

# CENTRAL FLORIDA'S FACES OF HUNGER 2014

Central Floridians sought assistance with getting food more than 3.7 million times in a 12-month period, according to the *Hunger in America 2014* report. The study was conducted by Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida in partnership with Feeding America, the nation's largest domestic hunger-relief organization.

The study surveyed hundreds of local food assistance programs and their clients. It documents client household demographics, and the challenges that Central Florida's food assistance clients face. Among other things this study is the first that assesses the prevalence of food insecurity among past and active members of the U.S. Military.

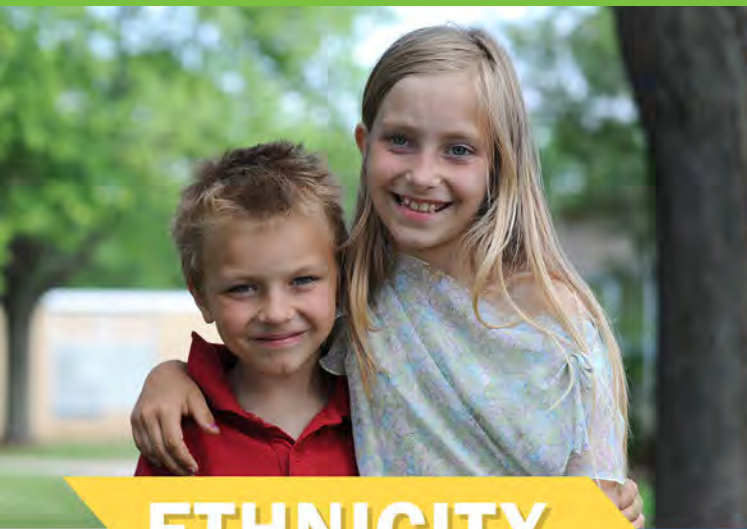
One thing that is clear from the results of this study is that the face of hunger in Central Florida is probably not unfamiliar to most of us. It includes people who have jobs, raise families, pay taxes, work toward education, and struggle with health problems. The choices they face in order to put food on the table are daunting. We hope that these findings help to dispel some of the myths and stereotypes that can creep into public perception of who needs help.

  
**FEEDING**  
**AMERICA**

  
**Second Harvest**  
**FOOD BANK**  
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

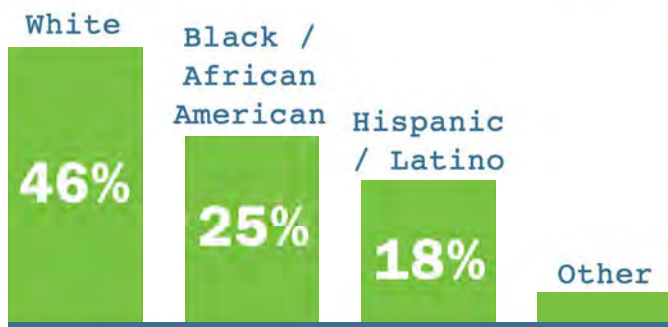


Our Central Florida neighbors turned to charitable feeding programs for help with food 3,731,700 times in 2013. 71,600 times in a typical week.



# THE FACE OF HUNGER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA WHO IS HUNGRY?

## ETHNICITY



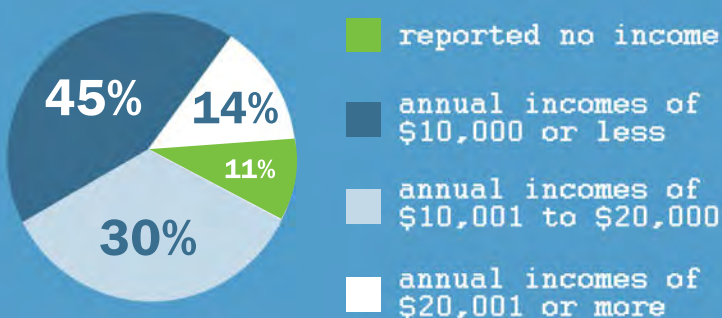
HOW CLIENTS IDENTIFY THEMSELVES

Among all clients, **27%** are *children* under the age of **18**, and **11%** are *seniors* age **65** and older.

## FINANCIAL SITUATIONS

**60%** of households have a household member who had worked for pay in the last 12 months.

**74%** of client households have incomes that fall at or below the Federal poverty level.



63% of client households currently receive benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the Food Stamp program).

# THE COST OF HUNGER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

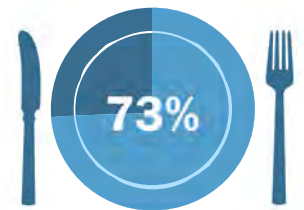


## TOUGH CHOICES



70% of households had to choose between paying for food and paying for rent/mortgage at least once in the past 12 months.

73% of households reported having to choose between paying for food and utilities within the past 12 months.



73% of households reported having to choose between paying for food or transportation.

77% reported having to use unconventional means for getting enough food in the past 12 months.



## EDUCATION



75% OF ALL CLIENTS HAVE ATTAINED A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE OR A GENERAL EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA (GED).



27% OF ALL CLIENTS HAVE SOME POST-HIGH-SCHOOL EDUCATION (INCLUDING LICENSING/CERTIFICATION, SOME COLLEGE, OR A FOUR YEAR DEGREE).

## HOUSING



88% of food assistance client households reside in non-temporary housing, such as a house or an apartment.



12% reside in temporary housing, such as a shelter or mission, motel or hotel, or on the street/in wooded areas.



17% OF RESPONDENTS EXPERIENCED A FORECLOSURE OR EVICTION IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS.



# THE IMPACT OF HUNGER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

## MILITARY FAMILIES



19% of households that received food assistance include a past or currently-serving member of the U.S. Military.

14% of households included a past-serving member.  
5% of households included a currently-serving member.

## HEALTH

70% of households chose between paying for food and paying for medical care at least once in the past 12 months.



27% of households report at least one member with diabetes.



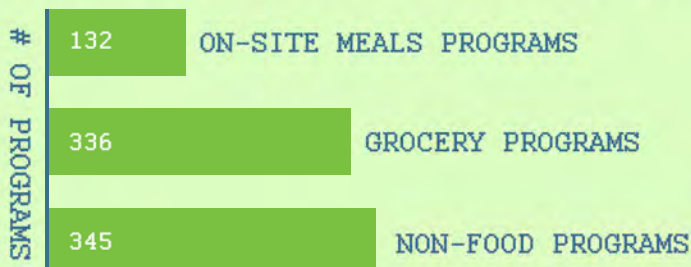
53% of households report at least one member with high blood pressure.



51% of client households have members with no insurance of any kind.

## FIGHTING HUNGER

Our Partner Agencies (nonprofits) typically operate multiple programs, and collectively provide 840 programs that serve people in need.





# FEEDING HOPE IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

## PARTNER AGENCIES

**87.3%** of partner agencies reported that not having Second Harvest Food Bank services available would have a major impact on their food assistance programs.

**67.5%** of our partner agencies reported serving a greater number of food assistance clients over the past 12 months than during the year before.

**48.6%** of our partner agencies (less than half) reported that they had enough food to fully meet their clients' needs during the past 12 months.

**38.0%** of clients reported being turned away from an agency frequently or occasionally because the partner had run out of food.

## THANK YOU

**FOOD BANK  
EFFICIENCY RATIO**



**97.4%**

of every dollar feeds hungry people.

**2.6%**

used for administration and fundraising.

This study was funded by The Howard G. Buffett Foundation.

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