



Food Systems Resilience

APPROVED FY25 BUDGET

\$14,200,511

FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS

4.00





 HEATHER BOIS BRUSKIN, DIRECTOR

MISSION STATEMENT





The mission of the Office of Food Systems Resilience (OFSR) is to develop and implement interagency budgetary, regulatory, and operational strategies to build a more equitable, efficient, resilient, and sustainable food system in Montgomery County.

COUNTY PRIORITY OUTCOMES

While this program area supports all seven of the County Executive's Priority Outcomes, the following are emphasized:

-  **Thriving Youth and Families**
-  **A Growing Economy**
-  **An Affordable, Welcoming County for a Lifetime**
-  **Effective, Sustainable Government**

INITIATIVES

-  Lead the transition from federally supported pandemic-era funding approaches to a long-term framework for strategic investment in food security programs. This transition includes reinforcing the solid foundation of existing food security resources developed during the pandemic, while strategically implementing new initiatives to close service gaps, align investments with values of equity and resilience, and better leverage Federal and State funds. In FY25, OFSR will partner with the Capital Area Food Bank and the Manna Food Center to facilitate the transition and provide community food assistance providers specialized access to shelf-stable and fresh food for distribution to food insecure residents in a grant-centered approach that strengthens the capacity of the County's robust network of organizations.
-  Continue the phased implementation of long-term food security initiatives that began with Special Appropriation #24-37. OFSR will continue to implement the Strategic Plan to End Childhood Hunger through the Retail Food Access Program, the Food as Medicine Program, School-Based Food Security Partnership Grants, and grants that maximize enrollment in federal nutrition programs, as well as support community-based initiatives. In addition, OFSR will work to strengthen local food system infrastructure through investments in projects that aggregate, process, and/or distribute food from local producers to enhance immediate and long-term food security in the region.
-  In coordination with the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice, address the racial inequities and disparities present in all aspects of the food system.
-  Engage with statewide, regional, and national partners to share best practices, maximize external resources, and implement collaborative strategies for policymaking that strengthen equity and food system resilience. Establish interagency coordination

mechanisms within County government, including the Food Systems Leadership Committee and a food systems workgroup.

- ★ Serve as a liaison between government and food system partners, including residents, businesses, and non-profit organizations. Establish communications, survey mechanisms, and feedback loops to ensure policy development and implementation is directly informed by the insight and expertise of the community.
- ★ Conduct landscape assessments and gap analyses of County food system financial investments and assets, County food systems policy, and currently available food systems data collected both internally and externally, including communication and analysis of data. Develop comprehensive grantee service data collection and reporting processes that gather essential data to evaluate program performance and inform future funding decisions.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Heather Bois Bruskin of the Office of Food Systems Resilience at 240.773.3349 or Grace Pedersen of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.773.1088 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

☀ Food Systems Resilience

OFSR is charged with developing and maintaining a strategy for improving the efficiency, equity, sustainability, and resilience of the food systems in Montgomery County. Through fostering public-private partnerships with the community for systems change, OFSR will expand upon the County government's investments in ensuring equitable and dignified access to nutritious, culturally diverse foods for all residents and harness the unique strengths of business, nonprofit, and government partners to enhance the health of our people, economy, and natural resources. Ensuring greater County government focus on food systems data collection, monitoring, and reporting (including food access and security data) is a priority of OFSR.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY23	Budget FY24	Estimate FY24	Approved FY25	%Chg Bud/App
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	0	304,455	327,097	474,542	55.9 %
Employee Benefits	0	80,676	81,600	133,670	65.7 %
County General Fund Personnel Costs	0	385,131	408,697	608,212	57.9 %
Operating Expenses	0	733,000	5,203,000	13,592,299	1754.3 %
County General Fund Expenditures	0	1,118,131	5,611,697	14,200,511	1170.0 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	0	3	3	4	33.3 %
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	0.00	3.00	3.00	4.00	33.3 %

FY25 APPROVED CHANGES

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY24 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	1,118,131	3.00
<u>Changes (with service impacts)</u>		
Enhance: Annualization of Food Systems Resilience Strategy (Continuation of Special Appropriation #24-37) [Food Systems Resilience]	4,350,000	0.00
Add: Community Food Assistance Competitive Grant Program (Food Staples Transition) [Food Systems Resilience]	3,500,000	0.00
Enhance: One-time Food Staples Program Transition through Pandemic Providers [Food Systems Resilience]	1,750,000	0.00
Enhance: Capital Area Food Bank and Manna Food Center Support During Food Staples Transition [Food Systems Resilience]	1,100,000	0.00
<u>Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)</u>		
Shift: Staff and Food Contracts from the Department of Health and Human Services [Food Systems Resilience]	2,238,296	1.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY24 Personnel Costs	62,402	0.00
Increase Cost: Inflationary Adjustment for Nonprofit Service Provider Contracts [Food Systems Resilience]	42,158	0.00
Increase Cost: FY25 Compensation Adjustment	28,608	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY24 Compensation Increases	9,876	0.00
Increase Cost: Office Supplies [Food Systems Resilience]	2,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Telecommunication Cell Phone [Food Systems Resilience]	1,000	0.00
Decrease Cost: Retirement Adjustment	(1,960)	0.00
FY25 APPROVED	14,200,511	4.00

FUNDING PARAMETER ITEMS

CC APPROVED (\$000S)

Title	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
COUNTY GENERAL FUND						
EXPENDITURES						
FY25 Approved	14,201	14,201	14,201	14,201	14,201	14,201
No inflation or compensation change is included in outyear projections.						
Elimination of One-Time Items Approved in FY25	0	(2,850)	(2,850)	(2,850)	(2,850)	(2,850)
Items recommended for one-time funding in FY25, including transition funding between pandemic Food Staples program and the new competitive grant model, will be eliminated from the base in the outyears.						
Labor Contracts	0	11	11	11	11	11
These figures represent the estimated annualized cost of general wage adjustments, service increments, and other negotiated items.						
Subtotal Expenditures	14,201	11,362	11,362	11,362	11,362	11,362

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