

MINNESOTA PARTNERS TO END HUNGER

2025 Legislative Agenda

Sustain Funding for Minnesota's Food Shelves • HF 777, SF 1112



The Minnesota Food Shelf Program (MFSP) funds food shelves statewide. Despite recent one-time investments, visits continue to rise, reaching nearly 9 million last year. Cutting funding would limit access to nutritious food for communities in our state.

Lead Organization: The Food Group

Committees: Senate Health and Human Services Committee, House Children

and Families Committee

Lead Authors: Sen. Mann, Rep. Coulter

Regional Food Bank Grants • HF 1112, SF 1348



The Regional Food Bank Grants provide funding for food banks and tribal nations across Minnesota to purchase food and distribute to food shelves.

Lead Organization: Second Harvest Heartland

Committees: Senate Health and Human Services Committee, House Children

and Families Committee

Lead Authors: Sen. Boldon, Rep. Hemmingson-Jaeger

Pilot Fresh Bucks in Retail Settings • HF 1534, SF 1858



Expand the Market Bucks model to pilot Fesh Bucks, a SNAP discount program offering 50% off fresh produce. We are seeking \$1M for a one-year pilot at 8-10 grocery stores to expand access to healthy food.

Lead Organization: The Food Group

Committes: Senate Health and Human Services Committee, House Health

Finance and Policy Committee

Lead Authors: Rep. Keeler, Sen. Mann

Prepared Meals • HF 1148, SF 1412



Appropriates \$5 million for prepared meals grant program that would deliver an estimated 750,000 nutritious meals to Minnesotans in need each year.

Lead Organization: Open Arms & Second Harvest Heartland

Committees: Senate Health and Human Services Committee, House Children

and Families Committee

Lead Authors: Sen. Kupec, Rep. Coulter



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Additional policy priorities include:

SNAP Benefit Increase for Seniors • HF 1146 /SF 1110

We propose raising the SNAP minimum benefit for 1-2 person households from \$23 to \$50 for seniors 60+ to address rising grocery costs and promote healthier eating.

Lead Organization: The Food Group **Lead Authors:** Sen. Mann, Rep. Coulter

Committees: Senate Health and Human Services,

House Children and Families

Farm to School & Early Care • HF / SF 1559

SF 1559 adds permissive language to allow MDA to use state funds to administer MDA's recent \$13.2M agreement with the USDA to expand the Farm to School and Early Care program

Lead Organization: Institute for Trade and

Agriculture Policy (IATP)

Committees: Senate Agriculture, House

Agriculture Finance and Policy **Lead Authors:** Sen. Gustafson

Food Shelf Capital Grants • HF 1098 / SF 1950

Allocated funding for grants to food shelves to support increased capacity and make capital investments.

Lead Organization: Second Harvest Heartland **Committees:** Senate Health and Human Services.

House Children and Families

Lead Authors: Sen. Gustafson, Rep. Sencer-Mura

Meals for Veterans • HF / SF

Renewed funding to serve Meals on Wheels to veterans living in the Twin Cities metro area. Partner bill for veterans living outside of the metro area sponsored by County Veterans Service Officers.

Lead Organization: Metro Meals on Wheels

Lead Authors:

Committees: Senate Agriculture, House Veterans

and Military Affairs

Invest in Hunger-Free Campuses • HF / SF

The Hunger Free Campus Grant is a necessary investment in students' basic needs. The funds go directly to campus-wide efforts to ease student hunger through food pantry staffing, equipment upgrades, and food and supply purchasing.

Lead Organization: Students United

Committees: Senate and House Higher Ed

Lead Authors:

SNAP Outreach • HF 45 / SF 849

Increase resources for SNAP outreach to eligible recipients so that more Minnesotans have access to this critical hunger-fighting program.

Lead Organization: Second Harvest Heartland **Committees:** Senate Health and Human Services,

House Children and Families

Lead Authors: Sen. Maye Quade, Rep. Perez-Vega

Partners to End Hunger Organizations

Advocates for Better Health, Appetite for Change, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Center for Prevention, Catholic Charities Twin Cities, Churches United in Ministry (CHUM), Communidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio (CLUES), Community Emergency Service, Fairview Health Services, Family Pathways, The Food Group, Foundation for Essential Needs, ICA Food Shelf, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Joyce Uptown Food Shelf, Legal Services Advocacy Project, Loaves and Fishes, MAZON, Metro Meals on Wheels, Minnesota Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Minnesota Community Action Partnership, Minnesota Farmers' Market Association, Minnesota Farmers Union, Neighborhood House, Neighbors, Inc., Open Arms of Minnesota, Pillsbury United Communities, PRISM, Ramsey County, Sanneh Foundation, Second Harvest Heartland, Students United, St. Louis Park Emergency Program (STEP), The Aliveness Project, The Open Door Pantry, Trellis, Valley Outreach, White Bear Area Food Shelf