

### **Highlighting Atlanta Regional Commission Coalition (ARC)**

Welcome to the first edition of our Senior Hunger Coalitions on the Move newsletter! Each month, we want to use this resource to share information and updates on Georgia's 12 coalitions committed to stamping out senior hunger in our state! Each issue will provide an update from one of the coalitions.

## **Coalition Spotlight: ARC**

#### **Membership Diversity**

The Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) coalition includes the Center for Pan Asian Community Services (cpacs.org), Open Hand Atlanta (openhandatlanta.org) and Buckhead Christian Ministry (buckheadchristianministry.org).

#### **Innovative Ideas and Strategies**

A critical advantage for the ARC Coalition is having a diverse set of organizations already working in the aging network that they can tap into for programming and learning opportunities such as the Community Conversations hosted by the Atlanta Community Food Bank.

#### **Key Resources in the Region**

ARC identified two critical organizations in their region in the focus area of food waste and reclamation as key resources. GOODR (goodr. co) is a recycling program that reduces food waste and redistributes surplus food. Second Helpings Atlanta (secondhelpingsatlanta.org) is a nonprofit food rescue organization whose mission is to reduce hunger and food waste in Metro Atlanta.

#### **Meeting Challenges**

Finding other ways to meet meant going online. Coalition members had a smoother pivot with the opportunity to participate in the Community Conversations being offered online by the Atlanta Community Food Bank.

#### Accomplishments

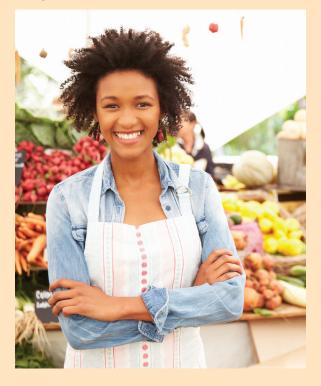
Leveraging existing resources to share with coalition membership by marketing and participating in the webinar series, Community Conversations.

#### What's Next

Coalition growth and highlighting the great work happening in the region are top priorities. The coalition will work on initiatives to target critical sub-categories of seniors including grandparents raising grandchildren and the children they care for and work with the pilot nutrition program for homeless seniors.

## Member Highlight East Point Farmers Market

The East Point Farmers Market has been a great partner for ARC's annual Senior Farmers Market. The Market received funds from the ARC coalition to help provide fresh produce to older adults at the Gateway Senior Facility. The East Point Farmers Market is an initiative of the East Point Main Street Association and the City of East Point. The group's mission is to consciously offer fresh food options that not only benefit the health of the people they serve, but also promote urban agriculture with the goal of creating more thriving farms and gardens, and providing greater access to locally grown food. Visit **downtowneastpoint.com/** eastpointfarmersmarket for more information.



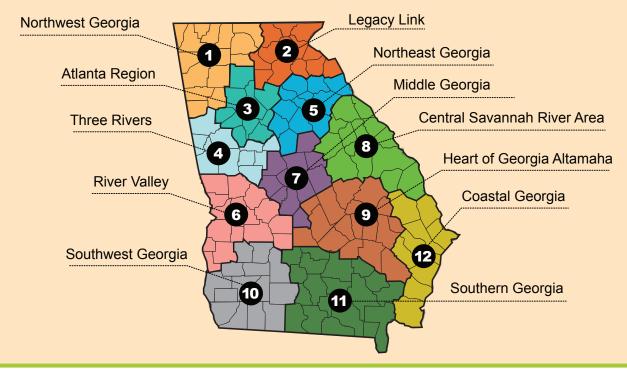


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#### **Statewide Updates**

## **Senior Hunger Coalition Coverage Areas**

Below is a map containing the 12 Senior Hunger Coalitions.



# The 5 Focus Areas Spotlight on Food Access

Many Americans are challenged in their ability to access affordable and nutritious food. Low access (LA) tracts refer to census tracts where at least 500 people live more than one mile (urban areas) or more than 10 miles (rural areas) from the nearest supermarket, supercenter or large grocery store. The latest study from 2015 ranks Georgia 9th in the classification of states with LA.\*

\*Alana Rhone, Michele Ver Ploeg, Ryan Williams, and Vince Breneman. Understanding Low-Income and Low-Access Census Tracts Across the Nation: Subnational and Subpopulation Estimates of Access to Healthy Food, EIB-209, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, May 2019

#### **Data and More**

**Statistics:** The latest report from Feeding America indicated in 2018 that Georgia was ranked 23rd in food insecurity nationally among those aged 60 and older. Visit **feedingamerica.org/research/senior-hunger-research/senior** for more information.

**Funding Info:** Each of the 12 Senior Hunger Regional Coalitions will receive \$5,000 in federal funding in January 2021 for SFY 2021 with strict guidelines on its use.

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