Howard County Total	\$15,150.73

	Adventist Community Services of Greater Washington	\$1,798.24
MONTGOMERY	Manna House	\$8,108.80
	Shiloh Christian Fellowship Food Bank	\$2,720.66
	Montgomery County Total	\$12,627.70
	Community Support System, Inc.	\$500.00
PRINCE GEORGE'S	Galilee Community Development Corporation	\$2,159.20
	Mission of Love	\$5,000.00
	Shabach Ministries, Inc.	\$4,846.01
	Prince George's County Total	\$12,505.21
	Easton Church of God	\$3,008.81
TALBOT	St Michaels Community Center	\$4,847.81
	Talbot County Total	\$7,856.62
	CASA	\$1,625.45
WASHINGTON	Wells House 124 E. Baltimore St	\$3,074.00
	MD Food Bank, Inc.	\$9,242.50
	Washington County Total	\$13,941.95
WICOMICO	Salisbury Urban Ministries, Inc.	\$125.42
WICOMICO	Wicomico County Total	\$125.42
TOTAL		\$279,611.56

#### **COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) provided SNAEP funding to organizations that host feeding programs. All funded entities offered services to individuals and families in need regardless of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or age and were able to accommodate those with a disability or Limited English Proficiency. DHS leverages its partners including other state agencies, such as the Department on Aging, the Maryland Department of Labor, the Maryland Department of Health, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Outreach vendors to disseminate information about the availability of SNAEP funds. DHS also posts SNAEP applications and related instructions on its website every year between March and May and additional notification of grant availability through social media.

The variance in number of organizations applying for and/or receiving SNAEP funding is reflective of the program regulations requiring that applicants raise funds to match state funding, which has historically limited the ability of smaller and less resourced providers to access SNAEP. It is also reflective of the allowable purchases under this Program, which typically

constitute the purchase of freezers, refrigerators, ovens, large scale appliances and cookware, and improvements to increase handicap accessibility, such as ramps.

### OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM IN FULFILLING ITS STATED PURPOSE

SNAEP funds enabled receiving organizations to purchase new equipment such as freezers, refrigerators, appliances, cookware, food carts, tableware, grocery bags and boxes in order to increase their capacity to serve those in need. In some cases, applicants requested funding to replace defective equipment. This funding also enabled recipients to improve accessibility to underserved populations by building much-needed safety equipment such as ramps and handrails.

In Fiscal Year 2019, SNAEP funds paid for equipment such as freezers, refrigerators, ovens, tables and chairs, shelving units, storage bins, hand trucks, pallet jacks and frames, and commercial appliances such as soup pots, mixers, food slicers, food processors, steam pans, bench scales, and hot food buffet servers. For grocery distribution, programs purchased storage bins, grocery totes and paper bags, cases of paper containers, cups, sealable plastic bags, freezer bags and insulated food carriers. As needed, programs were also able to purchase aluminum walk ramps to provide direct access to the food pantry or soup kitchen for individuals with disabilities.

SNAEP funds supplemented other food distribution grants and expanded ongoing efforts to provide food and supportive services for people in need. All organizations receiving these funds provide additional resources, including information on Earned Income Tax Credit and SNAP benefits.

DHS conducts monitoring visits as part of its program oversight process. Monitoring visits were conducted with 19 SNAEP grantees in FY 2019. During these visits, the Program Coordinator reviews recipients' organizational structure, mission, and receipts verifying equipment purchases and capacity to effectively achieve its stated mission. These visits also enable DHS to provide technical assistance to SNAEP recipients as needed.