### **SNAP FIGHTS HUNGER PROVIDES NUTRITION GENERATES ECONOMIC ACTIVITY SUPPORTS COMMUNITIES**

By providing assistance for purchasing food, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, the nation's largest anti-hunger program, ensures that families and children get essential nutrition while also promoting local economic activity.

# **SNAP BY THE NUMBERS**

SNAP distributes approximately **\$490 million** every year to the metropolitan Washington region. Participation rates among eligible residents vary widely. SNAP eligibility is based household income. For example, to qualify for SNAP, the annual income of a household of four cannot exceed **\$28,668**.

When people receive and spend their SNAP benefits, the economic impact is mulitiplied as those funds move from grocery stores to delivery companies and throughout the economy. Every **\$5.00** in new SNAP benefits generates **\$9.00** in total community spending.

### **SNAP Participation Rates**

for those eligible based on household income (January 2011)

### Additional Economic Benefit\*

if participation increased by 15%

District of Columbia	70.5%	District of Columbia	\$17.3 million
Alexandria	29.7%	Alexandria	\$2.6 million
Arlington County	22.3%	Arlington County	\$2.7 million
Fairfax City	0.15%	Fairfax City	\$242 thousand
Fairfax County	34.3%	Fairfax County	\$11.3 million
Falls Church	3.8%	Falls Church	\$55 thousand
Frederick County	66.3%	Frederick County	\$2.6 million
Loudoun County	44.5%	Loudoun County	\$1.9 million
Manassas	49.8%	Manassas	\$831 thousand
Manassas Park	98.0%	Manassas Park	\$128 thousand
Montgomery County	45.3%	Montgomery County	\$12.2 million
Prince George's County	79.5%	Prince George's County	\$12.6 million
Prince George's County	79.5%	Prince George's County	\$12.6 million
Prince William County	56.9%	Prince William County	\$4.7 million

\*For illustration purposes only.

Sources: USDA; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 2007-2009 (ACS 3-year data) and 2005-2009 (ACS 5-year data). SNAP data is not available for COG member cities in Maryland.

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## **SNAP QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

Household Size	Monthly Income Limit	Annual Income Limit
1	\$1,174	\$14,088
2	\$1,579	\$18,984
3	\$1,984	\$23,808
4	\$2,389	\$28,668
5	\$2,794	\$33,528
6	\$3,200	\$38,400
7	\$3,605	\$43,260
8	\$4,010	\$48,120
Each additional person	\$406	\$4,872

# **RELEVANT DATA FOR SNAP ANALYSIS**

\*Data from the 2007-2009 American Community Survey

#### **Average Family Size**

#### **Median Family Income**

District of Columbia	3.32	District of Columbia	\$70,311
Alexandria	3.32	Alexandria	\$102,706
Arlington County	3.21	Arlington County	\$132,717
Fairfax City	3.33	Fairfax City	\$104,257
Fairfax County	3.30	Fairfax County	\$123,264
Falls Church <sup>**</sup>	3.49	Falls Church**	\$140,286
Frederick County	3.18	Frederick County	\$93,008
Loudoun County	3.62	Loudoun County	\$129,580
Manassas	3.53	Manassas	\$76,852
Manassas Park <sup>**</sup>	3.49	Manassas Park**	\$73,858
Montgomery County	3.35	Montgomery County	\$112,699
Prince George's County	3.37	Prince George's County	\$82,502
Prince William County	3.32	Prince William County	\$97,525