



News from the Shelby County Mayor's Office

Mark H. Luttrell, Jr., Mayor

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Mid-South Food Bank to Coordinate Weekly Food Commodities

The Mid-South Food Bank will soon coordinate the weekly distribution of food commodities throughout Shelby County. Shelby County Government is following a national trend that links local food banks directly to the federal government's food program for low-income people.

"Food will continue to be distributed to those eligible for commodities. This will be a better use of county resources as well as a more efficient program," said Dottie Jones, Director of Community Services for Shelby County Government.

It will take a couple of weeks for the food bank to update the eligibility list and evaluate the distribution sites. During that time, those who receive commodities can get food at area food pantries.

"The Mid-South Food Bank has been in discussions with Mayor Mark Luttrell's Office and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for some time. We're following the lead of other food banks across the country that not only warehouse the commodities but maintain the recipient list," said Estella Mayhue-Greer, Executive Director of the Mid-South Food Bank.

Eligibility for commodities is based on total household income based on State of Tennessee guidelines. Anyone who receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as Food Stamps), *Families First*, Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or documented residence in public housing can receive commodities.

For more information, contact the Mid-South Food Bank at 901.527-0841.

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