



FOOD SECURITY FOR ALL IN NEW YORK STATE

Presented by: The Public Affairs Team



The Public Affairs Area

3 areas key areas:

Government Relations

Public Policy

Advocacy

The Public Affairs Team



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BACKGROUND

SURVEY AND COLLABORATION WITH NYC FOOD CONSORTIUM

- Created a member survey informed by the Elevating Voices survey responses and the NYC True Cost of Living report
- Hosted information sessions for live feedback
- Over 200 organizations contributed to this shared platform

URGENT COMMUNITY NEED AND RISING DEMAND FOR ASSISTANCE

- Over 91 million meals in FY24
- Need remains higher than pre-pandemic levels

**WE ARE ASKING NEW YORK STATE TO STEP UP FOR NYERS
IN NEED AND INCLUDE THESE PRIORITIES IN THE BUDGET**

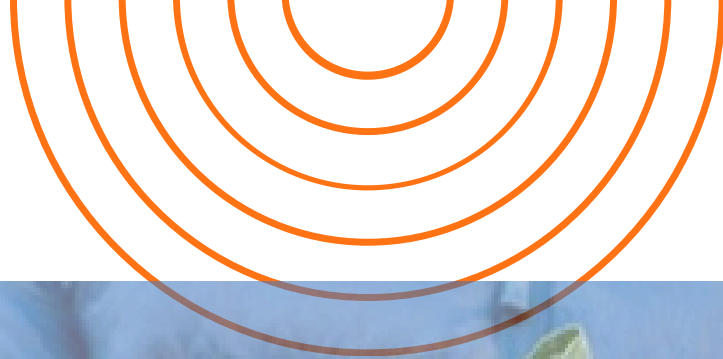
HOW FOOD BANKERS CAN SUPPORT

We are asking staff to get involved. How?

- Collect and share stories
- Participate in advocacy actions
 - **Social Media:** Interact with and share FBNYC's advocacy posts.
 - **Join our action team** for updates: foodbanknyc.org/advocate.
- Share our asks with your audiences via:
 - **Newsletters and e-blasts:** Talking points from this presentation and online flyer coming soon. If in doubt, ask the Public Affairs team for help!
- Sign the online petition:
<https://p2a.co/wwoy8OM>

Chance to Win Employee Incentives!





CURRENT NEED AND BROADER IMPACT

1 IN 4

NYC children experience food insecurity

3 MILLION +

New Yorkers rely on food assistance programs

10%

Increase in the average cost of a meal in NYC last year

\$6.5 BILLION

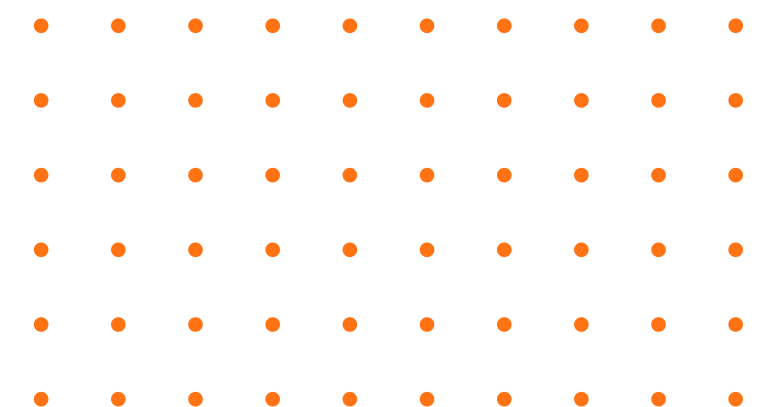
In SNAP benefits delivered to NY households in 2024

FIGHTING THE AFFORDABILITY CRISIS

Food, childcare, and housing struggles are interlinked

Economic instability leads to greater reliance on food assistance programs

True Cost of Living Report shows roughly half of working families in NYC do not have the resources to cover basic needs.



STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Priority 1: Create Food Security by Strengthening Assistance Programs
 - ASK: \$75M for The Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)
 - ASK: \$75M for Nourish New York (NNY)
 - ASK: Increase support for The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) to \$5.6M
 - ASK: Raise the SNAP Minimum in NYS to \$100
- Priority 2: Invest in Affordable Childcare
 - ASK: Increase state investments in childcare subsidies and expand access to affordable, high-quality childcare statewide.
- Priority 3: Support Housing Stability for New Yorkers
 - ASK: Strengthen and expand the State Housing Voucher Program to improve housing affordability and help keep New Yorkers in their homes, stabilizing families at risk of displacement.



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CREATE FOOD SECURITY BY STRENGTHENING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Key Focus: **Increase funding for food assistance programs and SNAP**

Specific Asks:

\$75M for HPNAP (Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program)
and Nourish New York

\$5.6M for NOEP (Nutrition Outreach and Education Program)

Raise SNAP Minimum Benefit to \$100




STRENGTHENING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

HPNAP & NOURISH NY: LIFELINES FOR THE FOOD ASSISTANCE NETWORK

- HPNAP supports pantries with healthy food procurement and distribution and provides over 220 million meals statewide
- Nourish NY provides 70Mlbs of healthy food to food pantries, strengthening food choice for New Yorkers facing food insecurity and the NY food economy

SNAP: BOLSTERING OUR MOST POWERFUL HUNGER FIGHTING TOOL

- NOEP (Nutrition Outreach and Education Program) ensures greater SNAP participation and maximizes federal benefits and has assisted 32,500 households with over \$140M in SNAP benefits.
 - SNAP Minimum Benefit: Many New Yorkers receive less than \$100/month in SNAP benefits—this proposal ensures a minimum of \$100 for eligible households.
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INVEST IN AFFORDABLE CHILDCARE AND HOUSING STABILITY

CHILD CARE

- **Key issue:** High childcare costs are a significant barrier to economic stability for New York families.
- **Ask:** Increase state investments in childcare subsidies to improve access to affordable, high-quality childcare.
- **Impact:** Lower childcare costs allow families to allocate more resources for food and basic needs.

