

# FOOD INSECURITY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE:

A presentation on the AmeriCorps VISTA project  
designed to help address the issues

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# **FOOD INSECURITY**

Food insecurity is the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate and safe foods, or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.

From: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/measurement.aspx>



# FOOD INSECURITY VS. HUNGER

Food insecurity is a household-level economic and social condition of limited access to food, while hunger is an individual-level physiological condition that may result from food insecurity.

From: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/measurement.aspx>

# Hunger in New Hampshire

In New Hampshire, 125,590 people are struggling with hunger - and of them 34,280 are children.

1 in 11 people



struggles with hunger.

1 in 8  
**children**  
struggles with hunger.

People facing hunger in  
New Hampshire  
are estimated to report needing

**\$72,230,000**

more per year to meet their food needs.

Image source: Feeding America

<https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/new-hampshire>

# The state of hunger in New Hampshire

PRE-COVID (2019) AND 2020

SOURCE: NEW HAMPSHIRE FOOD BANK

	Food Insecurity 2019	Food Insecurity 2020	% change
Total Population	8.5%	11.6%	36%
1,348,124	114,730	156,060	41,330
Child Population	11.2%	16.7%	49%
259,964	29,210	43,430	14,220

# How the NHFB met the 40% increase in demand

Huge increase in food purchasing. Added demands on grocery partners decreased their donations

Agency orders are larger and more frequent.

- => Increased deliveries.
- => Increased partner agency access to bulk commodities.

Huge increase in Mobile Food Pantries.(MFP) Pre-COVID 5-10 MFP's year.

- 70 Drive Thru No Contact MFP's in 2020.
  - Just under 30,000 families served 1.9 million pounds of food.
- YTD 2021
  - Over 16,000 families served over 1 million pounds of food.

# The NH Food Insecurity AmeriCorps VISTA program

A collaboration between Campus  
Compact for New Hampshire, New  
Hampshire Food Bank, and  
Volunteer New Hampshire



**AmeriCorps**



**Campus Compact**  
for New Hampshire





# Project Mission

Fight hunger and poverty in NH by joining community partners implementing statewide, collaborative efforts to help people have consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy lifestyle.



