Food Secure Tillamook County

Tillamook

Oregon State University Extension Service

OREGON FOOD BANK

Tillamook County

Food Insecure

- 14% of all people
- 25% of children

Eligible for free and reduced priced meals

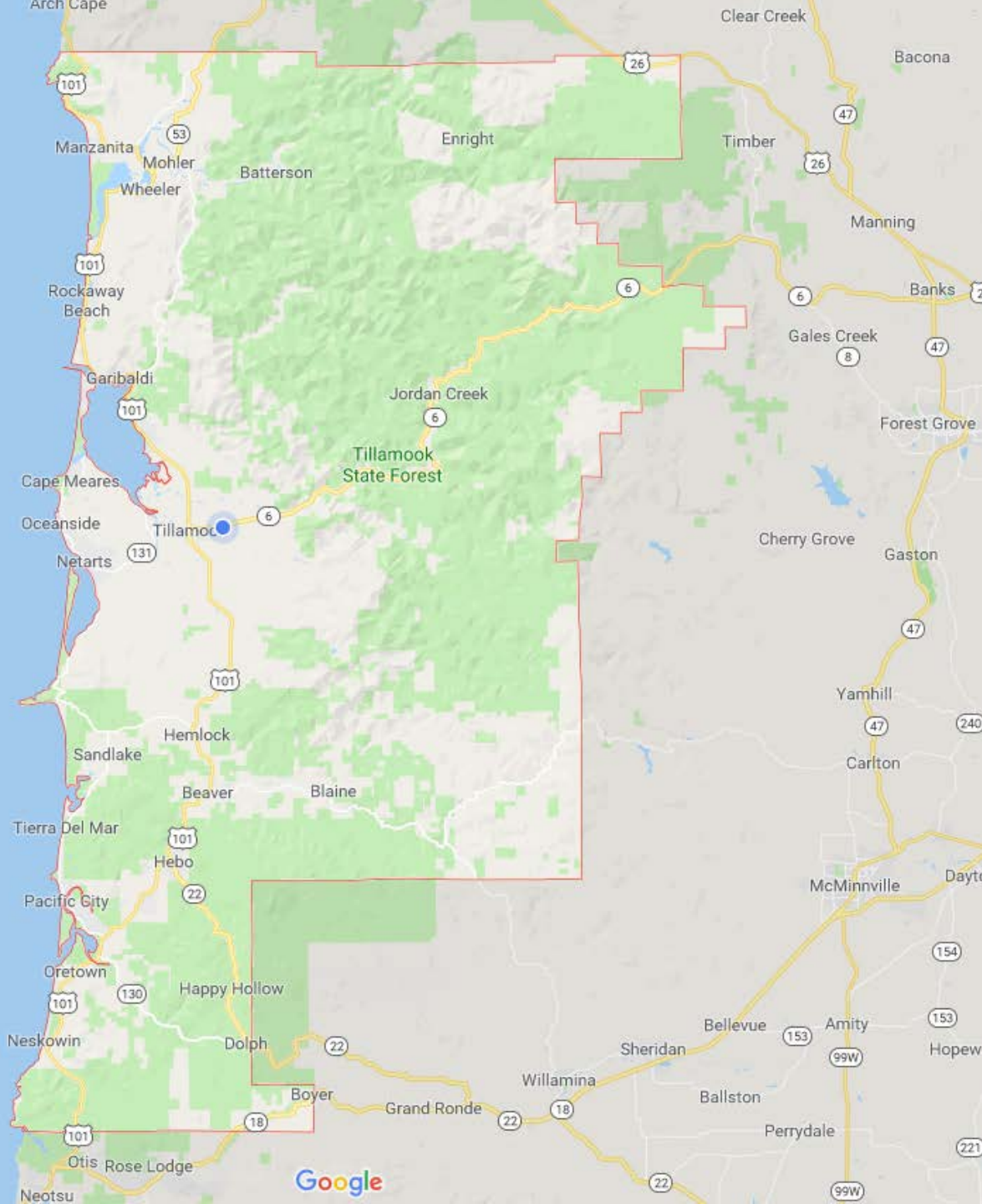
- 65% of children

Participation in SNAP

- 17% all people
- 29% children

Poverty

- 14% of all people
- 33% of children



Sources: Oregon Center for Public Policy (2018); Feeding America Map the Meal Gap (2018)

What makes a food secure County?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines ***food security*** as access at all times by all people within a household to enough food for an active, healthy life.

