

FOOD BANK COALITION OF MASSACHUSETTS



INCREASE MEFAP TO \$20M!

Each year the Food Bank Coalition of Massachusetts advocates for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP). MEFAP is a critical piece of legislation that provides funding to purchase a consistent supply of quality, nutrient rich foods and locally grown fresh produce for families in need. One hundred percent of MEFAP funding goes directly to the Food Bank Coalition of Massachusetts and is essential in our work to create a hunger-free state.

In 2015, MEFAP funds provided more than 19 million meals. This year, we are asking decision makers to support an increase in MEFAP funding to \$20 million, which could enable us to provide more than 3 million additional meals.



MERRIMACK VALLEY FOOD BANK
Lowell, MA
www.mvfb.org



**THE FOOD BANK OF
WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS**
Hatfield, MA
www.foodbankwma.org



THE GREATER BOSTON FOOD BANK
Boston, MA
www.gbfb.org

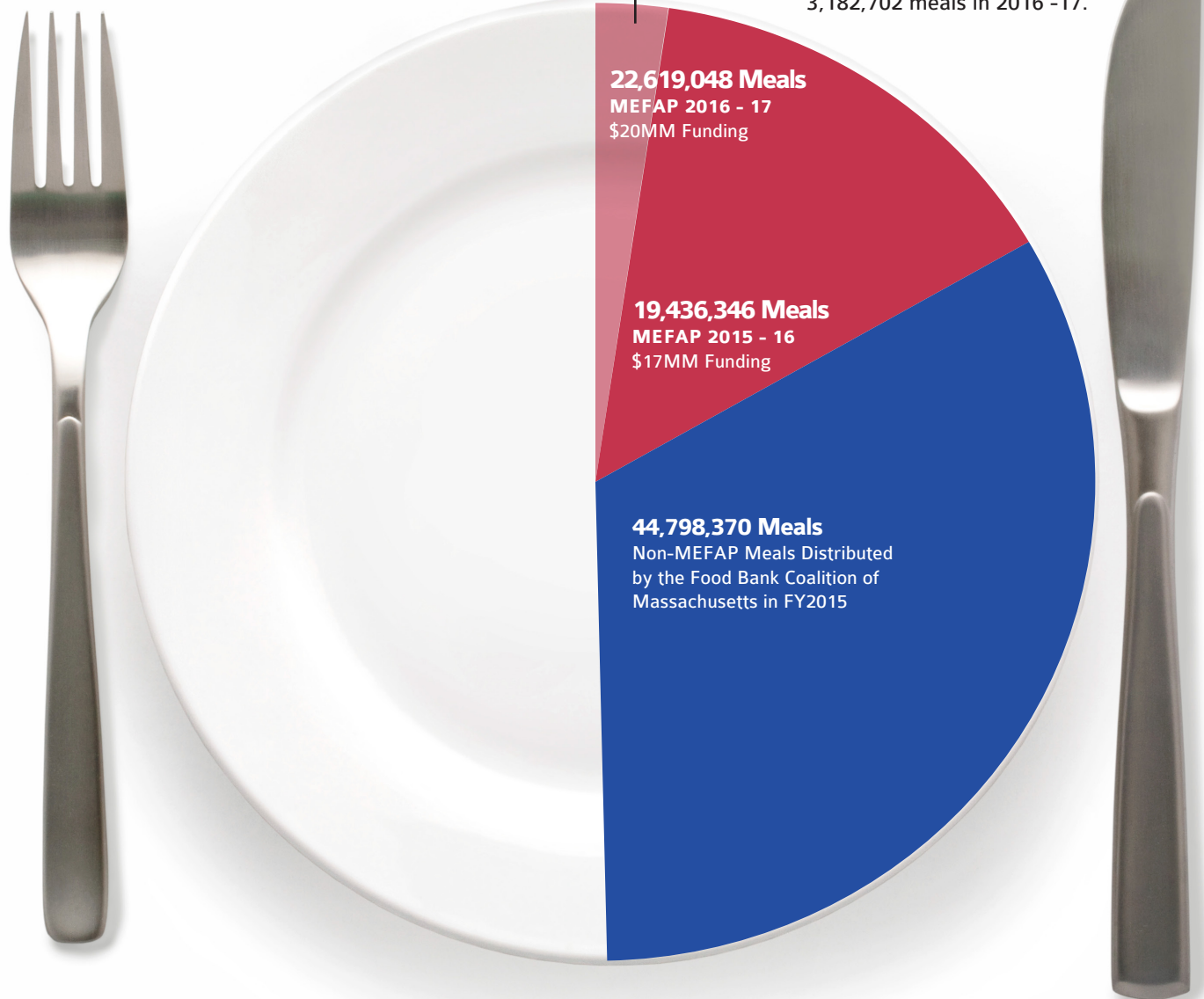


WORCESTER COUNTY FOOD BANK, INC.
Shrewsbury, MA
www.foodbank.org

THE MEAL GAP IN MASSACHUSETTS

The Meal Gap represents the meals missing from the homes of families and individuals struggling with food insecurity. The total Meal Gap in Massachusetts is estimated at 135,855,400 meals. An increase in MEFAP funding to \$20M will provide an additional 3,182,702 meals. Paired with meals provided through the four food banks of Massachusetts, this will bring us closer to closing the gap.

135,855,400 Meals
(Meal Gap 2015)



Data Sources:

Gundersen, C., A. Satoh, A. Dewey, M. Kato & E. Engelhard. *Map the Meal Gap 2015: Food Insecurity and Child Food Insecurity Estimates at the County Level*. Feeding America, 2015. Feeding America Map the Meal Gap Research: <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/our-research/map-the-meal-gap/overall-executive-summary.html>

The data on this document does not include information about non-food bank hunger relief efforts.