

ECOLOGICAL Model

Broad Social Determinants At Play →

Racism is Operating at All Levels, Beyond the Scope of Garrett County

Stigma is Operating at All Levels, Beyond the Scope of Garrett County

Immigration Status is Operating at All Levels, Beyond the Scope of Garrett County

Risks

(Social Determinants)

- Policy
 - Policy instability affecting food assistance programs
 - Funding constraints and administrative requirements that shape pantry/food bank operations.
- Community
 - Rural geography and transportation barriers (distance, winter weather, limited mobility options).
 - Limited retail access to affordable healthy foods in some areas; inconsistent availability.
- Institutional / Organizational
 - Lack of trust in institutions.
 - Unreliable distribution frequency.
- Interpersonal
 - Caregiving demands; limited support for seniors/people with disabilities.
 - Social isolation and lack of transportation/ride support.
- Intrapersonal
 - Financial strain and 'benefits cliff' concerns (including uncertainty about SNAP/other assistance).
 - Diet-related health needs (e.g., chronic conditions) and limited ability to purchase nutritious foods.
 - Stress, stigma, and past negative experiences with assistance systems.

Intervention #2

Partnership Across Sectors: Food Referral Network & Volunteerism

Policy

- Public benefit policy stability/uncertainty (e.g. SNAP).
- Funding and administrative constraints shaping service capacity.
- Reimbursement / payer policy environment affecting supportive health services.

Community

- Community food resource ecosystem and partner network.
- Geographic access conditions (rural distance, transportation barriers, seasonal/weather limitations).
- Community awareness environment (visibility of services, clarity of how to access help).

Institutional

- Coordinated service delivery model (resource hub approach).
- Organizational capacity and reliability of distribution.
- Standardized service workflows that reduce burden for clients.

Interpersonal

- Neighbor-to-neighbor support and community trust.
- Informal transportation/ride support and caregiving support systems.
- Volunteer/community engagement & social connection.

Intrapersonal

- Motivation and perceived need to seek food support.
- Skills and confidence to use resources effectively (food preparation, navigation).
- Stress, stigma, and prior negative experiences shaping willingness to engage.



Legend:
 • Direct Impact (Solid Arrows) →
 • Indirect Impact (Dashed Arrows) →

McLeroy Model: Interventions to Address Food Insecurity in Garrett County, Maryland as an Ecological Model

Upstream

Downstream

Assets

(Built and Developed)

- Policy
 - Multi-sector support and formal backing noted across partners and community institutions.
- Community
 - County-level food resource ecosystem (pantry network maps/resources and community partners).
- Institutional / Organizational
 - Central, identifiable location in Oakland (360 W. Liberty St.) enabling a known 'anchor' site.
- Interpersonal
 - Neighbors helping neighbors; informal support networks.
 - Volunteerism and community engagement.
- Intrapersonal
 - Desire to learn new cooking skills; guided by healthy recipes and locally grown and raised foods (when available).

Socioeconomic Status/Position and Poverty are Operating at All Levels, Beyond the Scope of Garrett County

References:

- Corbin, J., Levine, J., Metz, M., Sawin, S., & Wrobel, V. (2024). Socio-ecological model to address overdoses in Greenbrier County, West Virginia. 200G, University of California, Berkeley.
- Example 1b - 200G 2016 Conceptual Model - Spring 2024. PHW200G - SPRING 2024 - Health and Social Behavior Breadth. (2024, March 6). https://bourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1530779/external_tools/75944#suitec_assetId=96557
- McLeroy, K. R., Bibeau, D., Steckler, A., & Glanz, K. (1988). An Ecological Perspective on Health Promotion Programs. *Health Education & Behavior*, 15(4), 351-377.

Gender Identity, Sex, and Sexual Orientation are Operating at All Levels, Beyond the Scope of Garrett County

Language is Operating at All Levels, Beyond the Scope of Garrett County