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Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank launches new digital tool to find food

Duquesne, PA (September 30, 2021) Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (the Food Bank) has officially launched its new website. The new website features food resources, recipes and a new innovative tool to help people fully access all food resources near them.

The new “find food” tool was designed through a partnership between the Food Bank’s IT team and Carnegie Mellon University.

Unlike a normal map finder, this tool takes into account each person’s availability and shows local food resources that work with their schedule.

“What is unique about this tool is that it not only allows neighbors in need to find food resources geographically close to them, but it helps them find the specific types of resources (Pantry, Soup Kitchen, Drive Up, etc) for the times that they are available. For instance, if they can only make it to a Pantry after 4pm, this allows them to search for resources that satisfy those requirements,” said the Food Bank’s Director of Information Systems & Portfolio Management David Carrico.

To use the tool, people simply go to the find food button at pittsburghfoodbank.org and type in their zip code and availability. The tool brings up soup kitchens, drive-up distributions, pantries, and food for seniors in the area that are open when the user says they’re free. People can view their personalized list of food resources on a map or see their options in a calendar view which is easy to download or email.

The tool is especially useful for people with limited availability who are trying to make ends meet, whether it’s someone working multiple jobs or someone who needs to find food assistance in between medical treatments.

The find food tool can be used on a phone or a device in the Food Bank’s 11-county service area.

For more information visit pittsburghfoodbank.org

video recorded outside of Allegheny county here: <https://youtu.be/pcOmLmELZVE>

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Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank is a nonprofit organization that distributes food for more than 45 million meals annually across 11 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania through a network of more than 850 agencies, partners and programs. The Food Bank was founded in 1980 and is a member of Feeding America, the leading domestic hunger-relief charity in the U.S. For more information on hunger in our region or how to get involved, visit pittsburghfoodbank.org.