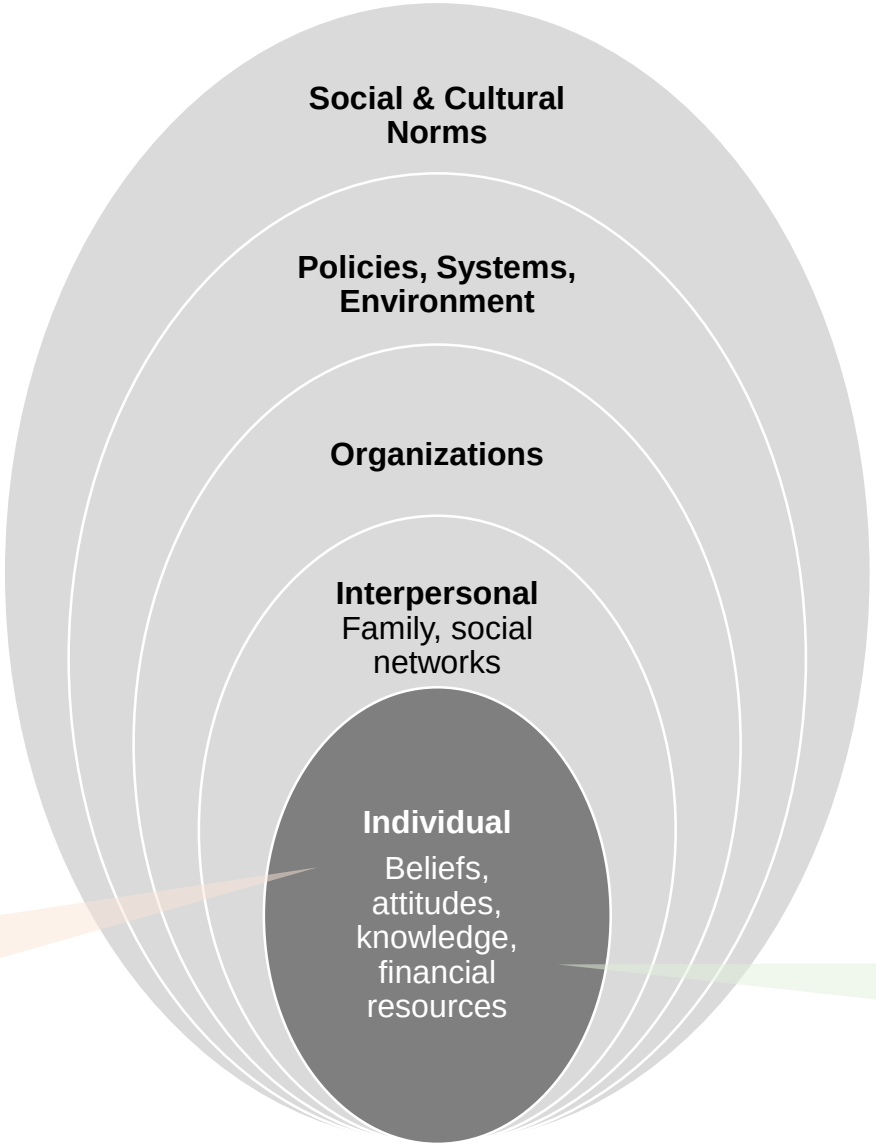
Community Food Security is defined as a “condition in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance, social justice, and democratic decision-making (Hamm and Bellows, 2002).”

