

Community Investment Program's 2025-2026 Food Security Fund

Application Guidelines

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Statement of Intent

The Region of Peel's not-for-profit sector is integral to our human services systems continuum. Not-for-profit programs and services are vital in supporting the needs of our most vulnerable residents.

As one of the most culturally diverse Regions in Canada, Peel is uniquely challenged in ensuring all residents impacted by food insecurity have reliable access and availability to nutritious, culturally appropriate food. Root causes contributing to the rising rates of food insecurity include housing affordability issues, inadequate social assistance, precarious employment, rising cost of living, climate change, and low wages.

In 2023, Regional Council passed motion [RBC2023-110](#), officially declaring food insecurity a crisis in Peel. In April 2024, food insecurity continued to increase with 8.6 percent (123,660) of Peel's population living in poverty, including 9.5 percent (27,900) of children ages 0 to 17 years. Poverty and insufficient financial resources have been directly linked to food insecurity¹. In 2023, approximately 23 percent of Peel residents were impacted by some level of food insecurity². The difference in the rates of poverty and food insecurity reveals an alarming trend that food insecurity in Peel is experienced by residents both above and below the official poverty rate with more than 1 in 5 households experiencing food insecurity. The situation with food providers in Ontario, particularly in Peel, has worsened for the eighth year in a row. Food inflation rates of 3-5% have pushed the average family's 2025 annual food bill to \$16,834, an increase of \$801.56 compared to 2024³.

These critical issues disproportionately impact specific vulnerable groups including Black, South Asian and Indigenous households, newcomers and asylum claimants, children, seniors, single individuals and one parent households, and individuals with disabilities and complex needs.

In response to the issue of food insecurity in Peel, the Community Investment Program (CIP) implemented a co-design process⁴ with a wide representation from community organizations across the food security system in Peel to develop the 2025-2026 Food Security Fund. These community organizations actively engaged in a collaborative design process and developed a fund model aligns with community needs, values, and goals and reflects Peel Region's commitment to collaboration, inclusivity, transparency, and equity in addressing the

¹ Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard of Indicators: Trends, April 2024 (statcan.gc.ca)

² Public Health Ontario, Household Food Insecurity Snapshot (PHU 2019 to 2023)

³ Public Health Ontario, Household Food Insecurity Snapshot (PHU 2019 to 2023)

⁴ Co design refers to a participatory approach to designing solutions, in which community members are treated as equal collaborators in the design process to determine negotiable components of the fund framework

multi-faceted challenges of food insecurity in Peel Region. The fund framework was also informed by an extensive community engagement strategy with the broader Peel community.

2025-2026 Food Security Fund

Fund Purpose

The 2025-2026 Food Security Fund will invest \$3 million annually to address food insecurity in Peel (total of \$6 million over 2 years). The fund focuses on (1) the urgent issue of emergency food access for vulnerable Peel residents, while also investing in (2) medium to long-term outcomes initiatives that build individual and/or community capacity to address barriers to food security.

The two funding streams for the fund are listed below:

- **Stream 1: Emergency Food Access:** Investing in community organizations' capacity to maintain or improve access to emergency food for Peel's most vulnerable food-insecure populations.
- **Stream 2: Building Individual and Community Capacity:** Investing in new or existing initiatives that aim to achieve medium to long-term outcomes. This includes building the capacity of individuals experiencing food insecurity, strengthening Peel's collective Not-For-Profit food system, and empowering communities to collaboratively respond to food insecurity across the Peel region.

Fund Outcomes

Each applicant will be required to choose 2 outcomes that align with their organization or collaborative's initiative or service(s). See [Appendix A](#) to review the metrics associated with each outcome. Applicants will be asked to complete all outputs and metrics associated with their chosen outcomes.

