

A RESOLUTION TO URGE GOVERNOR BILL LEE TO REJECT PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP’S CURRENT PROPOSAL TO SEND NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS OR THE TENNESSEE STATE GUARD TO MEMPHIS.

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has signed a presidential memorandum mobilizing the National Guard to Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Per TCA § 58-1-106, though the Governor has been given the powers to call the national guard into service, the Memphis City Council may also request the support of the national guard by adoption of resolution if “there is a breakdown of law and order, a grievous breach of the peace, a riot, resistance to process of this state, or disaster, or imminent danger thereof”; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council does not find that the circumstances currently meet the threshold outlined in the Tennessee code to enlist our troops into service; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis Police Department recently reported that overall crime in Memphis has reached a 25-year low as of September 2025; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that militarization of law enforcement, such as those with weapons, attire, or tactics of war, do not enhance public safety or reduce crime and put law enforcement more at risk; and

WHEREAS, sending the national guard as a tactic to address local crime blurs the line between military and law enforcement, and threatens the long-held precedent established by the Posse Comitatus Act, which bars federal troops from participating in civilian law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, many members of the National Guard here in Tennessee also serve in local law enforcement or as first responders; and

WHEREAS, any removal of local public safety personnel and resources threatens the progress that has been made and reduces our capacity to prevent, deter, and solve crimes more directly and efficiently; and

WHEREAS, the deployment of the national guard has cost taxpayers in D.C. and Los Angeles more than \$1 million per day—an amount that would be better used to provide Memphians mental health supports, violence intervention, and other services and programs actually proven to reduce crime; and

WHEREAS, it is the perspective of the Memphis City Council that support from national guard troops is currently unwarranted, and our public safety needs would best be met by further investment into existing localized strategies; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council stands ready to honor our oath of office by upholding the Constitution

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Memphis City Council urges Governor Lee to reject President Donald Trump's proposal to send National Guard troops into Memphis.

NOW, LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Memphis City Council authorizes the Council Attorney to take whatever legal action is necessary to oppose the occupation of the National Guard in Memphis.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Memphis City Council seeks to prevent the unwelcome and unnecessary control or occupation of City-owned facilities by National Guard troops.

Sponsors:

Jerri Green

JB Smiley, Jr.