A ***food secure county*** would be a region where most of these conditions were true for a sustained period of time, for the majority of the county residents.

Client research results

Barriers to Food Security

Facilitators of Food Security



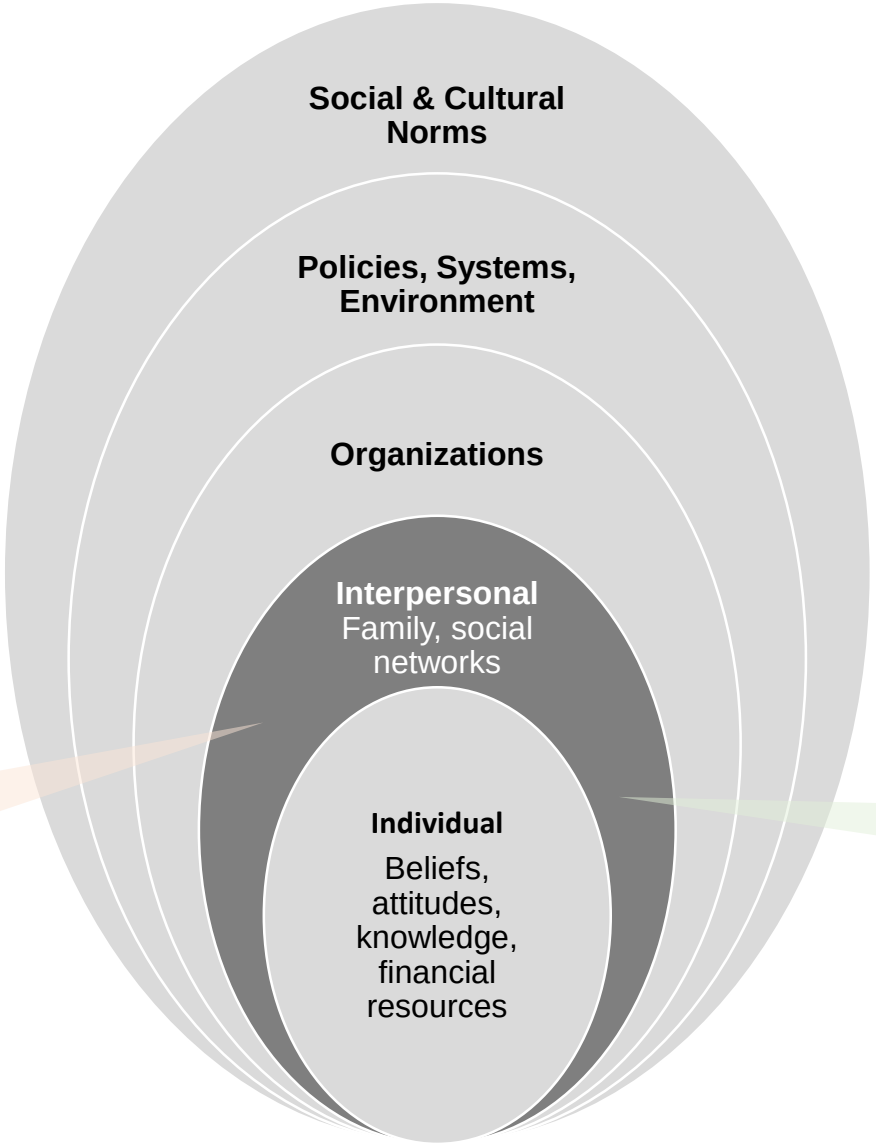
Feelings of shame, embarrassment, difficulty navigating services, health