1. **Outcome 1:** Maintain or improve access to food that aligns with residents' cultural and dietary needs.
2. **Outcome 2:** Maintain or improve access to fresh (perishable) food including fruits, vegetables, dairy, protein and whole grain products.
3. **Outcome 3:** Maintain or strengthen organizational capacity to deliver services to vulnerable Peel residents.
4. **Outcome 4:** Maintain or increase individual or community capacity to support food security.
5. **Outcome 5:** Enhance organizational data capacity to efficiently identify and communicate needs and impact.

Eligibility by Funding Stream

Before completing your application, carefully review the Community Investment Program Guidelines to verify that your organization aligns with the fund criteria and proposed initiative(s).

Each funding stream has their own eligibility criteria. Organizations may apply for one or both streams if the eligibility criteria are demonstrated and met.

Stream 1: Eligibility for Emergency Food Access

- Organization's core programming is food-related: (1) Food programming and services is in organizations mission and mandate. OR (2) Organizations currently operates 1 or more programs dedicated to providing direct access to emergency food.
- Organizations must demonstrate programming and/or service-delivery of emergency food to Peel residents that has been in operation for 2 or more continuous years
- Organizations must clearly serve 3 or more identified Priority Populations
- Organizations must demonstrate they consistently collect data on food program(s) on an ongoing basis to assess service usage and outcomes

Stream 2: Eligibility for Building Individual and Community Capacity

- Program and/or service aims to achieve medium to long-term outcomes with a direct focus on addressing food insecurity while building individual and/or community capacity, including expected number of residents served, program/project activities, and intended outcomes
- Program and/or service targets 2 or more identified Priority Populations
- Program and/or service is evidence-informed and demonstrates need in Peel community
- Program and/or service has a plan developed to collect data on a consistent basis to assess participation and outcomes

Collaborations Note for Stream 1 and 2: Collaborations and/or joint funding requests among 2 or more community agencies are encouraged but not required. Collaborations and joint capital requests must have one lead agency that applies on behalf of the collaboration and must meet the eligibility criteria. Please see the Funding Limits section below for more information.

General CIP Eligibility

The 2025-2026 Food Security Fund will be open to all not-for-profit organizations who provide direct food support programming in Peel to vulnerable residents experiencing food insecurity. Please refer to Appendix B, "[Food Security Definitions](#)" for a list of programs that are considered eligible.

Eligible applicants must:

- Be in Peel and/or primarily serve Peel residents.
- Be mandated to provide human and community services.
- Be incorporated as a not-for-profit organization for a minimum of 2 years and/or be a registered as a charity under the Canada Income Tax Act.
- Be governed by a volunteer board of directors that aims to be representative of the community it serves.
- Comply with the Ontario Human Rights Code in hiring practices and provision of services.
- Comply with Federal, Provincial and Municipal Laws and Regulations.
- Have established and documented financial management systems in place and be able to provide annual audited financial statements or equivalent.
- If a faith-based organization also provides non-faith-based services, it must maintain separate financial records for those programs.
- Must have submitted all required CIP reports from other active grants.

Who is not eligible?

The following applicants are not eligible for funding:

- Individuals.
- For-profit organizations.
- Faith-based organizations that do not offer direct programs or services to the broader community. Organizations that only offer programs that involve religious activities or require participation in faith-based practices.
- Organizations acting in the capacity of a funding body.
- Organizations affiliated with a political party or that have a political mandate.
- Programs where the federal or provincial government has the primary responsibility for funding, including but not limited to:
 - Hospital-based health programs
 - Schools
 - Medical research
 - Arts and cultural programs
 - Formal education and training
 - Settlement and English language instruction programs

- Programs delivered directly by City of Brampton, Town of Caledon, or City of Mississauga, including but not limited to:
 - Parks and recreation
 - Transportation
 - Environmental programs
 - Economic development

Funding Term

Funding is for a 2-year term from July 2, 2025 – June 30, 2027.