Pearl Eva Walker

Dr. Jeff Warren

FOOD INSECURITY

An Unfolding Emergency in Memphis

WHO WE ARE

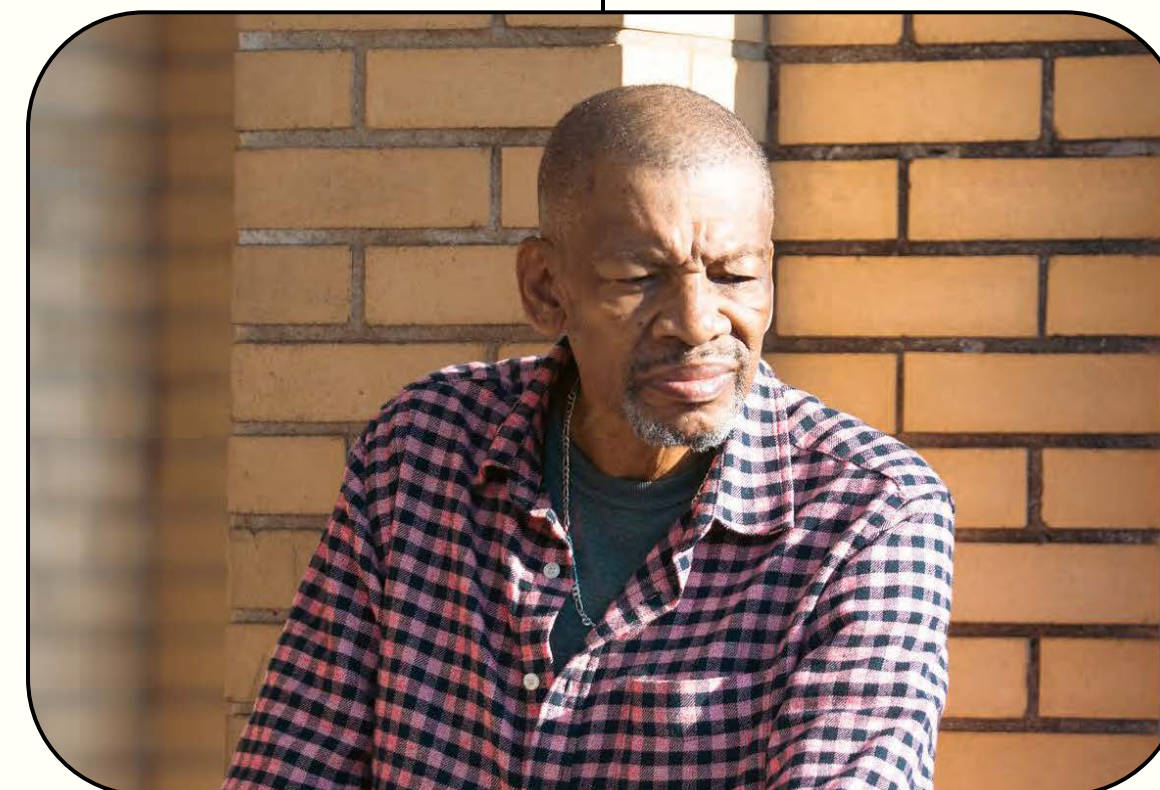
Catholic Charities of West Tennessee

Founded in 1971, Catholic Charities of West Tennessee has been serving West Tennessee for over 50 years, providing services to those most in need in our community, with special emphasis in the areas of homelessness, veteran's services and emergency services.

- **Unduplicated Individuals Served FY25: 41,177**
- **Total Meals Served FY25: 676,122**
- **Number of Individuals Fed FY25: 38,059**
- **Ten Food Distribution Sites in FY25**



MEMPHIS POVERTY SNAPSHOT



- Overall poverty rate: 22.6% in the City of Memphis (2024) [University of Memphis](#).
- Child poverty: an alarming 36.3% [University of Memphis](#). (11% increase from previous year)
- Memphis ranks 2nd in overall poverty and childhood poverty among all cities in the United States



Catholic Charities
of West Tennessee

FOOD INSECURITY IN MEMPHIS & SHELBY COUNTY

1 in 5

Approx. 21% of Memphis residents are food insecure—well above national averages

46,000 children

In Shelby County, child food insecurity sits at ~19.8%, meaning over 46,000 children affected

³

31 Zip Codes

Citizens are experiencing food insecurity in EVERY residential zip code of Memphis



OUR IMPACT & CHALLENGES POST-USDA CUTS

Last Fiscal Year

Distributed ~\$1.5 million in food while keeping our monthly food expenses at just \$3,000 per month due to partnerships and USDA Food programs

Since March 2025

Invoking urgent need to identify alternative, lower-cost food sources as the Midsouth Food Bank's healthy food supply declines.

This Fiscal Year

Sustaining operations (while the need is growing) now estimated to cost at least \$25,000/month—an 8-fold increase.

Mobile Pantry Food Box Client Survey (May 2025)

Reason for Seeking Food Today



Average Household Monthly Income of surveyed clients:

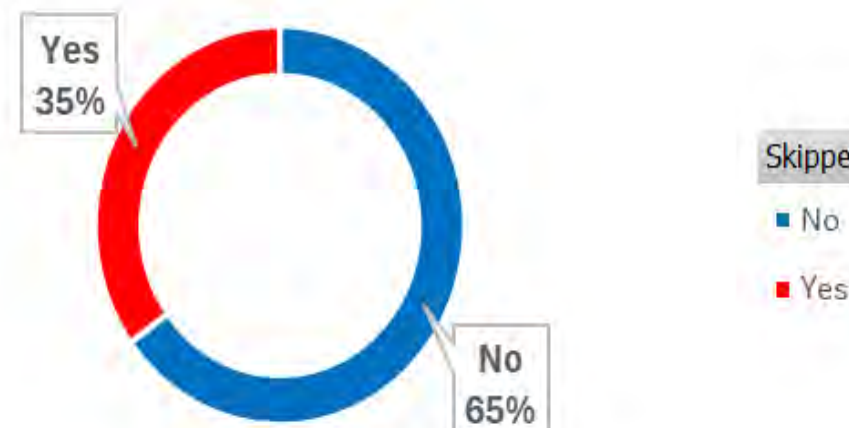
\$1,049.00

Average Memphis Rent for 1-bedroom Apartment:

\$1,043.00

Count of Skipped Meals (Y/N)

Skipped a Meal in the Last Month
Due to Lack of Food

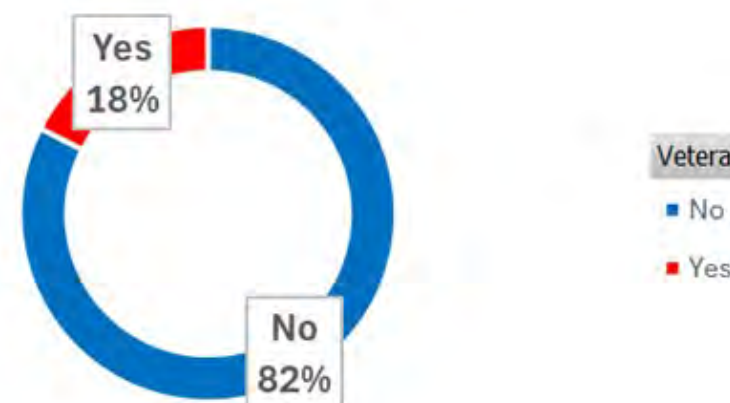


Skipped Meals (Y/N)

