

# City Harvest 2024 Policy Landscape: Queens CB2

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Policy & Government Relations, Director

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**CITY  
HARVEST**  
RESCUING FOOD FOR NYC



## Who We Are

- NYC's first and largest food rescue organization
- Rescued and delivered more than 1 billion pounds of food that would have otherwise gone to waste since 1982
- This year, we will rescue and deliver 77 million pounds of food for our neighbors in need





# How We Work

## Food Rescue and Delivery:



Grocers, farms, manufacturers, and restaurants donate excess food that would otherwise go to waste.



We deliver this food to hundreds of soup kitchens, food pantries, and other community food programs, free of charge.



Our partner community food programs and Mobile Markets® provide food to residents in need.

## Fueled by Donated Funds:



**\$1.29**

Helps feed a family for a day

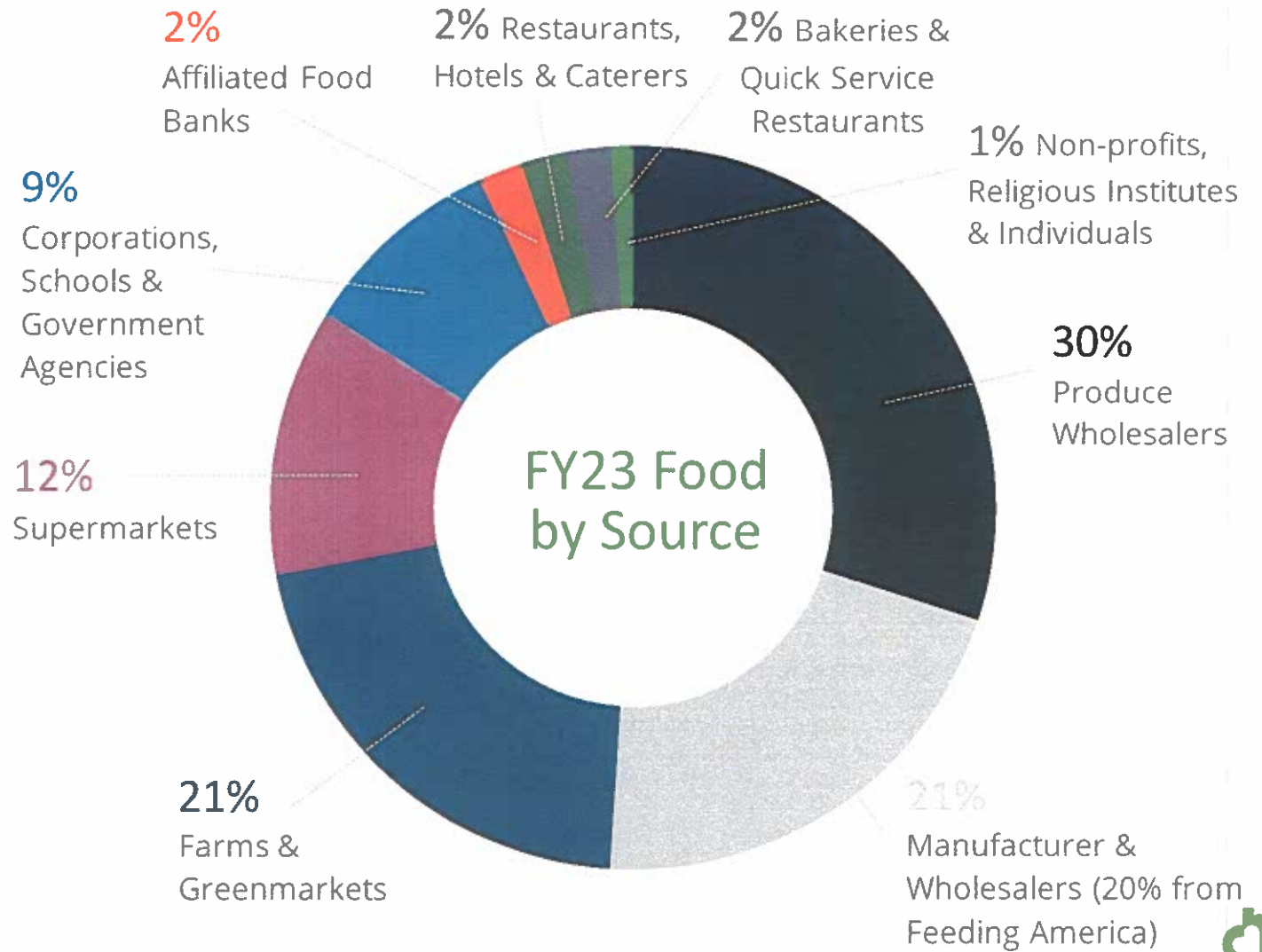


**\$0.92**

Of every dollar donated supports our programs



# Where Does Our Food Come From?



# Where Did Our Food Go In FY23?

## Manhattan

64 Agencies  
2 Mobile Markets  
4 Community Partner Distributions  
10.3M LBS

## Staten Island

14 Agencies  
1 Mobile Market  
1 Community Partner Distribution  
2.5M LBS



## The Bronx

45 Agencies  
2 Mobile Markets  