- Funding amounts will remain the same for year 1 and year 2 (unless the organization received the 2025 Emergency Food Security Fund).
- Funds are released semi-annually, conditional upon receipt of required Progress and Reconciliation reports.
- Funding depends on Regional Council approving funding for that year. If funding is reduced or canceled, the Region may terminate this agreement or adjust the grant amount, with written notice and as much advance warning as possible.

Funding Limits

- Funding limits are as follows;

Funding Stream	Maximum Grant Allocation
Stream 1: Emergency Food Access	25% of the organization's revenue up to a maximum of \$500,000 per year
Stream 2: Capacity Building for Individuals/ Communities	25% of the organization's revenue up to a maximum of \$150,000 per year

- Successful applicants may have their approved allocation from the 2025-2026 Food Security Fund adjusted based on any funding received through the 2025 Emergency Food Security Fund. For example, if the amount awarded through the 2025 Emergency Food Security Fund was \$25,000 and the organization is eligible for \$100,000 for the 2025-2026 Food Fund, the award would be adjusted to \$75,000 in year 1.
- Should an organization apply for both Stream 1 and Stream 2, the total maximum amount will be limited to the funding limit of Stream 1: Emergency Food Access.
- **Collaborations:** Total stream funding limits will be applied to the lead agency who is applying on behalf of the Collaborative. If an organization applies as a lead agency of a collaboration and as submits a separate application for their individual organization, the total funding limit will still apply.

Funding Conditions

- Funding must be used to deliver services to Peel residents
- Applicants must demonstrate an impact on food insecurity in Peel for low-income residents through timely completion of fund reports
- Adhere to performance conditions specified in the Community Investment Program Funding Agreement and may be subject to an audit.
- All funding must be utilized and spent for eligible expenses between July 2, 2025 and June 30, 2027. Unspent funds will result in funding recoveries.

Eligible Expenses

The 2025-2026 Food Security Fund allocation can support expenses between July 2, 2025, and June 30, 2027, that directly contribute to achieving the outcomes of the Fund.

The following budget categories and items are eligible:

Operational Costs

- Occupancy costs (rent)
- Utilities
- Insurance (e.g. property; general liability, vehicle)
- Truck Lease
- IT/data management systems/evaluation
- Staff/ Volunteer Training

Operating Positions

- Wages/ Benefits (e.g. donation coordinator, warehouse shipper/ receiver, food delivery drivers, program facilitator etc.)

Small Capital Assets (\$1,000 - \$10,000)

- Equipment (e.g. fridges, hot tables, shelving; sprinkler system)
- Organizational infrastructure (e.g. laptops, printers, databases, etc.)

Program Supplies/ Costs

- Food
- Transportation costs (e.g. fuel, maintenance)
- Outreach materials/ costs
- Other program supplies


Ineligible expenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Expenses incurred outside of the funding term (July 2, 2025, to June 30, 2027).
- Expenses funded through other Region of Peel investments or grant programs.
- Large capital purchases/ acquisitions (e.g. purchase of land or buildings)

- Purchase or lease of private /personal vehicles
- Renovations or construction projects
- Annual fundraising drives or events
- Religious programs, activities, or proselytizing
- Political activities
- Legal costs or legal services
- Contingency costs are not eligible expenses
- Taxes, such as GST and HST, for which the recipient is eligible for a tax rebate, and all other costs eligible for rebates.

How to Apply for the 2025-2026 Food Security Fund

The 2025-2026 Food Security Fund application is a 4-step process. Please ensure you have completed all 4 steps (Step 1 is only applicable to new agencies).

