

New York City

Fortify the Emergency Food System

- Increase NYC's Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) baseline food funding to \$22 million.
- Continue improvements to food quality by giving programs choice over food selection and by offering more minimally processed, fresh and frozen food.
- Enact a policy of cost-neutral preferencing of kosher and halal products.
- Increase funding for administrative and operational support.

Strengthen, Streamline and Simplify SNAP

- Maximize all federal options and waivers that lower barriers to participation and simplify program administration.
- Ensure employment and training opportunities for all Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWDs) subject to work-related benefit termination.
- Develop a citywide SNAP outreach plan that utilizes all available sources of federal matching funds.
- Continue efforts to simplify and fully implement online SNAP application and recertification processes.
- Continue expansion of community-based sites for outreach and application submission, including emergency food programs and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites.
- Continue improvements in SNAP administration, placing priority on the customer service experience.
- Use clear language for SNAP notices, avoiding messages that discourage participation.

Expand Access to School and Summer Meals

- Make Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC) an opt-out program for middle and high schools.
- Fund capital improvements for school cafeterias to ensure infrastructure and capacity for full implementation of Universal School Meals (USM) and BIC.
- Increase the number of Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) sites open for the entire summer.
- Ensure neighborhood access to open SFSP sites in all high-need areas of the city.
- Ensure that the Department of Education publicizes the SFSP program before the end of the school year.
- Engage the reach and capacity of the emergency food network in promoting school and summer meals.

Tackle Poverty to End Hunger

- Enhance the City's Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).
- Expand funding for free tax service programs for low-income New Yorkers.
- Adopt policies that support a living wage with access to medical benefits and paid time off, and that make living-wage jobs more accessible to low-income people.
- Develop job creation, training and education strategies that are geared toward poverty reduction.
- Invest in economic development that both enhances the nutrition landscape and provides opportunities for employment in low-income communities.
- Expand initiatives to increase access to needed non-food items, such as menstrual hygiene products.

New York State

Fortify the Emergency Food System

- Increase funding for the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 State budget to \$51 million to adjust for rising food costs and increased need.
- Increase funding for administrative and operational support.

Strengthen, Streamline and Simplify SNAP

- Maximize all federal options and waivers that lower barriers to participation and simplify program administration.
- Allot annual Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) funding to "Heat & Eat" households to maintain SNAP benefits at higher levels.
- Ensure employment and training opportunities for all ABAWDs subject to work-related benefit termination.
- Restore eligibility for all documented immigrants.
- Develop a statewide SNAP outreach plan that utilizes all available sources of federal matching funds.
- Coordinate among multiple benefits so that New Yorkers can apply for several programs and services simultaneously.
- Leverage the health insurance exchange platform to enable screening for SNAP and other programs.
- Expand educational programs and job readiness opportunities covered under SNAP Education and Training.

Expand Access to School and Summer Meals

- Provide funding to help offset any startup costs associated with schools undertaking or expanding USM and/or BIC.

- Provide incentives for schools to increase the number of nutritious meals prepared on-site.
- Ensure that the Education Department publicizes SFSP before the end of the school year.
- Encourage participation in SFSP by New York State park sites.

Protect and Strengthen WIC

- Ensure access to a WIC site in every low-income neighborhood in New York.
- Reject any cuts to State WIC funds, and any proposals that would require WIC to compete with other nutrition assistance programs for funding.
- Promote referrals of eligible WIC participants to SNAP.
- Expedite the transition from WIC coupons to EBT.
- Promote deeper collaboration between the New York State Department of Health and county/municipal social service agencies to provide SNAP outreach and enrollment opportunities at all WIC sites.

Expand Access to Nutritious Food

- Increase farmers' markets and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) projects in low-income communities.
- Adopt transportation policies that would facilitate access to local food and make nutritious local food more affordable.

Tackle Poverty to End Hunger

- Enhance the State's EITC.
- Eliminate the use of discriminatory auditing practices for low-income, cash-earning EITC claimants, and implement transparent documentation requirements and auditing practices for EITC claimants.
- Allow New Yorkers to designate all or part of their tax refunds to directly open and fund a 529 college savings account.
- Index scheduled State minimum wage increases to inflation.
- Adopt policies that support a living wage with access to medical benefits and paid time off, and that make living-wage jobs more accessible to low-income people.
- Develop job creation, training and education strategies that are geared toward poverty reduction.
- Invest in economic development that both enhances the nutrition landscape and provides opportunities for employment in low-income communities.

Federal

Support a Farm Bill that Protects and Strengthens the Anti-Hunger Safety Net.

- Reject any cuts to SNAP, or any changes to its entitlement status.
- Restore the ARRA benefit reduction that took effect in November 2013.
- Restore eligibility to all documented immigrants.
- Coordinate among multiple federal benefits to allow individuals to apply for all simultaneously.
- Increase authorized funding for the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), including for Storage & Distribution expenses.
- Introduce a need-based trigger for federal commodities purchases.
- Expand farm-to-food bank initiatives to supply more nutritious food for food pantries and soup kitchens.
- Reauthorize the Commodity Supplemental Food Program for low-income seniors.

Expand Access to School and Summer Meals

- Reject any effort to pay for enhancements to child nutrition programs by cutting funding to SNAP or other anti-hunger/-poverty programs
- Promote federal incentives to provide universal, free school lunch in schools.
- Provide increased funding for meal reimbursements.

Protect and Strengthen WIC

- Reverse sequestration cuts to WIC.
- Provide USDA with more funding for WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program coupons.

Tackle Poverty to End Hunger

- Enhance the federal EITC.
- Expand funding of the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.
- Reject proposals to increase filing requirements for VITA preparers and/or self-preparers claiming an EITC and/or Child Tax Credit.
- Raise the federal minimum wage, and index it to inflation.
- Adopt policies that support a living wage with access to medical benefits and paid time off, and that make living wage jobs more accessible to low-income people.
- Develop job creation, training and education strategies that are geared toward poverty reduction.