



# Foodshare

The food bank for Hartford and Tolland Counties

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## Foodshare Community Plan

We will engage the entire community in order to increase the amount of food available and build self-sufficiency so fewer people need food.

Our long term goal is 30,000 people actively involved



**poverty**  
**FOOD INSECURITY**

**FOODSHARE**

**self-sufficiency**  
**FOOD SECURITY**

**GREATER  
HARTFORD  
COMMUNITY**

**GREATER  
HARTFORD  
COMMUNITY**

## Why we need a Community Plan

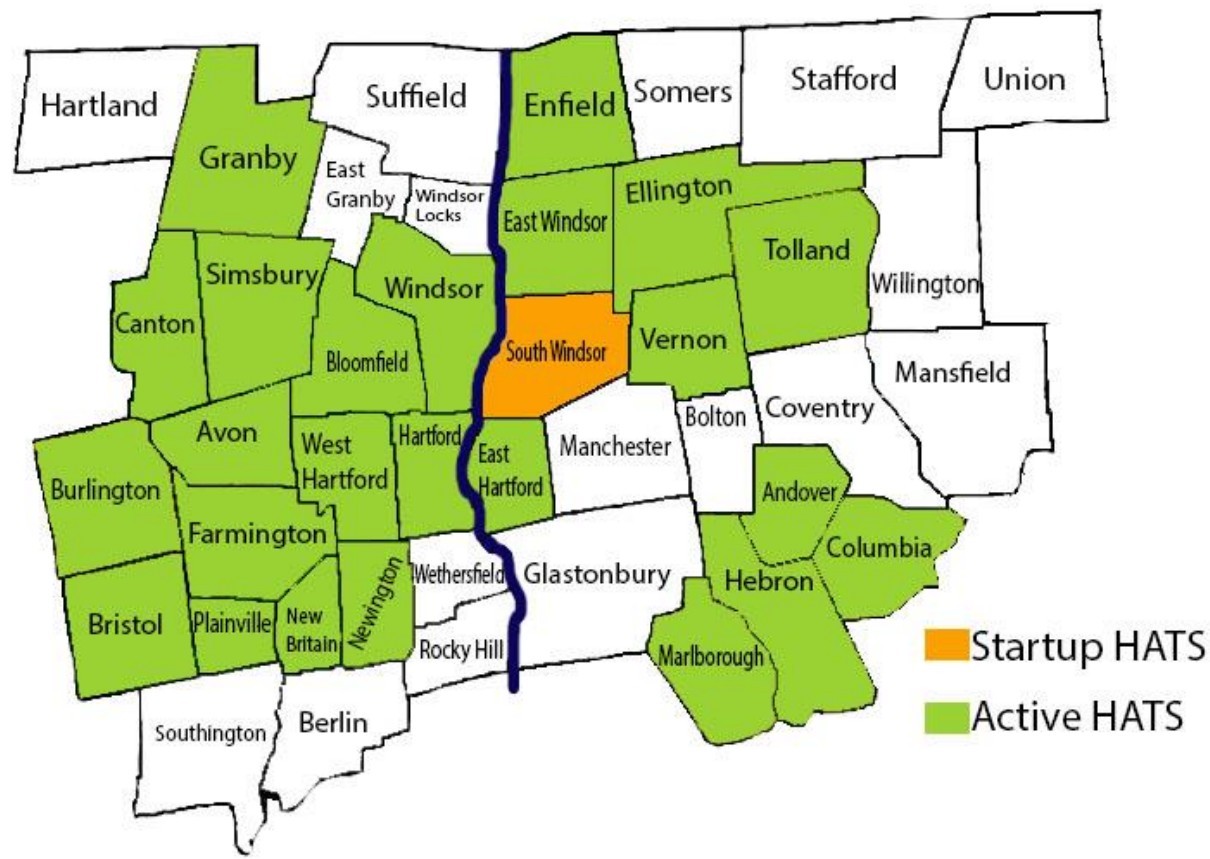
**Despite distributing 12 million meals worth of food last year, Foodshare is only meeting one third of the need in Hartford and Tolland Counties. We cannot bridge the gap by just increasing the amount of food we distribute. The need is greater than the supply. Our plan addresses how we can expand our work to end hunger in three key areas:**

- **Increase the supply of food through partnerships with local grocery retailers**
- **Decrease the need through self-sufficiency programs**
- **Involve the entire community by expanding our local Hunger Action Teams**

## Hunger Action Teams

- Town-based Hunger Action Teams engage the whole community to:
  - Work together
  - Share knowledge
  - Find local solutions to problems unique to their specific towns
- Hunger Action Teams support both goals: increasing the food supply and decreasing the need
- Foodshare provides seed funding to HATS trying innovative solutions to local problems

# Foodshare's Service Area





Engaging the community to both increase food and decrease need

## Hunger Action Teams

- Teams / coalitions include:
  - Civic groups
  - Businesses
  - Faith groups
  - Nonprofit organizations
  - Government Agencies
  - Local Schools
  - Concerned Citizens
  - People in need