Skills in stretching food, making financial decisions

Client research results

Barriers to Food Security

Facilitators of Food Security



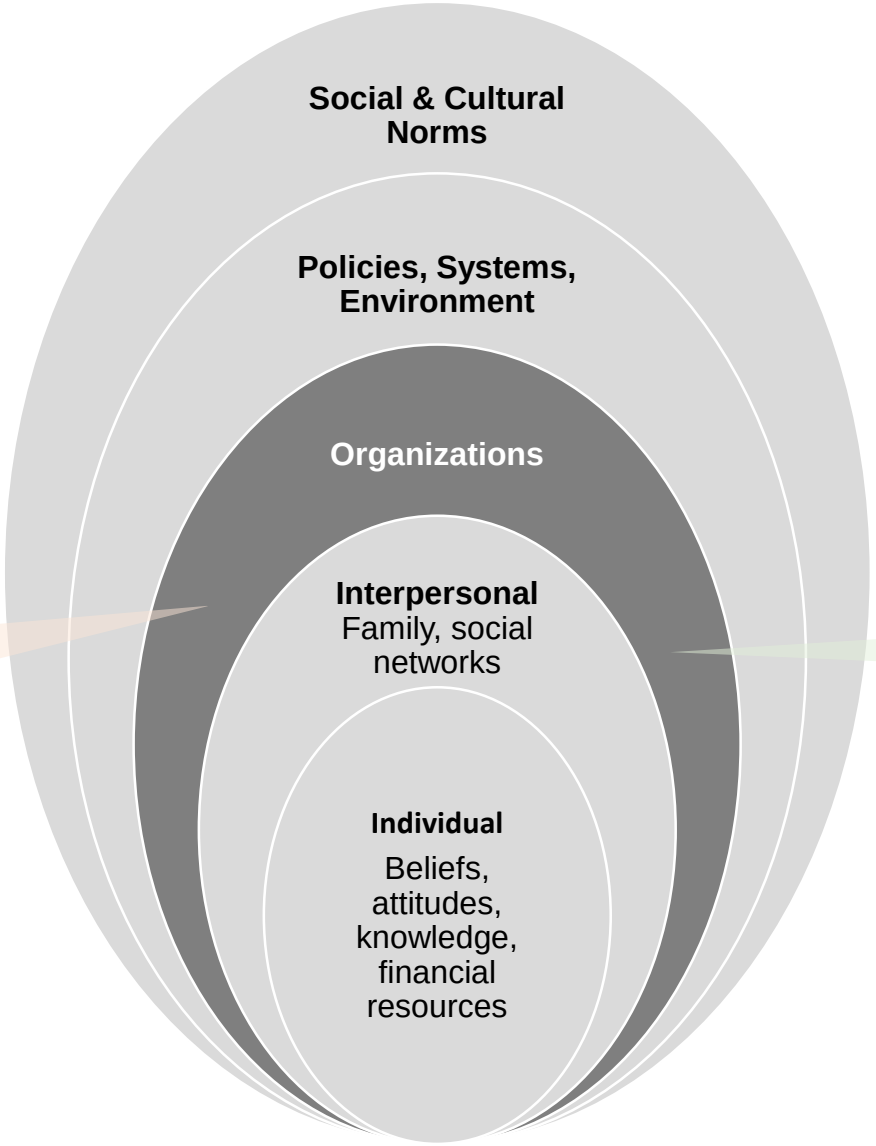
Lack of social networks, changes
in household

Peer networks, family members, neighbors

Client research results

Barriers to Food Security

Limited accessibility of pantries and timing of meals; availability of meat, dairy and eggs