4 Community Partner Distributions  
13.7M LBS

## Queens

47 Agencies  
2 Mobile Markets  
3 Community Partner Distributions  
22.0M LBS

## Brooklyn

101 Agencies  
1 Mobile Market  
9 Community Partner Distributions  
30.5M LBS





# Working in Our Community

- Mobile Markets®
- Nutrition Education
- Policy & Advocacy
- Network Capacity
- Kosher Food Rescue
- Halal Food Rescue







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# The Need: Poverty, Food Insecurity, Pantry Visits, True Cost of Living





# The Need: Hunger



# The Need: Poverty



Mollie Orshansky, Social Security Administration, 1964

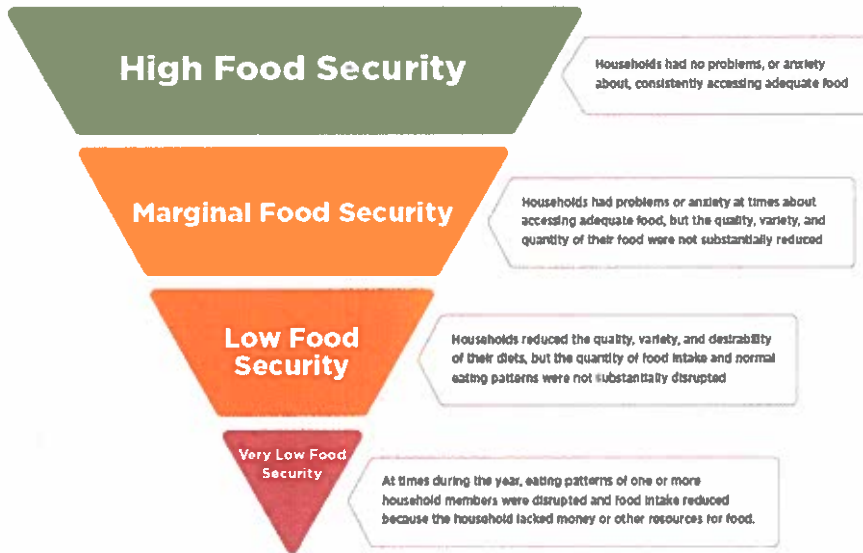
## 48 Contiguous States

# of Persons in Household	2023 Federal Poverty Level for the 48 Contiguous States (Annual Income)						
	100%	133%	138%	150%	200%	300%	400%
1	\$14,580	\$19,391	\$20,120	\$21,870	\$29,160	\$43,740	\$58,320
2	\$19,720	\$26,228	\$27,214	\$29,580	\$39,440	\$59,160	\$78,880
3	\$24,860	\$33,064	\$34,307	\$37,290	\$49,720	\$74,580	\$99,440
4	\$30,000	\$39,900	\$41,400	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$90,000	\$120,000
5	\$35,140	\$46,736	\$48,493	\$52,710	\$70,280	\$105,420	\$140,560
6	\$40,280	\$53,572	\$55,586	\$60,420	\$80,560	\$120,840	\$161,120
7	\$45,420	\$60,409	\$62,680	\$68,130	\$90,840	\$136,260	\$181,680
8	\$50,560	\$67,245	\$69,773	\$75,840	\$101,120	\$151,680	\$202,240