- **Step 1- All applicants must be registered on GovGrants:** For organizations that have not registered with Community Investment Program in the past, they will be required to register for the GovGrants platform in advance of completing the application. Please note it may take 24 to 48 hours to receive your login credentials.
- [Click here](https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/registering-govgrants) to learn more about GovGrants registration:
<https://peelregion.ca/business/community-partnerships/community-investment-program/registering-govgrants>
- **Step 2 - Complete or Update Service Provider Profile:** All organizations will be required to complete or update their Service Provider Profile (SPP) in Gov Grants. When completing the SPP ensure that;
-  **Please ensure your SPP is complete and up to date.** This includes entering all required information across all SPP tabs and completing the Community Investment Form in full.
- While in the SPP attach the following mandatory documents in the Documents tab:
 - Current Certificate of Insurance, including but not limited to commercial general liability insurance.
 - Articles of Incorporation (Letters Patent).
 - Year-to-date Financial Statements (Balance Sheet and Income Statement ending no earlier than May 31, 2025).
 - 2023 **and** 2024 Audited Financial Statements if your organizational revenue is over \$250,000. Please note that we will accept:
 - Review Engagement Report if your organizational revenue is between \$150,000 - \$250,000.
 - A Notice to Reader Report if your organizational revenue is less than \$150,000.

Note: If 2024 Audited Financial Statements are not currently available, please submit your unaudited statements with the application and forward the Board approved Audited Financial Statements when available.

- [Click here](#) to visit the Region's Community Investment Program webpage for additional information and how to access to GovGrants.

- You can also email cip@peelregion.ca with questions regarding the SPP or application.
- **Step 3 - Complete Application via Survey Monkey:** Complete the following application through the Survey Monkey link provided and submit.
<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/FoodApplication>
 - **We highly recommend that you complete the application in the PDF copy of the Application first and then cut and paste into the Survey Monkey Application in case of accidental loss.**
 - [Click here](#) to download a copy of the application questions from our CIP webpage
 - Survey Monkey will let you revisit your application (prior to final submission) if you are working from the same IP address.
 - Email cip@peelregion.ca with questions regarding the SPP or application.
- **Step 4:** During the application process, you will be asked to complete a **Budget Template**. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the budget template. Complete the template and upload into your Service Provider Profile.
 - When completing the Budget Request Template, ensure your funding request covers a **two (2) year term** and does not exceed the annual specified funding limits.
 - If your expenses differ from year one and two you can submit that in your budget template, but please note if you are a successful Fund recipient your total allocation for year one and two will be the same, unless you have received the 2025 Emergency Food Security Fund.
 - Refer to Funding Limits and Funding Term sections above for guidance.

Once the grant application has been approved, reallocations between approved eligible budget categories are guided by CIP's Reallocation Policy.

Application Deadline

The fund will open on July 10, 2025, and close on **August 11, 2025, at 5:00pm**. Exceptions will not be made for late submissions.

For more information on GovGrants:

- To register in GovGrants: [Registering in GovGrants - peelregion.ca](https://govgrants.peelregion.ca)
- To sign into GovGrants: [Applicant Login](#)
- Instructions to complete or update your Service Provider Profile: [Complete or update your Service Provider Profile - peelregion.ca](#)

Fund and Technical support:

- Contact cip@peelregion.ca
- **Technical support is only available until 2:00p.m in August.** We highly recommend that you complete your application well in advance of the Aug. 11 - 2pm support deadline to ensure all your questions have been answered in advance.

Important Change to CIP Policy: Applications will be scored on only available information and documentation provided by the deadline. CIP will not be contacting organizations to follow up on incomplete applications. Organizations with outstanding Progress or Reconciliation Reports from previous CIP grants, will not be considered.

Community Investment Program

Anti-Racism and Systemic Discrimination Statement

"The Region of Peel recognizes the impact of historical and ongoing racism and systemic discrimination in its communities. We are committed to learning, evolving, and owning the role we have played in preserving the systems that advantage some and disadvantage others. As a municipal leader and accountable government, we accept responsibility to expose and oppose racism and dismantle the institutional systems that perpetuate social inequities. To achieve Community for Life, we will enact sustainable change for our employees and residents through our policies and practices that demonstrate respect and dignity for all, enabling people in Peel to achieve their fullest life."