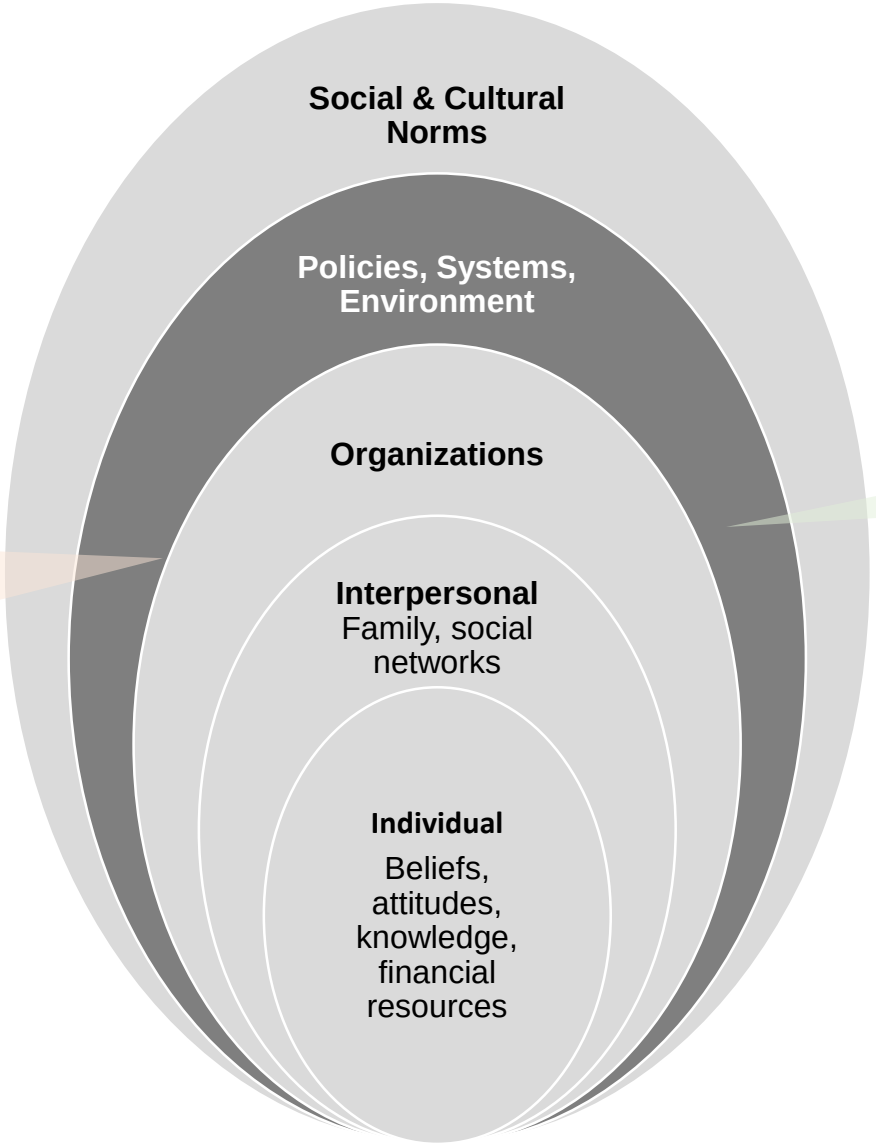
Facilitators of Food Security

Pantries with non-food items

Client research results

Barriers to Food Security

Transportation, income, distance between service agencies, child care, cost of food on the coast, “benefits cliff”, geography of Tillamook County