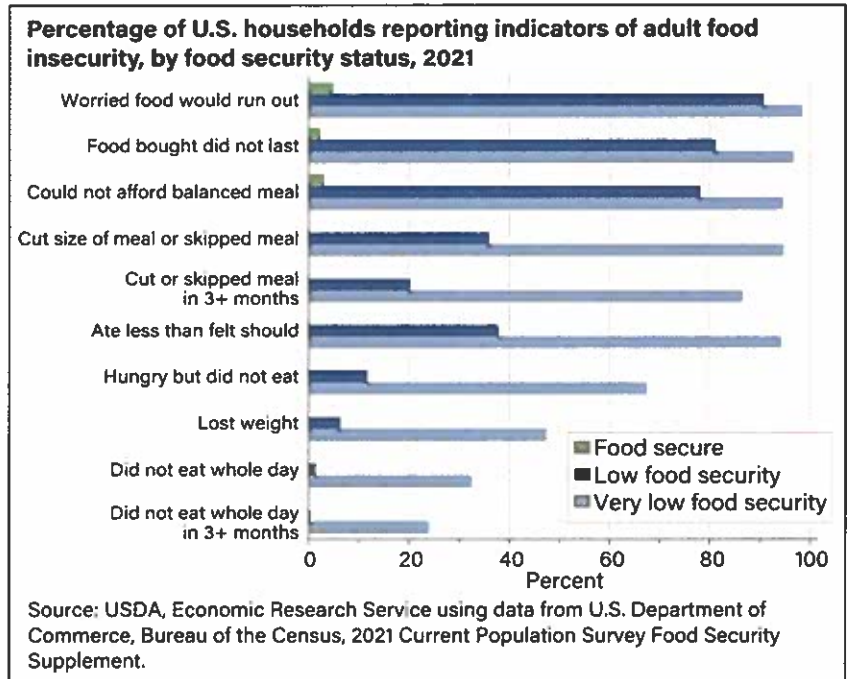
Add \$5,140 for each person in household over 8 persons



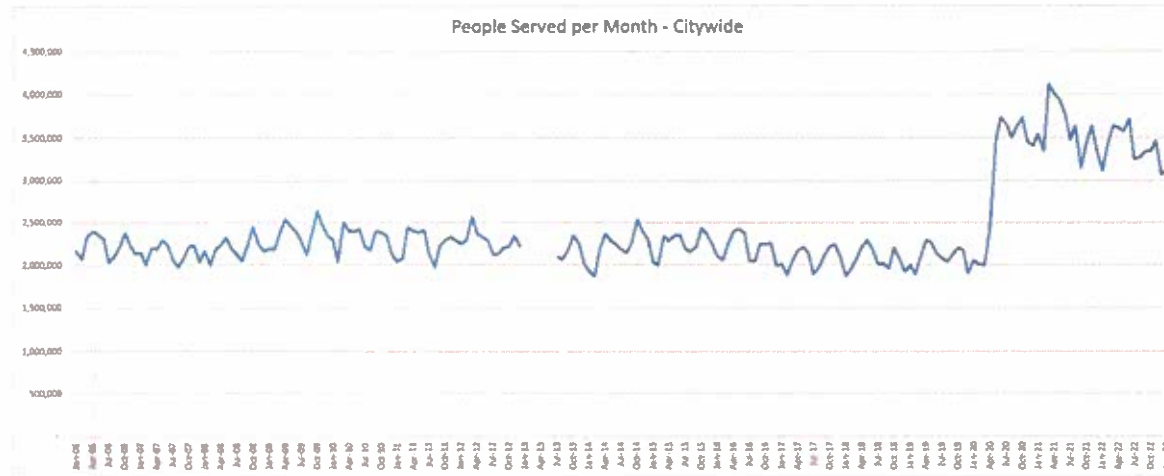
# The Need: Food Insecurity



Source: Adapted from the USDA Economic Research Service



# The Need: Pantry Visits



FeedNYC All Reporting Programs						
	Children Served	Adults Served	Seniors Served	Seniors as % Total	Sum of Total Served	
FY19	6,528,027	12,542,372	5,728,410	23%	24,798,809	
FY20	8,200,291	13,934,066	6,026,316	21%	28,160,673	
FY21	13,805,803	21,447,612	8,857,889	20%	44,111,304	
FY22	12,116,296	20,707,346	9,415,274	22%	42,238,916	
FY23 Q1/Q2	5,369,912	9,714,013	4,767,325	24%	19,851,250	