For more information about Community Investment Program and policies, [please click here.](#)

2025-2026 Food Security Fund Funding Overview

Application Priority Areas

Service-Delivery to Peel Residents

Applicants will be required to demonstrate how this funding will strengthen their organizational capacity to address the food security needs of Peel residents. All grants will have to demonstrate value for money and impact on food security in Peel.

Collaboration

Joint requests and partnerships among community organizations are strongly encouraged. Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with other not-for-profit organizations within Peel Region to find efficiencies related to the improving the access to emergency food or implementing initiatives that promote the building of individual or community capacity.

Serve Priority Populations in Peel

The Community Investment Program recognizes the importance of equity and is committed to applying an equity lens to the funding program to ensure that the diversity of our local service providers and community are reflected in Community Investment Program decision-making, grant opportunities, policies, and practices.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate how funding will strengthen their service-delivery to priority populations and Peel residents who are disproportionality impacted by food insecurity in Peel.

Racialized Communities

- Black communities (e.g., Caribbean, African descent)
- South Asian communities
- Other racialized individuals and families
- Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and Urban Indigenous)

Newcomers and Migrants

- Newcomers, immigrants, refugees, and undocumented immigrants
- International students

Children, Youth, and Families

- Children (0-14 years old)
- Youth (15-29 years old)
- One-parent families
- New parents

Seniors and Older Adults

- Seniors (65+ years old)

2SLGBTQ+ Communities

- 2SLGBTQ+ individuals

Economic/ Housing Insecurity

- Economically disadvantaged individuals (e.g., low/ fixed incomes, ODSP, OW, CPP, unemployed)
- Unhoused / houseless individuals
- Women

Challenges Caused by Geography

- Rural populations

Health and Accessibility Challenges/ Barriers

- People with disabilities (especially single individuals)
- People with chronic illnesses (e.g., Diabetes; CHD; MS etc.)
- People with lived/living mental health challenges
- People with lived/living experience of substance use

Application Review Process & Assessment Criteria

The Community Investment Program remains committed to the transparent assessment of funding applications. We aim to invest in organizations that demonstrate financial viability while meeting service delivery and program objectives.

The Community Investment Program has a limited budget and demand continues to increase.

Our goal is to implement a balanced approach to addressing food insecurity and distributing funding in an equitable and transparent way.

Each application that meets the general eligibility requirements will be reviewed by a Fund.

Review Committee comprised of Region of Peel staff and community stakeholders assessed based on the following criteria:

1. Completion of Application including the Service Provider Profile

- Organizations will receive the fund application and checklist of required documents.
- Incomplete applications will be scored based on the documents submitted by the organization by the application deadline.
- Extensions for submitting late or missing documents will not be considered.

2. Equity, Demonstrated Need & Impact (45%)

- Demonstration of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policies and Practices - Evidence of an organizations implementation of DEI policies, strategies, and initiatives to support equity-seeking groups, priority populations, and removing barriers to participating equitably in community systems and structures.
- Demonstration of priority populations intentionally served by organization and responsiveness to their unique needs.
- Demonstration of organizations/program/services direct impact on addressing food insecurity in Peel
- Alignment of organizational goal, services, and needs to fund priorities
- Identification of 2 fund outcomes and clear reporting of data/plans to track progress and measure success

3. Organizational Health (40%)

- Organizational capacity to effectively deliver services
- Demonstrated consistent collection and use of data to inform programming, make decisions, and report impact
- Sustainability Plans demonstrating strategies to maintain/improve operations beyond funding period
- Standardized Financial Health Assessment conducted internally by Region of Peel

4. Budget (15%)

- Clarity and Completeness of Budget Request
- Alignment with fund priorities, identified funding stream(s) and chosen outcomes
- Clear rationale for Expenses
- Appropriateness and Reasonableness of Costs

Reporting Requirements

All funded organizations must submit an annual Progress and Reconciliation Report for each of the two years they have received funding. The Region of Peel reserves the right to conduct check-ins at any time to assess whether funding has been used for its intended purpose.

