

Justice is Love in Action
Capital Area



Justice Ministry

CREATING A MORE Just AND Loving COMMUNITY

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August 2025 Newsletter



Affordable Rental Housing Success!

On July 8 the Leon County Commission voted to include funds in its 2026 budget to incentivize developers to create more affordable rental housing units for very and extremely low-income residents. With other sources of funding, \$500,000 will be available for this gap financing. It was a joyful day, the result of four years of people power applied to this purpose! As the CAJM housing committee observed in the July 18 Tallahassee Democrat, this vote is a win for our community, a significant step toward building the Beloved Community envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King. We hope the City Commission will follow the County's lead.

[Partners in building a Beloved Community | Opinion](#)

Gathering to Share Our Stories

It is the time of year that our CAJM Congregations begin to come together to share their concerns, the stories of injustice that weigh heavily on their hearts. Be looking for an opportunity to attend a gathering with your fellow congregants in the coming weeks. Better yet, get involved in helping organize one in your congregation. Team Leader Training will be held Tuesday, August 26 at 6:00 pm at Trinity United Methodist Church. Our collective concerns will be compiled and voted on at the Network Assembly in October. The issue receiving the most support will move into the research phase for eventual collective action.



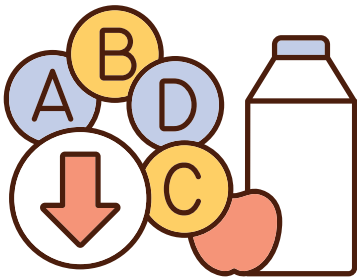
Roughly 50,000 Leon County residents rely on Second Harvest-supported food bank distributions each month.



In at least 16.7% of census tracts, there are no SNAP accepting grocery stores, and neighborhoods with majority Black residents frequently lack supermarkets altogether.



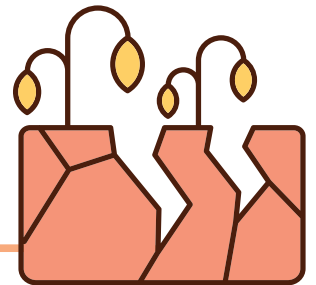
Child food insecurity stands at 17.6%, impacting approximately 9,540 children.



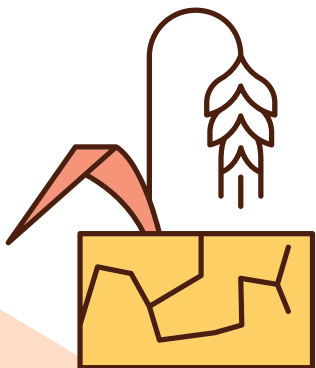
Community reports confirm that residents rely on gas stations or distant stores, and accessing groceries by bus can be a full-day ordeal under hot conditions.

Food Insecurity in Our Region

Network members chose to take on Food Insecurity at the October 2024 CAJM Network Assembly. Team members have since been researching the justice and equity issues related to hunger so we can better end hunger in our community. Thanks to Kristen Hill Bolder and Staci Walton Duggar for this snapshot.



The 32304 zip code, including areas like Frenchtown and Griffin Heights, is often cited as a food desert. It has very few grocery options, poor transport access, over 2,200 households without a private vehicle, and median income around \$24K.



Approximately 32.3% of Leon County residents lack access to a large grocery store within reasonable distance, versus 24.6% for the U.S. average.



Do you want to be involved in the Food Insecurity Research Team?
Please contact Sue Robins at Surobins@me.com; (850) 566-4552.

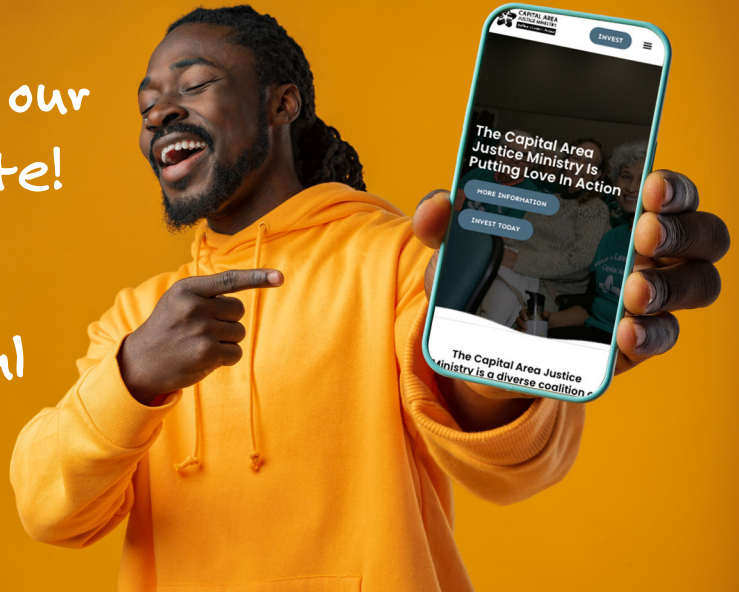


Does your Organization Belong to CAJM?

Join us to create a just and equitable community where all can thrive.
Contact Bryan Stringer at Bryan@capitalareajustice.org.

Check out our
NEW website!

And Follow
us on Social
Media!



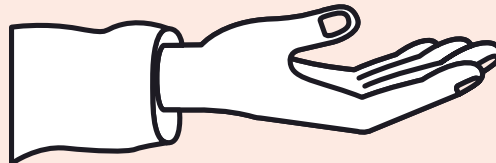
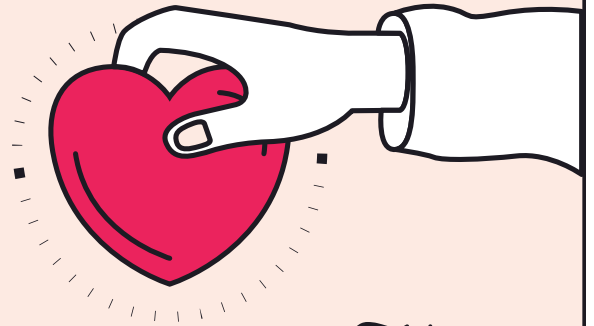
Neighbor is not a geographic term. It is a moral concept. It means our collective responsibility for the preservation of man's dignity and integrity.

— Rabbi Joachim Prinz

We need your financial support!

If you have pledged, please complete your pledge. If you have not made an investment yet, please invest here:

<https://www.capitalareajustice.org/invest/>



Help Others!