# Statewide Approach

▶ 20 VISTA members + 1 VISTA Leader

▶ **Cohort-Based:**

Regions

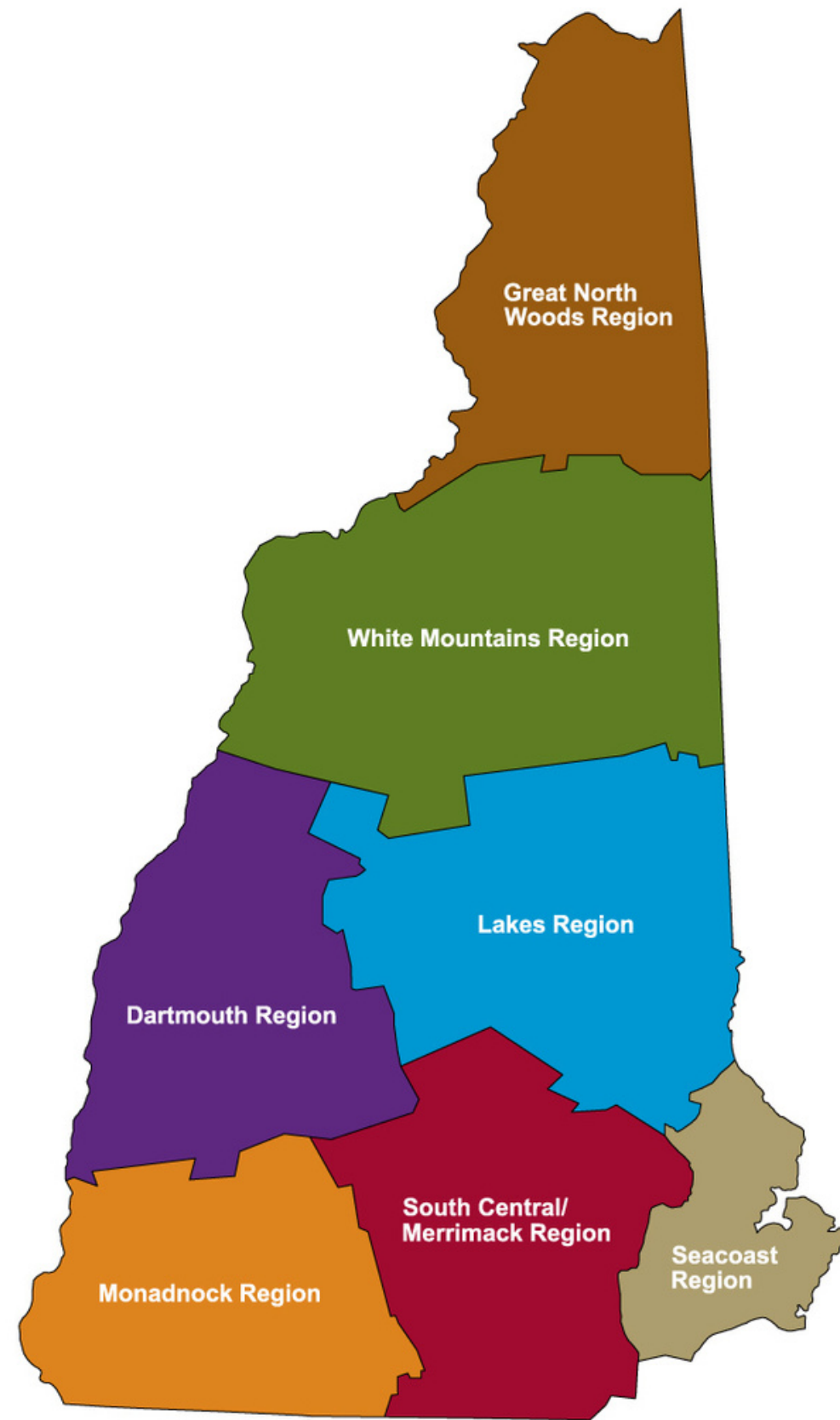
Site Type

▶ **Sites:**

1. Higher Education

2. Community-based organizations

3. Youth-serving organizations





# Project Partners

## HIGHER EDUCATION

Campus Compact for New Hampshire\*

Keene State College

Manchester Community College

NHTI, Concord's Community College\*

Plymouth State University

River Valley Community College\*

University of New Hampshire\*

White Mountains Community College

\*denotes a location for which a VISTA member has been selected and serving



# Project Partners

## COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Claremont Soup Kitchen

Families in Transition

Friends of Mascoma

Gather \*

New Hampshire Food Bank (1 member + VISTA Leader)

New Hampshire Food Bank--North Country (2 VISTAs)

Twin River Interfaith Food Pantry

\*denotes a location for which a VISTA member has been selected and serving



# Project Partners

## YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS

Franklin High School

\*Granite YMCA

Manchester School District

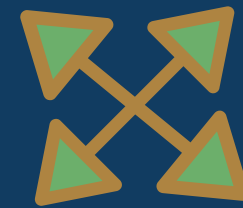
Strafford County YMCA (Rochester)

\*denotes a location for which a VISTA member has been selected and serving

# VISTA Project Goals



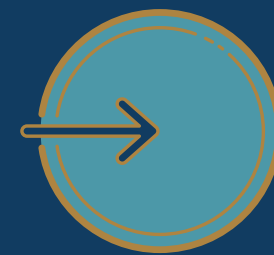
DEVELOP  
COMMUNITY  
COALITIONS



EXPAND ACCESS  
TO FOOD BENEFIT  
PROGRAMS



FOOD BANK  
OUTREACH &  
IMPACT



INCREASE  
COMMUNITIES'  
ACCESS TO FOOD &  
DISTRIBUTION

# Potential VISTA Activities

EXPANDING RESOURCES ACROSS NH

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

Identify community stakeholders and create coalitions

## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Create social media campaigns and tools to increase awareness of community resources and benefits

## VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT

Train and recruit volunteers for food delivery programs, mobile food pantries, etc.

## DEVELOPMENT

Research and develop hunger relief strategies across NH in partnership with existing resources

# Food Insecurity: Getting Involved



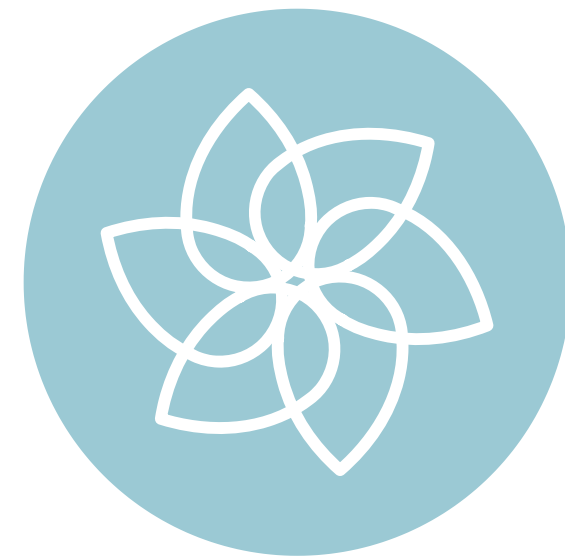
Volunteer at your  
local food bank or  
pantry!



Donate to your  
local or state  
organizations



Learn more!  
[FeedingAmerica.org](https://www.FeedingAmerica.org) is  
a great starting point!



Consider serving as  
an AmeriCorps  
VISTA in our project!

# Interested in Serving?

FOR A LIST OF CURRENT VISTA POSITIONS, VISIT:

[HTTPS://WWW.COMPACTNH.ORG/NH-FOOD-INSECURITY-AMERICORPS-PROGRAM-SERVICE-POSITIONS/](https://www.compactnh.org/nh-food-insecurity-american-corps-program-service-positions/)

Contact:

Terri Greene Henning, Ed.D., project coordinator at [henning@compactnh.org](mailto:henning@compactnh.org)





# How to Reach Us

## NH FOOD INSECURITY AMERICORPS VISTA PROJECT CONTACTS:

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