

Antietam Broadband and Maryland Food Bank – Western Branch Enter Second Decade of Community Partnership

December 13, 2022, Hagerstown, MD. The annual Holiday Food drive in Western Maryland closed at the end of November and was a huge success. The partnership between Antietam Broadband and the Maryland Food Bank - Western Branch is entering its second decade. This community partnership provides much needed food to Marylanders in need.

Inflation has hit Marylanders with such force that the average household is spending nearly \$500 more per month to purchase the same goods and services as they did a year ago—and the lowest-income households are being hit the hardest. A staggering one-third of Marylanders are at risk of facing hunger this year, and many of them are seeking assistance for the very first time. We need YOU to help the Maryland Food Bank - Western Branch meet this growing need.

More than 43,500 individuals in the Western Branch service area are food insecure. Of those struggling with hunger, more than 18,000 are children. The Maryland Food Bank – Western Branch distributes food to four counties in Western Maryland: Washington, Frederick, Allegany, Garrett.

“During this challenging year this program donated over \$11,000 to families and residents in need, said Brian Lynch, President, Antietam Broadband. “This is one of the most gratifying programs we run each year, knowing that we are helping individuals within our community who are in need. Antietam is proud once again to add an additional \$5,000,” said Lynch.



“Because of the economy, we’re seeing more people visiting our community partners for assistance. Simultaneously, our resources are being stretched thin as the cost of food continues to rise,” said Frank Ducey, Regional Program Director at the Maryland Food Bank – Western Branch. “We’re truly grateful for Antietam Broadband and their partnership this holiday season, as their contribution will go a long way in helping us provide Marylanders in need with access to healthy food.”

Antietam Broadband’s participation includes:

- Matching online monetary donations and donating \$25 for every upgrade and new installation of service which surpassed \$11,000.
- Airing Public Service Announcements on television and social media promoting the virtual food drive with information on how to donate.

<https://www.facebook.com/AntietamBroadband>

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[About Antietam Broadband:](#)

Antietam Broadband was founded in 1966 and was purchased by Schurz Communications, Inc. in 1968. It is a full-service telecommunications company offering a complete range of residential and business-class technology solutions including digital television, high-speed Internet and digital phone services in Washington County, MD. Antietam introduced Flight Gigabit Internet service in 2016 and made Hagerstown the 75th gigabit city in the USA. The company is focused on enhancing the lives of its customers by providing the latest telecommunication services and maintaining the highest standards of excellence in customer care and world class technical service.

[About the Maryland Food Bank:](#)

The Maryland Food Bank is a nonprofit hunger-relief organization dedicated to feeding people, strengthening communities, and ending hunger for more Marylanders by partnering with local organizations from the western mountains to the Eastern Shore. Last year, the food bank's statewide network of food assistance brought enough resources together to provide the equivalent of 110,000 meals every day (over 40 million meals annually) to hungry children, seniors, veterans, and hard-working families, meeting the immediate needs of hungry Marylanders while simultaneously working to create pathways out of hunger. To learn more about the Maryland Food Bank, visit www.mdfoodbank.org.