

# Montgomery County

## Office of Food Systems Resilience



***Our Mission:*** To develop and implement interagency budgetary, regulatory, and operational strategies to build a more equitable, efficient, resilient, and sustainable food system in Montgomery County.

***Resilience:*** *The capability of individuals, communities, and the County to withstand and rapidly recover from food system disruptions, stresses, and changes.*

# CORE VALUES

*Principles that guide OFSR priority setting, workplan development, and resource allocation*



- **Equity:** all efforts should address social injustice and racial disparities to build equity in our community.
- **Systems-based:** strategies should focus on identifying, maximizing, and addressing the interconnections of food issue areas, simultaneously contextualizing their benefits and their impacts on production, access, natural resources, education, and economy.
- **Innovation:** to transform our food system, novel approaches, creative ideas, and best practices models from other jurisdictions are critical.
- **Data-driven:** strategic policy and investment decisions require intentional and reliable data collection and analysis, and solutions with clearly defined success metrics and measurable impact.

# Food Systems Legislative Highlights

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- Food Security Plan (2017)
- COVID-19 Food Security Task Force (2020-22)
- Creation of the Office of Food Systems Resilience (2022-23)
- Strategic Plan to End Childhood Hunger (2023)
- Special Appropriation #24-37 (2023)



# 2024 Priorities

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- Resident-Centered Food Security and Access Strategies
- Strengthening the Local Value-Chain
- Data-Driven Approaches
- Interagency and Cross-Community Engagement

# 2023-24 Highlights

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- Post COVID-19 Food Security Strategy
  - Special Appropriation #24-37; Implementation of Strategic Plan to End Childhood Hunger Programs
- Local Procurement and Value Chain Coordination
  - Good Food Purchasing Program Analysis
  - Expanded Contract Growing for Farm to Food Bank
  - Cold Storage Investments
- Data Collection and Reporting
  - OFSR Metrics
  - Impact Report Platform
  - Partnership with Georgetown University
- Partner Engagement
  - Bi-monthly Interagency Convenings
  - Participation in local and statewide coalitions