HOUSING

- **Key issue:** Rent-burdened families are 3x more likely to experience food insecurity.
- **Ask:** Strengthen and expand the state housing voucher program to improve housing affordability.
- **Impact:** Stable housing = stable access to food. Addressing housing insecurity is critical to combating food insecurity in vulnerable populations.

NEXT STEPS – OUR ADVOCACY IN ACTION

Key Goals:

Engage with our elected representatives to include our priorities in the FY26 budget

Work together to engage and mobilize the larger Food Bank community to be advocates

How You Can Help:

Collect and share stories with the Public Affairs team of how food assistance and SNAP, and the affordability crisis impact communities and people experiencing food insecurity

Participate in advocacy efforts online and in person, in NYC or in Albany

Help raise awareness through social media

Sign up to join our action team on our advocacy webpage: foodbanknyc.org/advocate. or sign the petition right now!





KEY DATES

January 14, Governor's and People's State of the State, Albany

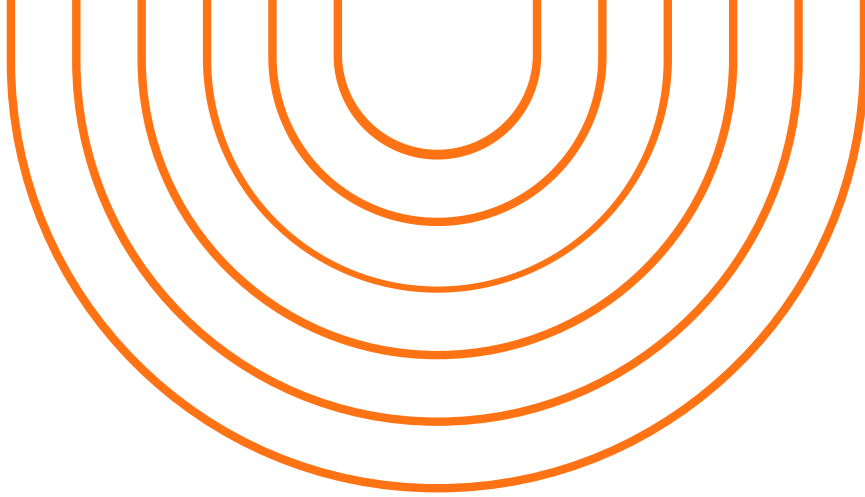
January 22, Universal School Meals Day of Action, Albany

January 23, Consortium's State Budget Campaign Public Launch Webinar (with City Harvest and United Way of NYC)

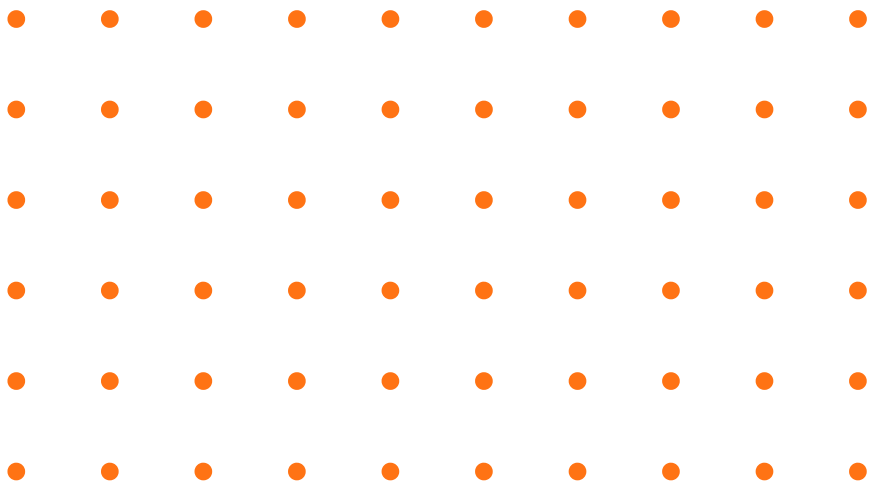
February 25, State Wide Advocacy Day of Action, Albany

April 1, Expected Day for Budget to be finalized





**BUDGET VISION GOALS:
FEEDING NEW YORKERS TODAY
AND FIGHTING FOR A FOOD
SECURE TOMORROW**



QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!





Join City Harvest, Food Bank For New York City, and United Way of New York City in urging our elected leaders to pass a New York State Budget that ensures affordable access to food, childcare, and housing for all New Yorkers.



Right now, our representatives are deciding how to spend billions of dollars in the next State Budget, which impacts the lives of millions of New Yorkers. Meanwhile, 50% of working-age households in New York City do not make enough to cover the basic cost of living, including essentials such as food, child care, and rent. Together, alongside nearly 250 food pantry and soup kitchen leaders across New York City, we are advocating for a State Budget that supports New Yorkers. Join us in advocating for a New York State Budget that:

- **Creates food security** by raising the minimum SNAP benefit from \$23 to \$100 a month in New York State and expanding funding to essential anti-hunger programs like the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program, Nourish New York, and others.
- **Invests in affordable childcare** across the state, addressing a key factor contributing to higher food insecurity rates for families.
- **Supports housing stability** for New Yorkers facing housing insecurity, who are three times more likely to face food insecurity, by expanding housing voucher programs and backing initiatives that help families at risk of displacement.

Thank you for making your voice heard and for joining City Harvest, Food Bank For New York City, and United Way of New York City in advocating for all New Yorkers.