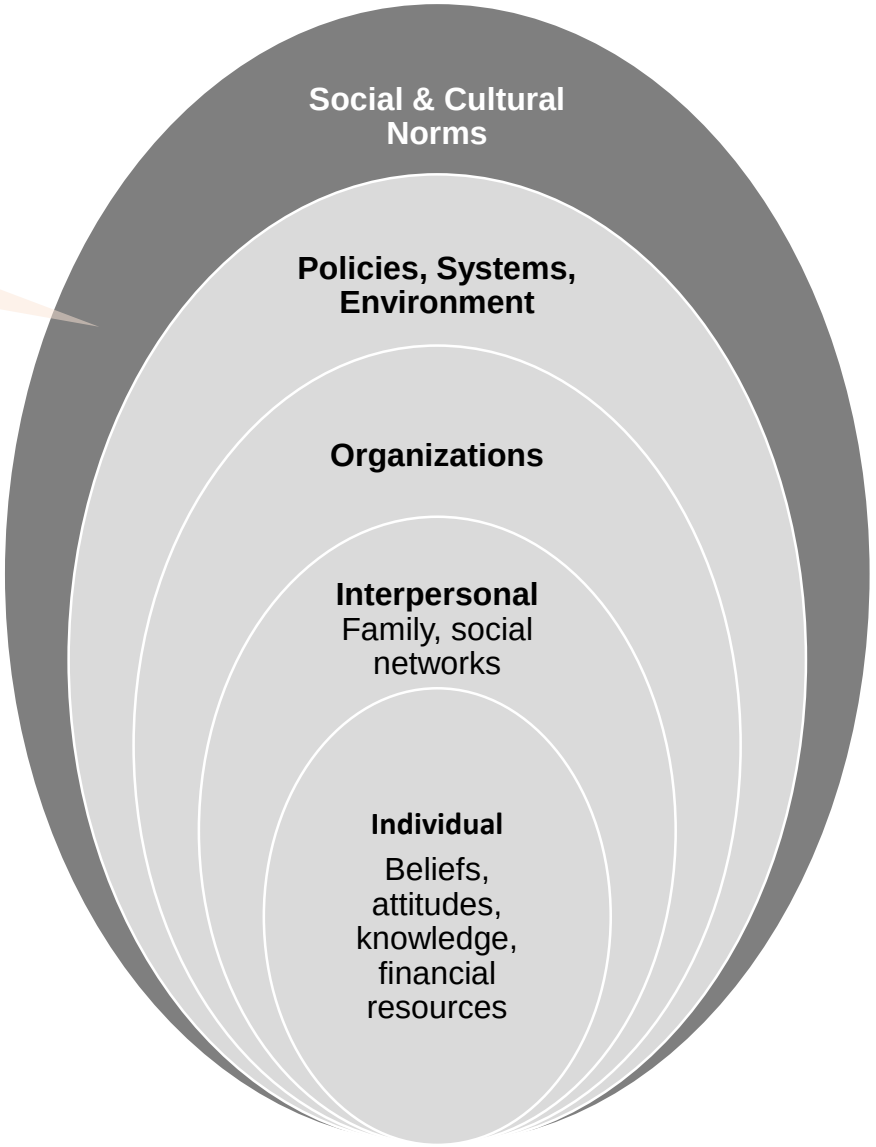
Facilitators of Food Security

Ability to hunt, fish, and forage in public lands.