- **Progress Reports** will capture the progress on grant outcomes (Key Performance Indicators- KPIs), outputs, as well provide opportunity for a narrative report on the grant's impact. ***For a list of all Outcomes, Outputs, and KPI's refer to Appendix A.***
- **Reconciliation Reports** will capture actual expenditures for each eligible and approved expenses. All recipients are required to reconcile the amount of funding received. The reconciliation provides confirmation the funding was allocated according to the guidelines and identifies surplus funds to be recovered. Recipients will be required to upload their Year-to-Date financial statements and most recent Audited Financial Statements annually.
- **Requirement to Keep Supporting Documentation**

To demonstrate that the Fund was used to support eligible expenses, please retain all original supporting documentation for a minimum of seven years.

- **Recoveries**

Agencies will return unused funds or funds not utilized in accordance with the conditions outlined in this Guideline and/or Funding Agreement. Organizations will repay the Peel Region - Community Investment Program all or part of their funding in the following situations:

- Funds were not fully spent.
- Funding was not used in accordance with the terms of the Funding Agreement or this Guideline.

Notification of Funding Decision

The application deadline is August 11, 2025. It is anticipated that funding decisions will be communicated 4 to 6 weeks after the application intake deadline. All applicants will be notified whether their application is approved or declined for funding.

Recognition of Community Investment Program Funding

The Community Investment Program encourages funding recipients to acknowledge Community Investment Program funding in promotional and program materials. The Community Investment Program will provide logo and terms of usage in various digital formats upon request.

Appendices

Appendix A: Outcomes, Outputs and Key Performance Indicators

Each applicant will be required to choose 2 outcomes that align with their organization or collaborative's initiative or service(s). Applicants will be asked to complete all outputs listed below and only the metrics associated with their chosen outcomes.

Outputs (To be completed by all applicants):

- ☐ Total # of unique Peel clients directly served by your organization's food security programs/ services
- ☐ Total # of unique Non-permanent Residents (NPR) served by your organization's food security programs/ services
- ☐ Total # of visits to your food program(s)
- ☐ Total pounds (lbs) of donated food procured
- ☐ Total pounds (lbs) of food distributed in Peel
- ☐ Total # of unique organizations within Peel that your organization distributed food to
- ☐ Total lbs of food sold over the previous 12 months
- ☐ Total lbs of food purchased over the previous 12 months

Outcome 1: Maintain or improve access to food that aligns with residents' cultural and dietary needs.

- ☐ List all of the culturally and/or dietary appropriate food distributed in Peel.
- ☐ Total pounds (lbs) of culturally and/or dietary appropriate food procured.
- ☐ Total pounds (lbs) of culturally and/or dietary appropriate food distributed in Peel
- ☐ Total # of current established partnerships/ suppliers to procure culturally and/or dietary appropriate food.
- ☐ Total # of current established partnerships/ collaborations to distribute culturally and/or dietary appropriate food.
- ☐ Total # of initiatives/activities your organization has implemented to assess culturally and/or dietary appropriate needs (e.g., focus groups, surveys, etc.).

Outcome 2: Maintain or improve access to fresh (perishable) food including fruits, vegetables, dairy, protein and whole grain products.

- ☐ Total pounds (lbs) of fresh (perishable) food procured
- ☐ Total pounds (lbs) of fresh (perishable) food distributed in Peel
- ☐ Total number of freshly made meals provided/ distributed in Peel
- ☐ Total number of partnerships/ suppliers established to procure fresh perishable food
- ☐ Total number of partnerships/ suppliers established

Outcome 3: Maintain or strengthen organizational capacity to deliver services to vulnerable Peel residents.

- ☐ Total # of ours per week the food security programs are or will be operating.
- ☐ Total # of days per week the food security programs are or will be operating.

Identify the organizational domains you aim to address/ improve with this funding by June 30, 2027.

