



ADVOCACY TRAINING

**Recap State House Visits
&
Farm Bill Update**



Kimberly Hazelgrove
Advocacy Coordinator



Grow **hope**
in our region
by **creating**
pathways to
nutritious **food**

Friends of Food Banks Lobby Day RECAP

- Rep. Gayle Manning
- Rep. Riordan McClain
- Sen. Theresa Gavarone (*staffer Sean Parrott)
- Rep. Joe Miller
- Rep. D.J. Swearingen
- Sen. Nathan Manning
- Sen. Bill Reineke
- Rep. Kellie Deeter



UPDATED State Budget Request

\$36.98M per year (Total \$73.96M)

Restore the \$7.5M per year cut

Governors Budget included \$24.55M per year

Get funding back to \$32.05M per year(22-23 Budget)

- Positive outcomes at that level of funding across the current biennium
- Increased food pantry visits and overall CPI inflation across the last two years

Add \$4.93 million per year

- CBO projections for 2026 and 2027 inflation, at 2.1% and 2%, respectively (most conservative estimates)
- 9.75% Average increase in demand from food pantry visitors from 2023 to 2025 of (extremely conservative estimate)
- Expecting huge increase in need if cuts continue across HHS and Nutrition programs

This would provide us with the ability to source food (**58M LBS. per year**) to keep the hunger-relief network solvent

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1idbOCAM5LrjnqksSEoaExiYNA7SPdvQa/edit#heading=h.gjdgxs>



State Budget Priorities

EBT Card Security (skimming) – OH House is working to get this passed at the state

- (\$4.9M) – a drop in the bucket compared to benefit replacement
- Rep. Kellie Deeter (LC) will be working with Rep. Radar (Lakewood) on an appropriation to get chips in Ohio Direction Cards

Universal School Meals – Senate Bipartisan Bill for universal school meals

- [Senate Bill 109](#) – State Sen. Bill Blessing (R-Colerain Twp.) and Sen. Kent Smith, D-Euclid
- Ohio Department of Education and Workforce reimburse public and chartered nonpublic schools who participated in the National School Breakfast Program
- Cover the gap between the federal reimbursements for free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches, along with covering those who would be required to pay because they don't qualify for meal assistance.
- Appropriation of \$300 million to support the reimbursements.

<https://ohiocapitaljournal.com/2025/02/24/bipartisan-ohio-senate-bill-aims-to-pay-for-public-school-breakfast-and-lunch/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=d7a1ff05-a9eb-42dc-b366-e9db037b03fa>

**#1 Priority is the Funding Request
\$36.98M per year (Total 73.96M)**



Resources for State Budget Priorities

Overview of Request



Prioritizing Food Security for Every Ohioan
 in the 2026-2027 State Operating Budget



The Ohio Association of Foodbanks (OAF) proudly represents Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks and 3,600 member charities, including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and supplemental feeding programs. **Thanks to the vital support from the Governor and the Ohio General Assembly, OAF can secure a diverse array of food sources.** While charitable donations from individuals, foundations, corporations, and manufacturers provide much of the food distributed by our network, state support is crucial for procuring wholesome foods that are often absent from traditional donation streams such as fresh fruits, vegetables, and proteins. These nutritious items are critical to keeping children, parents, workers, disabled Ohioans, and older adults nourished across all 88 counties.

WHAT WE DO

We are part of a complex local, regional, domestic, and global food supply chain that faces increasing challenges to its long-term stability. To contribute to a resilient agricultural sector in Ohio – the backbone of Ohio's economy – we have been partners for nearly three decades in providing outlets for surplus or otherwise unmarketable fruits, vegetables, protein, and dairy items. **Our long-term, public-private partnership with the State of Ohio, Ohio's farmers, growers, and producers, and Ohio's foodbanks reduces food waste and supports agricultural partners navigating increasing volatility in their business of feeding the state, the nation, and the world.** The foods we procure through our partnership with the State of Ohio represent some of the most wholesome and nutritious items available through our charitable hunger relief network. We are proud to be the State of Ohio's partner in:



Supporting Ohio families facing high costs for household expenses like housing, utilities, food, child care, transportation, and medical care.



Promoting access to nutritious foods today and workforce development for a brighter tomorrow for Ohio students, workers, and justice-involved residents.




Providing access to wholesome foods to Ohio's growing population of older adults, helping them to age in place with dignity and manage chronic conditions.



Partnering for a resilient agricultural industry that can continue to nourish Ohio's families and Ohio's future economy.