Client research results

Barriers to Food Security

Cultural norms of self-reliance



Facilitators of Food Security

Client research results

Barriers to Food Security

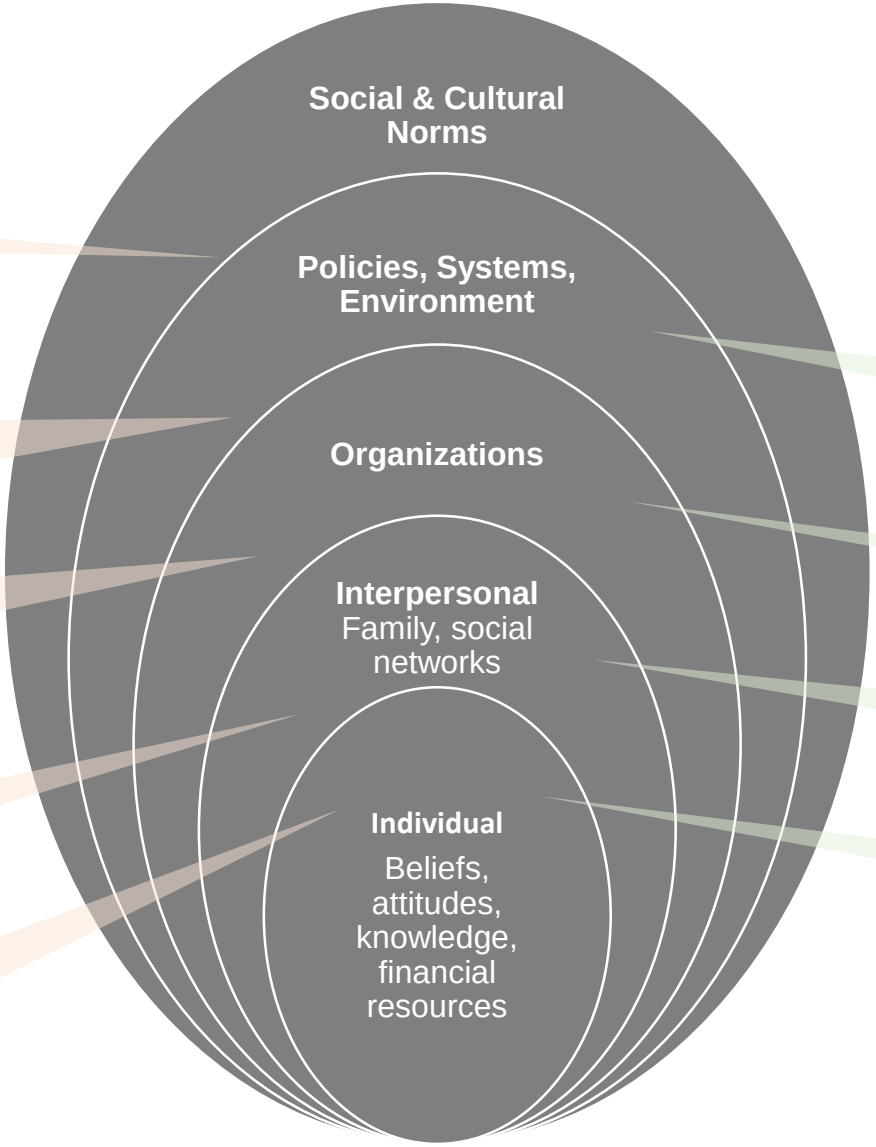
Cultural norms of self-reliance

Transportation, income, distance between service agencies, child care, cost of food on the coast, “benefits cliff”, geography

Limited accessibility of pantries and timing of meals; availability of meat, dairy and eggs

Lack of social networks, changes in household

Feelings of shame, embarrassment, difficulty navigating services, health



Facilitators of Food Security

Ability to hunt, fish, and forage in public lands.

