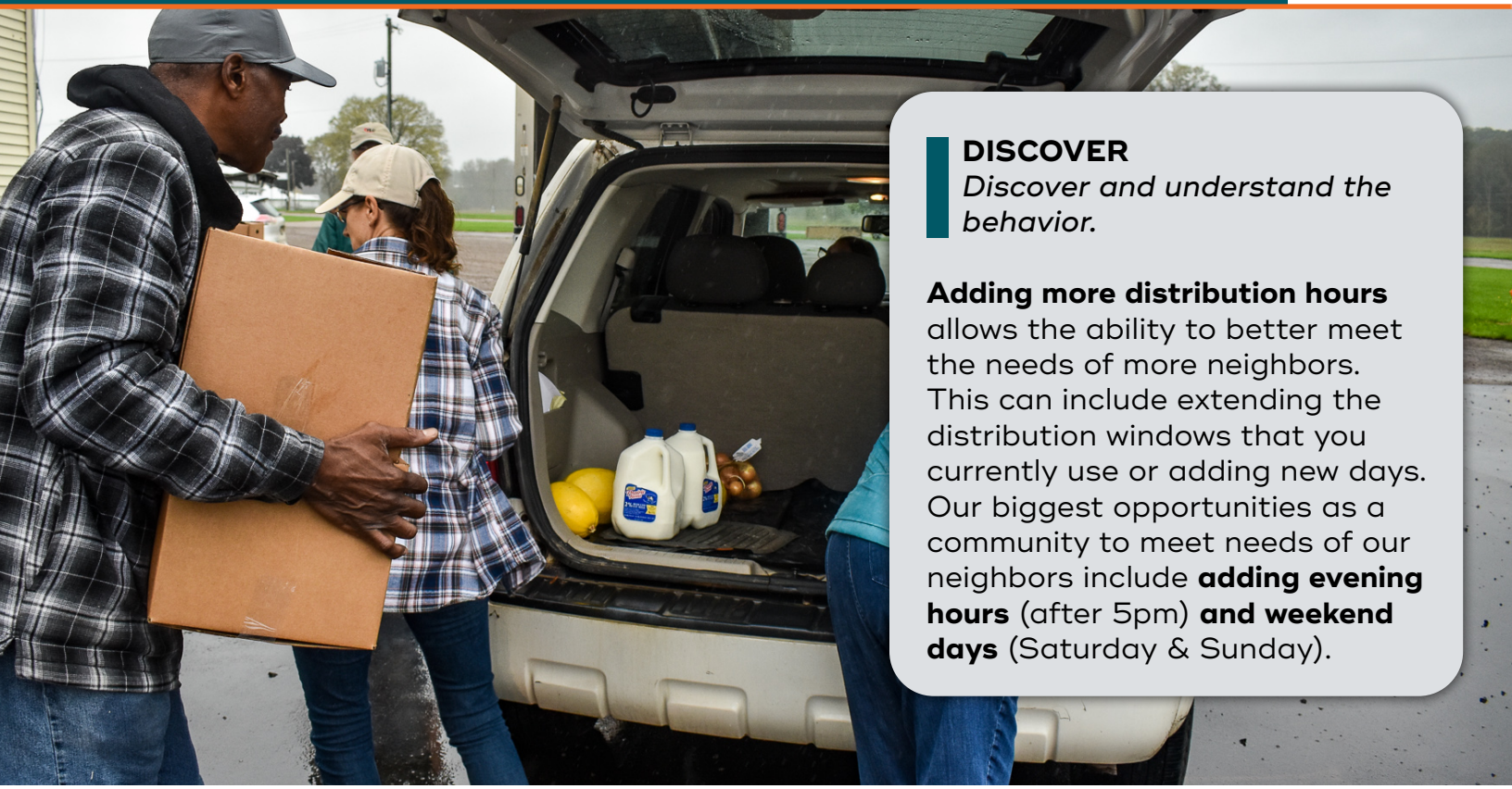
Add Distribution Hours



DISCOVER
Discover and understand the behavior.

Adding more distribution hours allows the ability to better meet the needs of more neighbors. This can include extending the distribution windows that you currently use or adding new days. Our biggest opportunities as a community to meet needs of our neighbors include **adding evening hours** (after 5pm) **and weekend days** (Saturday & Sunday).

CONSIDER
Consider why the behavior is important to support neighbors in need.

Adding hours allows a greater opportunity for neighbors with different lifestyles, schedules and needs to access assistance. This includes individuals working multiple jobs, individuals working jobs outside of typical business hours and families with children, among others. These challenges make it hard to plan meals or find time to shop.

Individuals with fewer financial resources have limited options to meet food needs, and the options available take more time to access. There is no slack in their wallets or calendars to allow for the luxury of choice. This dilemma—less money with fewer, more time-restrictive and complicated choices—is often referred to as the Time Tax. Oftentimes, the Time Tax may force an individual to grab the low-cost, less healthy items at the dollar store or gas station close to their house, just in time for dinner.

If more community assistance organizations were accessible to accommodate a variety of schedules, these neighbors would be better able to extend their available resources.

> "We couldn't do it without the generosity of our volunteers' time. From being open on Saturday mornings, we have a lot more young people, working adults, and volunteer groups that can join us!"

Add Distribution Hours

TAKE ACTION

Determine the path forward and take action with the information and resources available.

1. **Listen to understand neighbor's needs that we may be missing:** Have a conversation with your team about what populations you may be missing. Collaborate with other organizations to fill time gaps.
2. **Listen to understand the needs of neighbors we currently serve:** Ask your neighbors what new days or times would be helpful for them.
3. **Engage your volunteers in the process:** Ask your volunteers to be engaged in learning about neighbors and involved in the decision-making process around increasing hours.
4. **Promote your new hours to neighbors:** Expand your marketing and outreach to let neighbors know your hours of distribution have increased or shifted.

We know that additional resources are needed to bring this to life. This is what you have stated would be helpful to increase distribution hours:

- Volunteers or additional staff
- Marketing and outreach
- Space in the pantry (infrastructure)
- Funding
- More food

ENGAGE WITH US

If you're interested in **adding distribution hours:**

Grants Interest Form

Fill out the Grants Interest Form to inform the Food Bank of your resource growth needs. If opportunities arise that fit your needs, you will be contacted by a member of our staff.

Contact County Relationship Manager

Contact your County Relationship Manager who can partner with you to grow capacity and connect you with partner agencies exploring or currently implementing this behavior.