

CALIFORNIA HUNGER ACTION COALITION

2020 Policy Agenda



CHAC believes access to adequate, nutritious food is a fundamental human right and urges the state legislature to facilitate the maximum possible access to food for all Californians.

Hunger

- + **Protect against harmful federal attacks on the safety net. AB 1022 (Wicks)** would provide state funded CalFresh cut as a result of the President's ABAWD time limit rule if not stopped in court.
- + Support Governor's placeholder of **\$20 million for California food banks** to better respond to federal attacks on the safety net and to immigrant families. With more cuts looming, more may be necessary.
- + **\$32 million one-time to boost food bank resilience** facing unrelenting natural & man-made disasters.
- + **Improve CalFresh for older adults and people with disabilities:** enable phone applications in every county, eliminate unnecessary reporting, and simplify verification of medical expenses.
- + Ensure successful implementation of **online EBT purchases SB 33 (Skinner)**, and continue expansion of **EBT on college campuses**.
- + Continue fighting **college student hunger**, including creation of the **Foster Youth College Meal Plan**.
- + **Restore state funding for nutritious meals** to low-income children in child care.
- + **Create and sustain hunger-free schools** by increasing their capacity to provide healthy school meals free of charge to all students, and protecting against student meal debt.
- + **Extend food assistance to all low-income Californians** regardless of immigration status.
- + **Reduce hunger among Californians who are homeless.** Remove administrative barriers to reaching 150,000 Californians who are homeless with CalFresh benefits. Increase outreach and ease of application for people without homes & end criminalization of volunteer groups feeding homeless neighbors in public.

Poverty

- + End legacy cuts to **(SSI) grants** and immediately restore the state COLA. **Enroll all eligible SSI consumers in CalFresh, and adopt CalFresh rules in the hold harmless programs** to prevent churn.
- + **Expand CalEITC to Californians working with ITINs** or work status through DACA or TPS.
- + **Continue strengthening the rights of low-income workers.**

Who We Are

For 27 years, CHAC has been California's premier anti-hunger coalition: a broad-based membership that unites the foremost statewide and regional anti-hunger groups dedicated to a hunger-free California.