# The Need: True Cost of Living



New York City has 1,298,212 households that do not have sufficient incomes



80% of households below the TCL had at least one working adult



40% of households below the TCL had at least one child



54% of householders below the TCL had at least some college credit, a Bachelor's degree, or additional graduate degree



30% of households below the TCL received food assistance



79% of households below the TCL paid more than 30% of their income towards their cost of housing



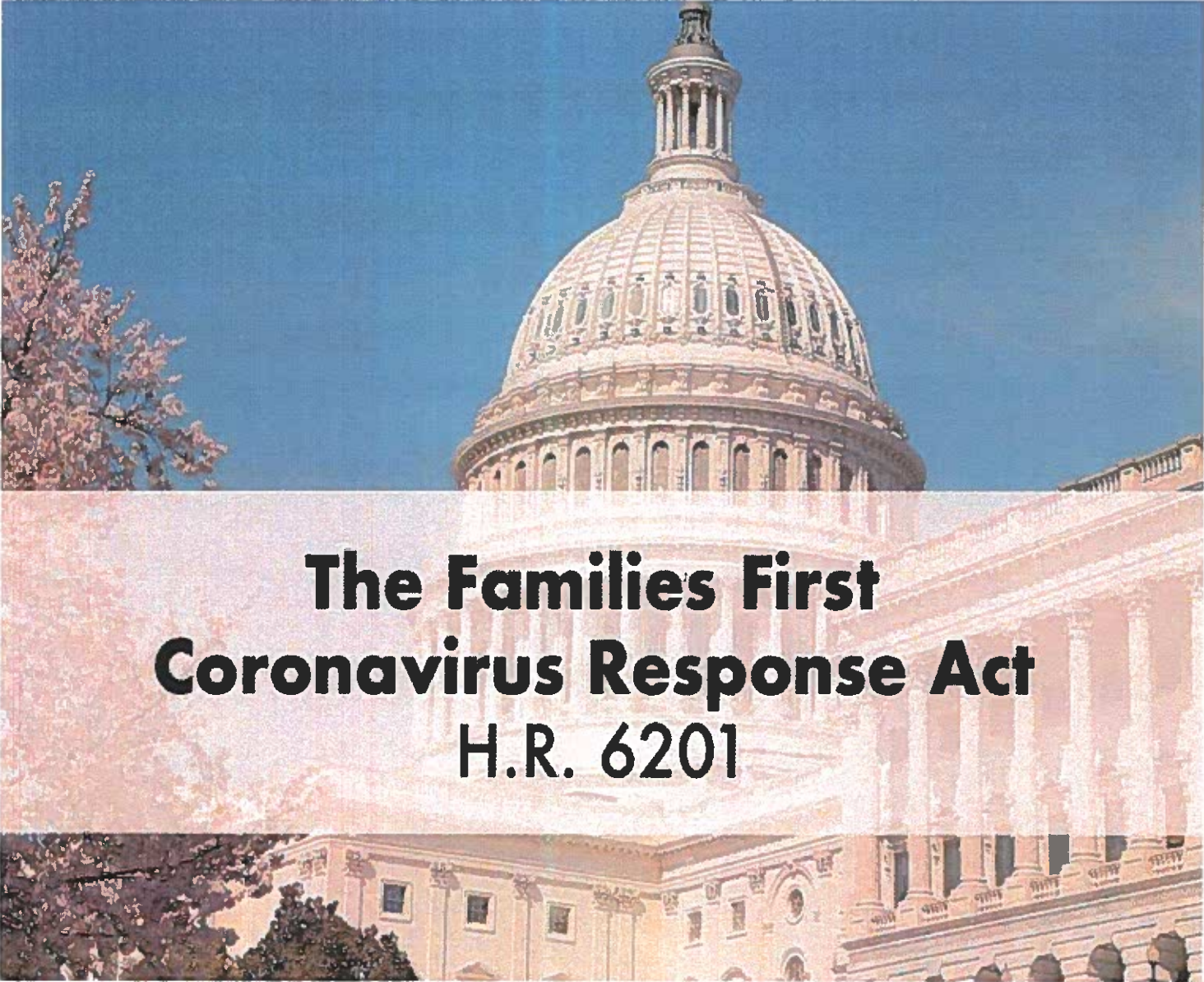
19% of households below the TCL were married couples with children