- ☐ *Financial Management*: Organization's ability to manage its finances, track expenses, and ensure financial stability.
- ☐ *Strategic Planning*: Organization's process for setting goals, developing strategies, and evaluating progress.
- ☐ *External Communication*: Organization's ability to communicate its mission, programs, and impact to the public.
- ☐ *Board Leadership*: Effectiveness of the board of directors in providing oversight, guidance and support the organization.
- ☐ *Operational Capacity*: Organization's ability to manage its day-to-day operations, including staffing, technology and infrastructure.
- ☐ *Mission Orientation*: Organization's clarity of purpose and alignment with its mission.
- ☐ *Staff Management*: Organization's ability to recruit, train, and retain qualified staff.
- ☐ *Adaptive Capacity*: Organization's ability to respond to changes in its environment, including shifts in funding, community needs or policy.
- ☐ *Other* (please specify)

Outcome 4: Maintain or increase individual or community capacity to support food security.

- ☐ # of programs/ service offered in Peel
- ☐ # of unique individuals impacted by the initiative
- ☐ # of sessions provided (e.g., workshops, program sessions, etc.)
- ☐ # of organization impacted by the initiative
- ☐ Other: Provide details

Outcome 5: Enhance organizational data capacity to efficiently identify and communicate needs and impact.

- ☐ # of data related initiatives implemented
- ☐ # of employees/ volunteers trained

Appendix B: 2025-2026 Food Security Fund Definitions

General Terms

- **Collaboration:** A mutually beneficial relationship between two or more parties to achieve common goals by sharing responsibility, authority, and accountability for achieving results. The purpose of collaboration is to create a shared vision and joint strategies to accomplish objectives that collaborative partners are unable to bring about alone.
- **Culturally appropriate food** - describes safe and nutritious foods that meet diverse tastes and needs of customers based on their cultural identity. For example, people who identify with Muslim or Jewish religious traditions may want foods that are halal or kosher, respectively.
- **Food Insecurity** is the inconsistent or disrupted access to food due to physical, economic, social, and/or environmental factors outside an individual's control.

Food Security is achieved when there is;

- **Availability:** Sufficient food for all people at all times
- **Accessibility:** physical and economic access to food for all at all times
- **Adequacy:** access to food that is nutritionally safe, and produced in environmentally sustainable ways
- **Acceptability:** access to culturally acceptable food, which is produced and obtained in ways that do not compromise people's dignity, self-respect and human rights
- **Agency:** for communities to have access to the policies and processes that enable the achievement of food security
- **Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)** - are measurable metrics that tracks progress towards the goal. KPI's can measure outputs or outcomes (e.g. number of clients who received culturally appropriate food; percentage increase in community garden space acquired)
- **Outcomes** - are the changes or benefits that result of funding (e.g. improved access; decreased barriers)
- **Outputs** - these are tangible results produced because of funding (e.g. number of clients served; pounds of food distributed)

Types of Organizations

- **Food Bank-** A program that collects food and necessities and redistributes minimum of 7-10 pounds of food on a regular basis to Peel residents experiencing food security (e.g. consistent set number of days and hours operating per week).

- **Food Distribution Warehouse-** A large storage space acquired for the purpose of receiving and distributing food safely to individuals and community organizations (typically 10,000 sq. Ft. or more).
- **Food Education and Community Kitchen:** Programs that teach food preparation, healthy eating, cooking, and/or offer a space for community members to build community; program is free or for a subsidized fee.
- **Food Pantry/ Cupboard:** A site which provides up to 2-3 days of food to Peel residents per visit, as needed.
- **Community Garden:** Community-driven gardens that produce fresh produce for Peel residents to use.
- **Community Meal Program:** A program that provides free meals to Peel residents on a consistent basis.
- **Meal/ Food Delivery:** A program that delivers food or a prepared meal directly to someone's home; some programs may have a subsidized fee (e.g., hamper program, meals on wheels, grocery delivery, etc.).