No
Yes

Count of Veteran (Y/N)

VETERANS



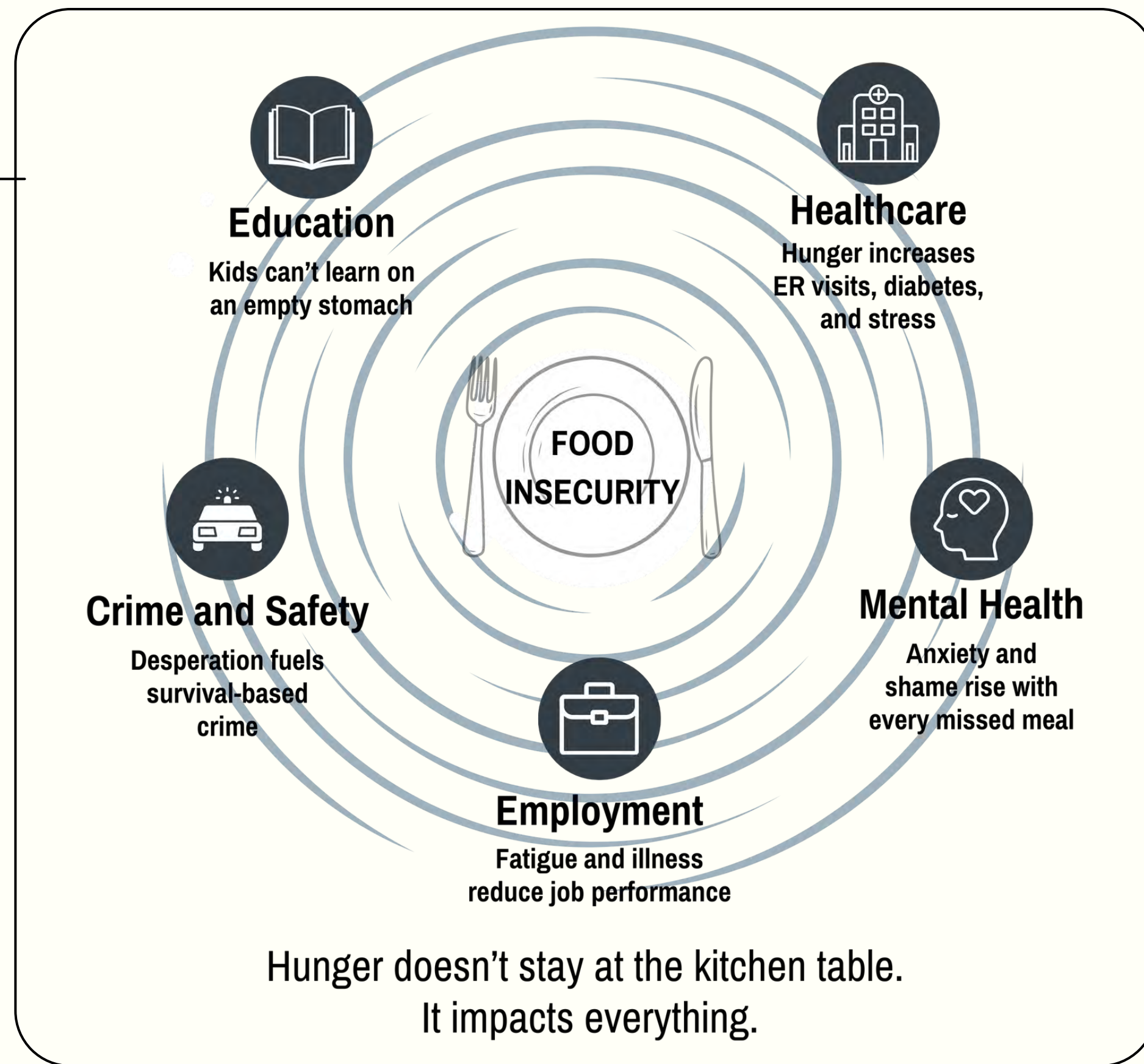
Veteran (Y/N)

No
Yes

RIPPLE EFFECTS OF FOOD INSECURITY

Food insecurity has impacts on education outcomes, increased crime, employment performance, increased healthcare costs, and community stability.

These cascading impacts justify preventative investment in food access now, rather than paying downstream costs later.





HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Continued financial investment to bridge the current funding gap and sustain service
- Connections to alternative providers or partnerships (food rescue initiatives, local farms, community organizations)
- Introductions to other governmental officials (city/county/state/federal) who can amplify awareness, collaborate on solutions, and provide needed funding



Catholic Charities
of West Tennessee

THANK YOU!

An Unfolding Emergency in Memphis

Kiki Hall

Senior Director of Community Engagement

(901)722-4763

Kiki.hall@ccwn.org

Mark Schielke

Senior Director of Emergency Services

(901)722-4718

Mark.schielke@ccwn.org