Grays Harbor County Collaboration

“We are serving double to amount we would normally serve during the school year. This is partly due to out of district transfers that are now accessing our site, plus large number of siblings at home under school age.” - School District Serving Oakville

“We have been able to independently coordinate with local volunteers and have been able to provide food to families that don't have access to food banks.” – Women’s Justice Circle

**County Highlights**

Grays Harbor county schools and food banks highlighted how proud they are of how the community has offered so much support in response to COVID-19. A number of programs highlighted the resiliency of their staff and volunteers and that they are all working hard to serve the community in Grays Harbor county, particularly children.

**Coordination Opportunities**

There are opportunities to focus upcoming collaboration efforts in Grays Harbor county.

1.  **Funding for Capacity:** 50% of the programs report lacking food storage equipment and 50% do not have enough funding to support their meal prep and food service efforts. Many of these programs do not have enough funding to cover refrigeration and food storage. Additionally, 25% of programs report food shortages and the lack of PPE which is much needed to sustain efforts. Programs stressed the need to have funding not be restricted to food.

2.  **Support with Transportation:** Multiple programs mentioned that the rural nature of Grays Harbor county means that transportation is a key element to ensuring that everyone has access to food. 50% of the programs report challenges with transportation. In fact one program reported, “not sure how long we will be able to provide additional food to families that are not able to physically go to food banks…”

![Grays Harbor County Capacity Challenges](chart.png)
About The Data

11 organizations responded to the Coordinated Community Food Insecurity Survey. Five of the eleven respondents were food banks, five were schools or the school district, and one was a community organization. Unlike other areas of the state, there were no government officials from the local, county, or state level.

Contact Information for Coordination

For more information, contact Christina Wong at christinaw@northwestharvest.org.