Anti-Hunger Legislative Playbook



ANTI-HUNGER PLAYBOOK

Ohio's 136th General Assembly
 A legislator's guide to addressing hunger



#1 Priority is the Funding Request
 \$36.98M per year (Total \$73.96M)
 Support 12 Regional Foodbanks & 3600 Programs



Protect SNAP and MEDICAID



Tell Congress NO CUTS to food security programs and health care for lower-income Americans. Write an email to your Senators and Representatives.

Congress is working towards deep cuts in critical programs

- Push Ohio families deeper into poverty
- Hurt rural economies and agricultural producers who rely on a stable market. Reduced spending leads to negative ripple effects in the economy.
- Ohio's hunger relief network of 12 foodbanks and 3,600 food pantries would be further strained by increased need.
 - [57.8%](#) reported that they were forced to choose between affording food or medicine/medical care.
 - Ohioans are deeply struggling to continue to afford their basic needs

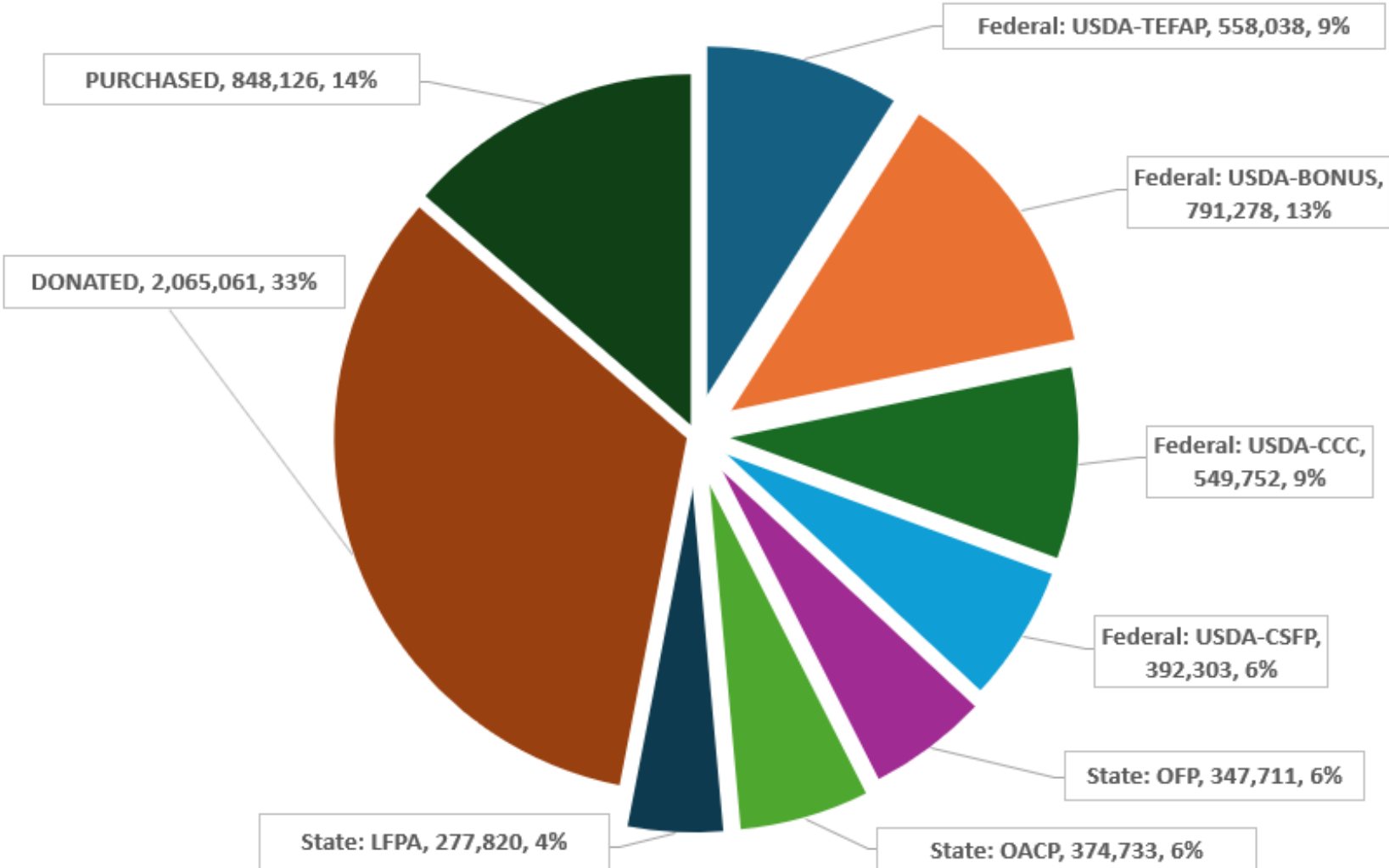
Why SNAP Is Important To Our Community

- SNAP is the nation's safety net
- Every \$1 in SNAP benefits, the GDP increases by \$1.54, according to the [USDA](#).