12% of households below the TCL did not have health insurance



7% of households below the TCL did not have access to the internet



**The Families First  
Coronavirus Response Act  
H.R. 6201**

## The Challenges

- Expiration of the Public Health Emergency on May 11, 2023
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act Mandated Continuous Coverage
- 84 Million People Maintained Medicaid Without interruption
- Imposed Waivers for SNAP, WIC and other Provisions



## The Work: Who we are



**Jerome Nathaniel**  
*Director,  
Policy and  
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Relations*



**Keith Carr**  
*Senior Policy and  
Government  
Relations  
Manager*



**Steven Deheeger**  
*Senior Advocacy  
Manager,  
Policy and  
Government  
Relations*

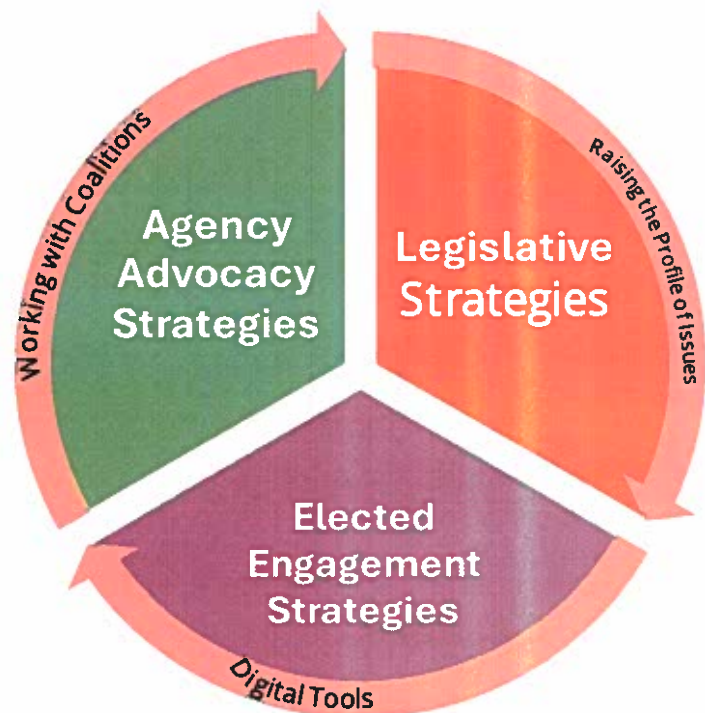
Legislative Strategies and  
Policy Developments

Elected and  
Grasstop  
Relationship  
Management

Agency Advocacy,  
Feedback and  
Leadership  
Development



## The Work: What we Do



"City Harvest advocates for policies that aim to **end hunger, decrease the demand for emergency food and shorten food pantry lines in communities throughout New York City.** We support policies that provide **immediate, dignified, and empowering access to healthy and affordable food,** while also promoting policies that **address the structural root causes of hunger in our communities.** We do this by engaging elected officials, coalitions, frontline food pantry and soup kitchen leaders, and advocates throughout New York City, as well as at the state and federal levels."





# Team Overview

## Legislative Strategy

- Government Testimony
- Submitting Comments
- Memos of Support
- Public Engagement
- Coalition Work

## Elected Engagement Strategies

- Collaborating on events and programs
- General Meetings

## Agency Advocacy Strategies

- Trainings
- Alerts/Newsletter
- Lobby Days
- Surveys
- Advocacy Awards



Help us end hunger in NYC and across the country!



For the first time, the leading food organizations in New York City - City Harvest, Food Bank for New York City, and United Way of New York City - are joining together to call

Send a message to your representatives with just one click!

Title

First Name

Last Name

Address

Zip  city will auto-populate

Phone

Email

### 2. Apply a racial equity lens to the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill that invests in nutrition assistance programs.

By providing more funding to programs like Community Food Projects, a little-known USDA program that provides 4-year grants for communities to design and lead their own strategies to improve food resiliency in their local food system, we can ensure equity is a central focus of the Farm Bill and help communities build a roadmap to self-reliance. Other programs that must be strengthened in the Farm Bill include the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP).

