

Minnesota Partners to End Hunger

State Legislative Agenda 2021



Expand Access to SNAP for Low-Income Minnesotans

Many Minnesotans are just above the income level to qualify for SNAP but are still experiencing food insecurity. Using Broad Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) we have the ability to increase the gross income threshold on SNAP for 165% to 200% of federal poverty. By raising it, we can help many people who are struggling to put food on the table to get the resources they need to feed their families.

Ask: Support HF 611 & SF 759 to raise the gross income level on SNAP to 200% of federal poverty

Lead organizations: Hunger Solutions Minnesota

Invest in Healthy Hunger-Free Schools

The purpose of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Schools program is to ensure all students are supported in achieving their academic potential; that all students have access to nutritious options while they are developing life-long eating habits; and that there is no stigma associated with receiving free school meals.

Ask: Support HF 1729 and invest the state and federal resources necessary to ensure all Minnesota children have access to breakfast and lunch at no cost to them.

Lead organization: Hunger Solutions Minnesota

Committee: Education Finance

End School Lunch Shaming

Minnesota became a leader in addressing the issue of school lunch shaming when it passed legislation to ensure reminders about lunch payments do not stigmatize or demean students who participate in the free school meals program. Yet some students who are unable to pay are still demeaned or denied access to a nutritious lunch. We support closing the loophole in state law that allows this to happen.

Ask: Support HF 149 & SF 777 to take a strong stand against lunch shaming.

Lead organization: Legal Aid & Hunger Solutions Minnesota

Committee: Education

Invest in Expanding Food Shelf Capacity in MN

A coalition of hunger relief organizations is seeking a one-time investment of \$7,385,000 in fiscal year 2022 to support expansion of hunger relief services in Minnesota. Keystone Community Services, Southern Anoka Community Assistance, 360 Communities, Community Pathways of Steele County and Wright County Community Action need support to expand their capacity to serve more people with more food and resources.

Ask: Support HF 1753 and fund \$7,385,000 million for infrastructure support for five hunger relief organizations.

Lead organization: Keystone Community Services

Improve College Student Access of Basic Needs Support

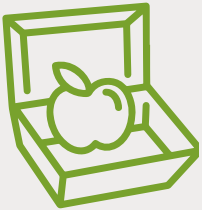
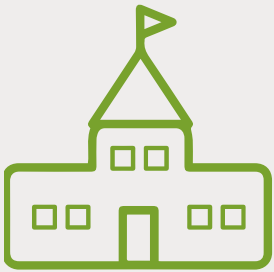
40% of Minnesota college students report struggling with food insecurity while trying to pursue their education. Combined with other basic needs insecurities and the pandemic, many college students are in crisis. This bill creates resource hubs for students to access local, state and federal basic needs support and requires colleges to provide students with information about available basic needs support based on their FAFSA information when they enroll.

Ask: Support SF 1631 and provide \$500,000 to create basic needs hubs and financial aid basic needs resource

triggers at community and technical colleges.

Lead organization: LeadMN - College Students Connecting for Change

Committee: Higher Education



About Partners to End Hunger

Minnesota Partners to End Hunger is a statewide network of service providers and advocates working to end hunger in Minnesota by motivating decision-makers to take supportive action on state and national hunger policy issues.

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