# Engaging the community to both increase food and decrease need

## Hunger Action Teams

- Currently there are 16 teams
- HAT's early work was focused on child hunger programs - including increasing participation in school breakfast and summer meals programs
- Some HAT's are working on self-sufficiency goals to address the complex root causes of hunger by addressing issues such as money coaching, job training and promoting a "living wage"



## Why Hunger Action Teams ?

- Local focus with community ownership
- Broad-based coalitions imperative for success
- We are better together than we are alone
- Transformative work in local communities happens when we are conscious of the importance of human connections and we build sustainable relationships
- Real change can begin with one idea or one person



# An Example: East Hartford Challenges and Opportunities

## Challenges:

- Changing Demographics
- Transient Populations
- Language Barriers
- How to identify households in need

## Opportunities:

- Broad energetic coalition dedicated to changing the landscape
- Continue to harness youth involvement
- Food is plentiful and freely available
- Engage more local farmer's
- Create additional food distribution channels
- Connect families in need with programs that demonstrably lead to increased household stability and self-sufficiency

# How HAT Work is Engaging the Community

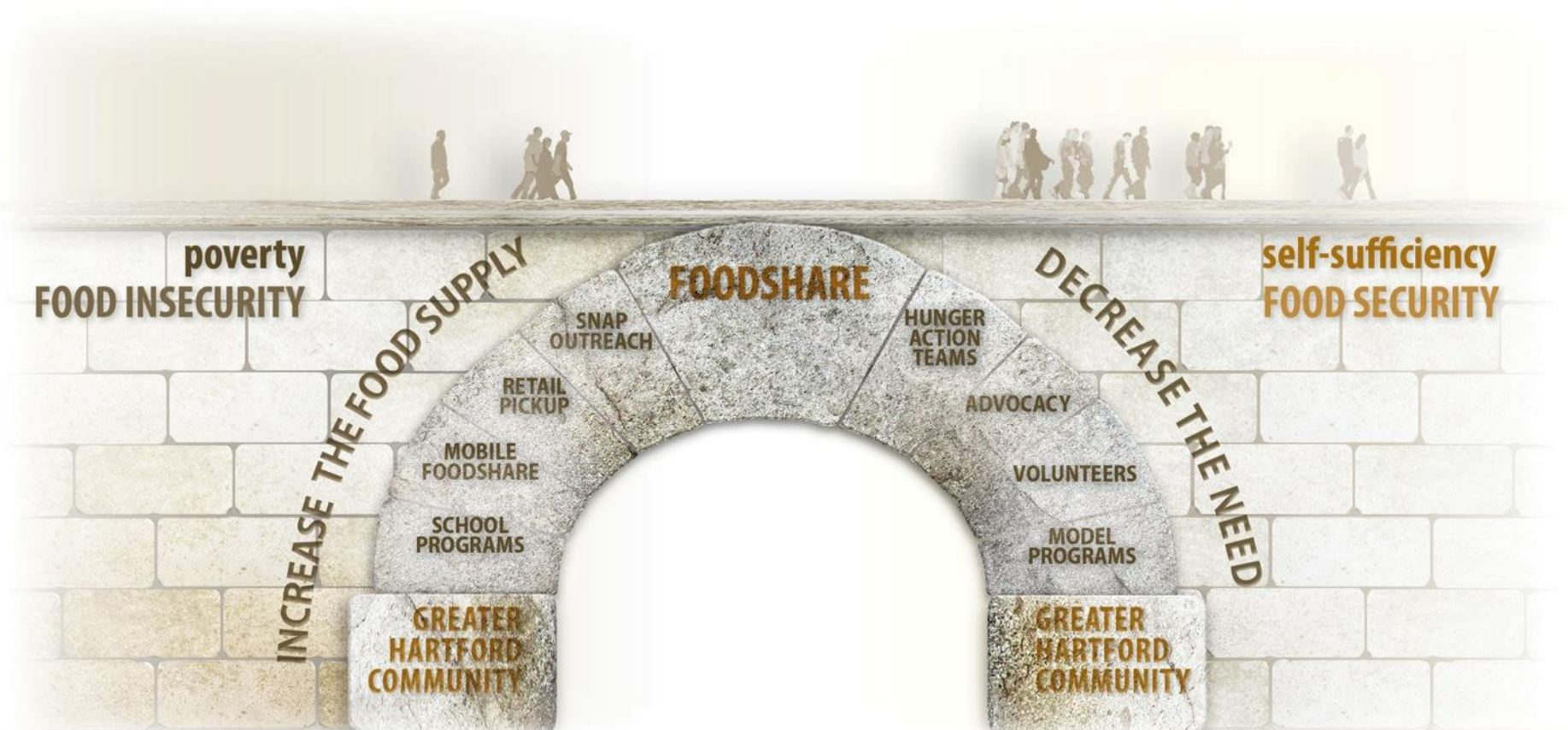
## HAT Projects Include:

- Increasing School Breakfast Participation
- Summer Meals Awareness
- Advocacy for Healthy Food Initiatives
- Partnership Program Initiatives
- Backpack Program Support



## How you can help

Please Join The Movement by participating in a local Hunger Action Team.





# Foodshare Community Plan

## Questions Discussion