### 3. Bring back the White House Conference on Hunger.

The White House Conference on Hunger, which has not been held in over 50 years, is an incredible opportunity to collect direct feedback from communities that face hunger and address the need for updated measures, such as the Self Sufficiency Standard, that reflect the true costs of living and affording basic needs. In fact, the last White House Conference on Hunger led to the creation of the Women, Infant and Child Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC). Because hunger intersects with many pressing issues, our nation needs a multifaceted and coordinated approach to fighting it; the White House Conference on Hunger presents the opportunity to have discuss approaches that address hunger and its root causes on a deeper level.




# State Updates: Campaign

- Increase Nourish NY & HPNAP
- Increase SNAP Minimum Benefit
- Increase SNAP Outreach Funding
- Strengthen Working Families' Tax Credits

1. SEPT. PEOPLE'S BUDGET
2. JAN STATE OF THE STATE
3. FEB BUDGET LETTERS
4. NYSBPRAL CAUCUS WEEKEND
5. MID-MARCH ONE HOUSE!
6. APRIL 1 FINAL BUDGET



**Tell State Lawmakers to Fully Fund Hunger Relief!**



Right now, New York State leaders are deciding how to spend \$233 billion in the next New York State Budget, which will impact the lives of millions of New Yorkers.

Meanwhile, a staggering 50% of working-age households in New York City do not make enough to meet the minimum cost of living, including essentials like food, rent, and childcare.

Please join City Harvest in advocating for a New York State Budget that:

1. Creates food security for New Yorkers by increasing monthly SNAP benefits from \$23 to \$100 ([Assembly Bill A6214A](#) and [Senate Bill S7663A](#)).
2. Reduces child poverty through the Working Families Tax Credit ([Assembly Bill A4022A](#) and [Senate Bill S277A](#)).
3. Supports food banks and pantries by increasing funding for Nourish NY to \$75M and the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program to \$64M.

Thank you for making your voice heard. Together, we're building a more equitable and sustainable future in which all New Yorkers are food secure.

Send an email to your officials with one click!

Title

First Name

Last Name

Address

Zip  city and state code required

Phone

Email

I am a constituent in your district joining with City Harvest to ask you to support:

- 1) Raising the SNAP minimum benefit to \$100 per month ([A.6214 / S.7663](#)).
- 2) Reducing child poverty via the Working Families Tax Credit ([A.4022 / S.277](#)).

Send me emails about this campaign

Send me text messages about this campaign



# City Harvest NYS Petition

## Issue

- Goal for 5,000 Letters
- 21 Meetings and 1 testimony
- 82 Lawmakers on Budget Letters
- PLEASE SHARE:
- <https://p2a.co/ljAUyvZ>

**CITY & HARVEST**  
RESCUING FOOD FOR NYC

### Action Alert: Increase SNAP Benefits for New Yorkers



Nearly 3 million New Yorkers depend on SNAP to put food on the table. In March, the conclusion of the pandemic's SNAP Emergency Allocations led to a drastic reduction in benefits, with households losing an average of \$151 monthly—some now receiving as little as \$23.

With food insecurity on the rise, it's imperative that we act now. We are calling on New York State to set a minimum SNAP benefit of \$100 per month in the 2024-2025 Executive Budget.

Legislator Letters Influence the Governor's budget decisions. City Harvest and the New York Food Policy Alliance, in partnership with Assemblymember Jessica González-Rojas, are mobilizing a **Legislator Letter** to advocate for increased SNAP benefits by passing **A06214** and **S2663**. The greater the number of signatures from our representatives, the stronger our voice.

Your voice matters. Call on your State Senator and Assemblymember to take a stand against hunger today.

Make your voice heard with just one click!

Title

First Name

Last Name

Address

Zip  city and state not required

Phone

Email

Send Letter

I am a constituent in your district reaching out to ask you to sign on to a Legislator Letter being led by Assemblymember Jessica González-Rojas in support of the inclusion of an adequate minimum SNAP benefit of \$100 per month in the 2024-2025 Executive Budget.

In March of this year, the nearly 3 million New

Send me pre-emails about this campaign

Source: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/hra/about/facts.page>; <https://hungersolutionsny.org/federal-nutrition-programs/snap/>



THANKS!!!

