

1/24/2025 Food Bank Meeting
Records from the visioning session

List the strengths of our current food network/food resource providers (churches, agencies, etc.):

- Meals on Wheels- Home Delivered - serves 200 senior in GC, Groceries to Go- shelf stable food box, serves 100 senior per month, Learning Beyond the Classroom - 5 Distributions locations
- WIC- Woman, Infants & Children Program - serving 670 participants
- Episcopal Church in Garrett County: Stephen's Table ; It's In The Bag;)at St. John's Epis church, Deer Park (in conversation with Rev. Chip Lee)
- St Mark's Luthern Church- Oakland Food Pantry
- Several yrs ago W. MD Food Council published brochure listing local food sources; placed in It's in the Bag backpacks; Update?
- Many Great Food Growers/ Farmers to work with
- Strong Farmers Markets / Farm Stands
- Strong Connections with Local Food Entities Garrett Growers
- House of Hope - Oakland- Sisters Mary Ann & Joanna
- Need to get a person who handle such a project before
- West MD Food Council- Collaborative Effort to engage and form cooperative efforts for the food system

Who does 360 West Liberty Serve?

- Community members who are food insecure or in need of community/agency resources
- Are their eligibility guidelines?
- Everyone?
- Frequency to visit?
- Proxy to pick up resources?
- Will users be prescribed before or will they be screened at distribution?
- How do we track data to demonstrate need? Intakes / demographics captured?
- Resources for specialty diet - gluten free? Dairy free?

How can we ensure guests are treated with dignity?

- Possible training of staff (sensitivity training, etc.)
- Greet everyone with a warm smile and friendly greeting
- Create a warm, welcoming atmosphere
- Hiring the right staff
- Continuous Training
- Community Outreach
- Representatives from Comm. agencies to share resources

As a community member, what can you do to help sustain 360 West Liberty?

- Hands-on volunteer as needed
- LBTC - Designate funds or support (Judy Center) Fundraising activities
- Keep it in the conversation at agency meetings
- Volunteer
- Donation / Volunteer - help ID Funding Opportunities
- Church Teams of volunteers
- Local Foods

Besides food, what other services should be offered at 360 West Liberty?

- Transportation, delivery (check mark) Identify all food providers, and organize to avoid duplication
- Provider Information, services offered in the community
- Nutrition Education
- Family Goal Setting
- ? basic home gardening skills, e.g. veggie container gardening
- (Also on Pkg lot poster) canning/preserving workshops
- Meal Planning and prep workshops; supplies
- Repository for local gardeners to contribute surplus of produce
- Cooking Lessons

What gaps in the food network can 360 West Liberty fill?

- Is a community garden possible?
- Demos / Supplies for teaching how to can / preserve foods?
- Demos for preparing meals with foods?
- Provide recipes w/uncommon items to encourage use
- As well as cooking demonstrations using healthy food
- Is the farm community involved in the logistics of this program and
- Local Food production into local food bank
- Northern End of GC

Parking Lot (questions, ideas, or suggestions):

- How would you like to collaborate with local food pantries
- Who will maintain the actual parking lot/ building maintenance
- Outreach to food suppliers
 - Grocery stores
 - Restaurants
 - Caterers

- Where will food be collected and stored
- Cold or frozen items taken?
- Coordination with other agencies and organizations
- Maryland Food Bank Connection
- More funding to Butchers for farmers deer program- feeding the hungry