Senate voted to cut \$1B from the budget
The House voted (217-215) \$4.5T in Tax Cuts and \$2T Reduction

IMPACT OF FEDERAL FUNDS

Food & Grocery Products Received by Type, July – December 2024



IMPACT OF FEDERAL FUNDS



Approximately 11% of our Operating Revenue (an estimated \$623,000) offsets storage and distribution costs.

(53%) of the Food & Grocery Product Received by Second Harvest originated from Federal Dollars (estimated value of \$5,727,445)

Total impact on an annual budget would be approximately \$10M

9% - USDA – The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) Funding Source: **Federal** - Farm Bill

Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Canned Protein & Soups (Chili, Beef Stew, Salmon), Protein (Fish, Chicken, Pork), Cereal, Dry Milk, Pasta, Rice, Grains, Dry & Canned Beans, 100% Juice

13% - USDA – Bonus Funding Source: **Federal**

Grapes, Blueberries, Strawberries, Oranges, Peaches, Protein (Fish), Black Beans, Kidney Beans, Cheese, Dried Cranberries, Dried Raisins, Walnuts, Almonds

9% - USDA – Commodity Credit Corporation Funding Source: **Federal** - Commodity Credit Corporation

Milk, Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Canned Protein & Soups (Chili, Beef Stew, Salmon), Fresh Produce, Protein (Fish, Chicken, Pork)

6% - USDA – Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) – Senior Food Box Program Funding: **Federal** - Farm Bill

Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Canned Protein & Soups (Chili, Beef Stew, Salmon), Protein (Fish, Chicken, Pork), Cereal, Dry Milk, Pasta, Rice, Grains, Dry & Canned Beans, 100% Juice, Cheese

6% - STATE - Ohio Food Program (OFP) Funded: Ohio Biennial Budget, Primarily **Federal** TANF Block Grant

Types of Food Received: Beef, Canned Tomatoes, Shelf-Stable Milk, Skillet Dinners, Eggs, 100% Juice, Cereal, Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Fresh Milk

6% - STATE - Ohio Agriculture Clearance Program (OACP) Funded: Ohio Biennial Budget, Primarily **Federal** TANF Block Grant

Ohio Produce – Sweet Corn, Cantelope, Watermelons, Spinach, Greens, Green Peppers, Carrots, Beets, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Squash, Potatoes, Apples, Onions, Zucchini, Cucumber, Radishes

4% - STATE - Local Food Purchase Agreement (LFPA) Funded: **Federal** - Commodity Credit Corporation

Cabbage, Squash, Carrots, Ground Beef, Beans, Onions, Collard Greens and Watermelon

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

What does this mean?

Ohio CAN is the LFPA program through the state

CCC funding through USDA was created to divert product during previous tariff wars



10% of the FOOD available through Second Harvest.

Benefits Local and Regional Suppliers, Growers, and Farmers

Congress needs to hear from you.



Government Shutdown Mar 15

The last government shutdown (Dec 22, 2018 - Jan 25, 2019) lasted **35 days**; the longest in four decades.

*Need a Continuing Resolution for Appropriations by Mar 14 to prevent shutdown on Mar 15

- If no agreement or CR (FY2024 spending for programs) it will cut 140,000 caseload from CSFP

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/what-is-a-government-shutdown-and-why-are-we-likely-to-have-another-one/>

Identify **WHO** will be affected and share the information with your Congressional delegation.

They need to hear from you.



WHAT DOES HUNGER LOOK LIKE

Hunger Study 2024



HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY

In Spring 2024, we participated in a statewide study facilitated by the Ohio Association of Foodbanks to provide a comprehensive demographic profile of people seeking food assistance. The information provided here is a look at our neighbors in Crawford, Erie, Huron and Lorain counties.

2 OUT OF 3 PEOPLE WE SERVE HAVE HAD TO SKIP MEALS

At some point in the last year:



SERVING A DIVERSE COMMUNITY

- 24% of people we serve are a race other than White
- 19% of people we serve are Hispanic (3% higher than Ohio average)

SNAP BENEFITS & OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

SNAP is the largest anti-hunger program in the United States.

