



2024 Legislative Agenda

Food banks play a critical role in ending hunger, but we can't do it alone. The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano strategically engages in advocacy work to raise awareness and mobilize support to end hunger, improve economic security and promote health and well-being for our community. This includes educating the public and policymakers about food insecurity and encouraging partnerships to improve access to healthy food.

Our Mission

Leading the fight to end hunger, in partnership with our community and in service of our neighbors in need.

Our Advocacy Goal

To identify the root causes of hunger, specific to our region while integrating the experiences and voices of our community members to most effectively advocate for sustainable change in our food systems to eliminate food insecurity.



Social Safety Net Programs

The social safety net is a crucial component in the daily lives and long-term outcomes of our community members. Advocacy at the local, state, and federal levels is needed to ensure these programs are robust, funded, promoted and reliably accessible for those in need of support. The Social Safety Net includes food assistance programs like CalFresh/SNAP, WIC, TEFAP, P-EBT, CFAP, just to name a few, and also encompasses other programs that contribute to the ability of individuals experiencing poverty to meet their needs.

- [AB 1961 – Assemblymember Wicks- End Hunger in California Master Plan](#)
- [AB 2150 – Assemblymember Arambula – Public Benefits & Higher Education County Liaisons](#)
- [AB 2595 – Assemblymember Rivas – School Nutrition: guardian meal reimbursement](#)
- [AB 1968 – Assemblymember Jackson – CalFresh: enrollment for senior citizens](#)
- [AB 1975 – Assemblymember Bonta – Medi-Cal: medically supportive food and nutrition interventions](#)
- [AB 2033 – Assemblymember Reyes – Public Postsecondary Education: Electronic Benefits Transfer Cards: basic needs services and resources](#)
- [SB 245 – Senator Hurtado – California Food Assistance Program: eligibility and benefits](#)
- [SB 950 – Senator Skinner – Reentry from Incarceration: programs and benefits](#)
- [SB 1254 – Senator Becker – CalFresh: enrollment of incarcerated individuals](#)
- [HR 1510 – Rep. Lee- Improving Access to Nutrition Act](#)
- [HR 3183 – Rep. Gomez- EATS Act](#)
- [HR 3519 – Rep Meng – Hot Foods Act](#)
- [HR 3037 – Rep. Adams – 118th Congress \(2023-2024\): Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2023](#)
- [HR 4170 – Rep. Jayapal – LIFT the BAR Act](#)
- [Expand Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer \(EBT\): \\$100 Million One-Time](#)
- [Commodity Supplemental Food Program: \\$390 Million or USDA Deems Necessary One-Time](#)
- [WIC Funding for Anticipated Caseload and Cost of Nutrition: \\$6.35 Billion](#)
- [Child and Adult Care Food Programs \(CACFP\): \\$10 Million One-Time](#)

Strengthening Food Systems and Food Banks

Food Banks are a vital part of our interconnected food system. The uncertainty of the past few years has displayed the importance of ensuring our food bank is well-poised to respond to a myriad of needs in the community. Unfortunately, California has a wildfire season, and these annual events place a high responsibility on food banks to act as emergency food responders. Agriculture is another key aspect of our food system. We continually strive for even furthered partnerships with our local food producers and legislative efforts to ensure the system as a whole has the funding and resources needed to meet the growing food insecurity in California.



- [CalFood: \\$60 Million Ongoing](#)
- [Food Bank Capacity & Climate Resilience: \\$180 Million One-Time](#)
- [State Emergency Food Bank Reserve \(formally known as the State Disaster Food Assistance Program\) \(SDFAP\)](#)
- [School Meals Direct Certification Grants to Reduce Paperwork for Schools: \\$10 Million One-Time](#)
- [Expand Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer \(EBT\): \\$100 Million One-Time](#)
- [TEFAP Food Purchases for Food Banks: \\$900 Million One-Time \(FED\)](#)
- [Farm Bill for TEFAP Storage and Distribution for Food Banks: \\$200 Million One-Time \(FED\)](#)



Policy Partnerships for Hunger Solutions

Effective policy solutions stem from strong partnerships. The focal point of our advocacy model is to center the lived experiences of our community advocates into each aspect of the legislative process. As a community organization focused on ending hunger in partnerships with our community, we strive to work closely alongside our elected officials, CBOs, coalitions and community members to identify the root causes of food insecurity in our region and implement strategic solutions.

To get involved or for questions, please contact our Advocacy, Government and Public Affairs team at cbates@foodbankccs.org or hsolares@foodbankccs.org