



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Food insecurity rises dramatically across the U.S., Kentuckiana**

USDA reports the largest single-year increase (30%) since the Great Recession in 2008

**Louisville, KY (October 30, 2023)** – The number of people living in food insecure households in the United States grew drastically in 2022. In the U.S. 1 in 7 people, including 1 in 5 children live in food insecure households, according to [a new report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#). In total, 44 million people in the U.S. are food insecure.

“Dare to Care and our partners have witnessed this firsthand,” President and CEO Vincent James said. “Our community has seen a 30% increase in our neighbors seeking food assistance in the past year as public benefits declined and food prices increased.”

James explained Dare to Care is collecting more localized data to gain a better understanding of food insecurity in its 13-county services area. “This data helps us understand the extent of hunger’s impact on our community, which is invaluable,” James said. “Taking action as a community will help ensure our neighbors, our loved ones and all who face hunger have access to nutritious food.”

There are five steps you can personally take to address hunger in Kentuckiana.

### **Check in on friends and family**

As we enter the holiday season, you’ll have more opportunities to check in with family and friends. The underlying causes of food insecurity – unemployment, poverty and inconsistent access to food – are often difficult to address or solve without help from others. Making a connection and sharing a resource can be easy for many people.

### **Grow your knowledge of available resources and solutions**

More than 300 partners in Kentuckiana are on a zero-hunger mission. They are strategically located to engage every corner of our communities, from English Indiana, through the heart of Louisville to Carlton Kentucky. Dare to Care offers [an interactive map](#) to find local resources and its Facebook page also offers consistent updates on changes to local resources.

## **Advocate for programs that help your neighbors**

Federal lawmakers are empowered with the ability to support and expand government programs that supply your neighbors with healthy food. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) are both included in the 2023 Farm Bill, an expansive piece of legislation voted on by the U.S. House of Representatives every five years to help millions of people across the country access healthy food. This important piece of legislation may be subject to delays and extensions as federal lawmakers work to pass a spending bill to avoid a potential government shutdown on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **Become a Dare to Care Ambassador**

Dare to Care and its partners work to empower people to share their collective mission and educate others on food insecurity in our communities. You can [attend an event](#), [volunteer](#) with your friends and family, [host a food or fund drive](#), [host your own event](#), and [get your business involved](#) to offer additional support to your neighbors.

## **Donate to Dare to Care Food Bank**

This is one of the most needed sources of support at Dare to Care Food Bank. When you donate, you're giving Dare to Care the ability to purchase the most needed items to support the nutritional needs of our communities. Crucial programs like senior meals and prescriptive pantry require specifically tailored diets and foods to support the wellbeing of vulnerable community members. A donation to Dare to Care, no matter the size, is a commitment to a healthier, stronger community. [Donate today.](#)

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## **About Dare to Care Food Bank**

Dare to Care Food Bank is a local nonprofit with a mission to lead the community to feed the hungry and conquer the cycle of need. This past year, Dare to Care distributed more than 19.6 million meals across Kentucky and Southern Indiana counties, including 5.7 million meals for children. To learn more about Dare to Care, visit [www.daretocare.org](http://www.daretocare.org).