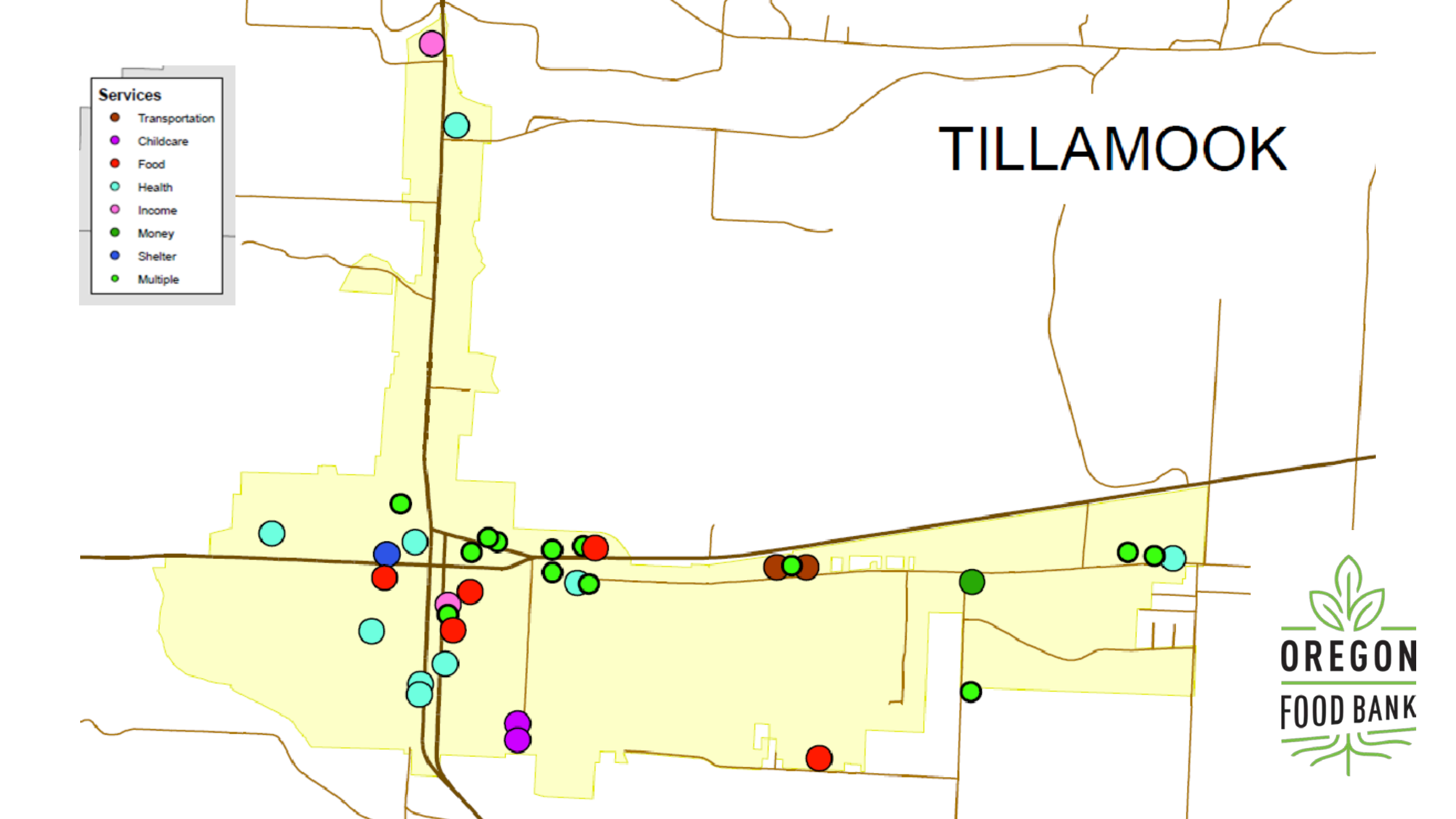
Pantries with non-food items

Peer networks, family members, neighbors

Skills in stretching food, making financial decisions

Services

Transportation	Infrequent service, not affordable, and limited schedule
Childcare	Inadequate supply, not affordable, and limited schedule
Food	Infrequent availability, limited locations
Health	Not affordable, limited hours, limited availability
Money	Inconsistent, limited availability
Shelter	Limited availability, limited resources
Multiple	Agencies sharing space


Services
Transportation
Childcare
Food
Health
Income
Money
Shelter
Multiple
TILLAMOOK
OREGON
FOOD BANK

LIMITED SERVICES

North County

Services

- Transportation
- Childcare
- Food
- Health
- Money
- Shelter
- Multiple

OREGON FOOD BANK

LIMITED SERVICES

Tillamook

Services

- Transportation
- Childcare
- Food
- Health
- Money
- Shelter
- Multiple

OREGON FOOD BANK

LIMITED SERVICES

South County

OREGON FOOD BANK

Recommendations & Next Steps

Food insecurity is a symptom

- *Convene a cross-sector summit to align around intersectional issues and solutions*

Build and mobilize capacity across geography and organizations

- *Staff a paid volunteer coordination role to increase volunteer capacity across service organizations, mobilizing formerly untapped volunteer populations (i.e. TCCA employees)*

Address stigma

- *Mobile produce market with multiple payment options*
- *Pilot “open distribution” model for food assistance*
- *Duplicate study with Latinx participants- using bilingual/bicultural interviewers/researchers*