



BUILDING STRONGER CONNECTIONS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

# OUTREACH

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Hello, Everyone!

This August let's talk about food insecurity, nutrition, and public libraries. According to the [University of Mississippi](#), about 1 in 6 children in the state and more than 16% of Mississippians overall, deal with food insecurity. Food pantries in public libraries provide crucial supplies for those facing hunger during critical times. If you have not considered starting a food pantry in your library's services, I have included some anecdotes and resources below.

To that end, Mississippi is also challenged with some of the highest rates of heart disease, cancer, and diabetes in the nation. If you are considering incorporating health programming and resources for your communities the links below may give you insight into factors to think about.

As always, please reach out with any questions!

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## Food pantries and Food Drives

[Starting a Food Pantry at Your Library](#)

[Organizing a Food Drive](#)

[Hiawatha Public Library Opens Food Pantry](#)

[Little Free Food Pantry Opens in Front of Staunton Public Library](#)

[Mississippi Department of Human Services- Emergency Food Assistance](#)

## Nutrition Services and Resources

[Public Libraries Step Up Help as Food Insecurity Rises \(governing.com\)](#)

[Libraries as Nutrition Hubs](#)

[Basic Nutrition Materials and Handouts](#)

[Food Access and Seed Libraries](#)

[Rural Health Information Hub- Health Literacy Programs in Libraries](#)

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