HALF OF ALL HOUSEHOLDS WE SERVE MAKE LESS THAN \$20,000 PER YEAR.

- 39% of people we serve receive SNAP benefits
- 54% of SNAP recipients report that their benefits last less than 2 weeks
- 88% of SNAP recipients report that their benefits last less than 3 weeks



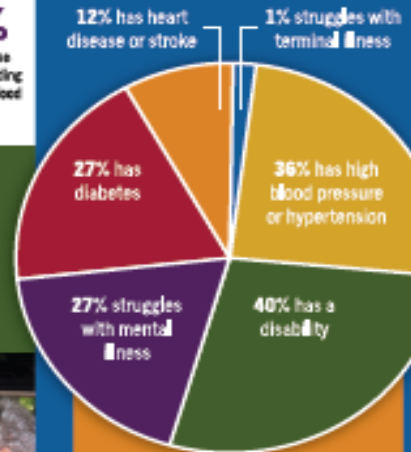
63% OF THE PEOPLE WE SERVE ARE WORKING

The main reasons people are not working are illness or disability, retirement, or family caregiving.



80% report having at least one child, senior citizen, or person with a disability in their home.

65% OF HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED BY HEALTH ISSUES



SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HUNGER IN OHIO

Advocacy Timeline Feb 2025

➡ Feb 26: (Virtual) Advocacy Training on State House Recap and Farm Bill

Feb 28: Advocacy Training at Second Harvest

Mar 4-6: Feeding America Fly-In Washington, DC

- NO Cuts to Nutrition Programs (SNAP, TEFAP, CSFP)
- No Government Shutdown – Need to Pass Appropriations

➡ • Farm Bill Advocacy – FOLLOW us on socials, RESHARE posts, WRITE emails

➡ Mar 10: Legislative Service Day (Farm to Food Bank)

Mar 14: Government Shutdown (Hope to have another CR through September)

Mar 17-21: Recess for Congress (*schedule visits in district)

Apr 14-25: Spring Recess for Congress (*schedule visits in district)

May: Community Conversations in each County

LOCAL

Talk about the work SH is doing in the community with 129 network partners, agriculture, and retail.

Ask Local leaders to lift concerns to State and Congress

Gather your coalition partners to help share information and impact

STATE

Email each member to thank them for their time and consideration of our request in the State budget

Share Your Data and Concern at every opportunity

Focus on LOCAL IMPACT

FEDERAL

Email both Senators and Representatives
NO CUTS to nutrition programs and to thank them for meeting with SH and OAF.

Share Your Data and Concern at every opportunity

Focus on LOCAL IMPACT

AVAILABILITY of MEMBERS

 Both Chambers in Session

 Senate Only in Session


 House Only in Session

 Out of Session – Available for IN District Meetings

[Congressional Calendar on RollCall.com](https://www.rollcall.com/congressional-calendar)

2025 CONGRESSIONAL CALENDAR



 Both chambers in session

 Senate only in session

 House only in session

January

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 New Year's Day	2	3 3 Day Congress begins	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 MLK Day Inauguration Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Presidents Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Ramadan (begins)	

March

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Ramadan (ends)
30	31					

April

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Passover (begins)
13	14	15	16	17	18 Good Friday	19
20	21 Easter, Passover (ends)	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31

June

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6 Eid-ul-Adha	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Rosh Hashanah (begins)	23	24 Rosh Hashanah (ends)	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Yom Kippur (begins)	2 Yom Kippur (ends)	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30						

December

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Hanukkah (begins)	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Hanukkah (ends)	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Sources: Offices of House Majority Leader Steve Scalise and Senate Majority Leader John Thune
Chris Hale/CQ Roll Call

MAY 6, 2025 PRIMARY ELECTION

IMPORTANT DATES



April

7

Voter Registration Deadline

April

8

Early Voting Begins (Absentee & In-Person)

April

29

Absentee Ballot Request Deadline

May

5

Absentee Ballot U.S. Postmark Deadline

May

6

Primary Election (Polls open 6:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.)



LORAIN COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

VoteLorainCountyOhio.gov
(440) 326-5900

SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



Website

<https://www.secondharvestfoodbank.org/>



Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Second.Harvest.Food.Bank.Ohio/>



X

<https://x.com/SecondHarvestOH>



Linked In

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/207650/admin/>

Questions?



Kimberly Hazelgrove
Advocacy Coordinator
(440) 444-0717

khazelgrove@secondharvestfoodbank.org
advocacy@secondharvestfoodbank.org

A
brighter future
for all
by cultivating
a healthy,
hunger-free
community