California Hunger Action Coalition (CHAC)
2021 Policy Agenda — January Virtual Lobby Week

COVID-19 Response & Recovery — Fight Hunger & Poverty!

Support Food as a Human Right

- **SB 108 (Hurtado)** - Every human being has the right to access sufficient healthy food.

Emergency Food Funding

- **Emergency Food & Diapers** - Take early action on the $30 million in theGovernor's Jan 10 Budget, and provide an additional $110 million toward a total $140 million one-time request. Provide $35 million in Diaper need.
- **SB XX (Eggman) Farm to Food Bank Tax Credit** - Support farmers and reduce food waste by extending the tax credit that otherwise expires December 2021, for California grown produce, proteins, and other healthy foods.

Immigrant Food Access

- **AB 221 (Santiago)** - Provide Emergency Food Benefits for immigrants adversely affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic and excluded from federal aid.
- **Food for All Campaign** - Create an equitable nutrition assistance program by providing permanent nutrition benefits for all those ineligible for CalFresh solely due to immigration status.

Older Adults

- **SSI: Include SSI recipients in the Golden State Stimulus** & increase SSP grant amounts by $600. Replace SNB & TNB benefits in disasters so they hold harmless SSI consumers. Pause TNB recertifications to prevent churn.
- **SB 107 (Wiener): CalFresh—Simpler for Seniors** - Simplify the CalFresh application for older adults and people with disabilities. Make it easier to complete the application and other forms by phone.
- **Master Plan for Aging (MPA)** - Fully fund and implement Initiatives in MPA under Goal 5 "Affordable Aging" & Strategy C "Protection from Poverty & Hunger."

End Child Hunger

- **School Meals for All** - Allow all students to access meals free of charge in schools where federal rules would otherwise make such programs unachievable or unsustainable.
- **Food with Care** - Increase state funding for providers to compensate for the increased cost of food and foodservice during the pandemic and during the recovery.
- **Provide Better Out of School Time Nutrition** - the incredibly successful Pandemic EBT program has shown the necessity to provide food when schools or child care centers are closed and child hunger spikes.

For 27 years, California Hunger Action Coalition (CHAC) has been California's premier anti-hunger coalition: a broad-based membership organization that unites the foremost statewide & regional anti-hunger groups.

CHAC believes access to adequate, nutritious and safe food is a fundamental human right.

STRENGTHEN OUR NUTRITION SAFETY NET

BUILD RESILIENCE THROUGH COVID-19 CRISIS

"We're preparing and planning for high demand for up to 18 months. What felt like a sprint several weeks ago has now become a marathon." ***- Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County***

"Thank you [legislators] for all you are doing behind the scenes to allow us to do what we do." ***- Madera County Food Bank***

"We continue to see an increase of families at our distribution sites, most of our distributions are running out of food at least 30 minutes early and we have been increasing the amount of food for the past two months for most of them. The CA Meal Boxes are so convenient for families, we have shipped those out to the more rural areas and people keep asking for more." ***- Imperial Valley Food Bank***

"We've had to quickly respond to an unprecedented and dramatic increase in need -- in April, we distributed 45% more food than in February and our clients have increased by 100,000 this month. Even if shelter-in-place ends, this economic crisis will continue for much longer -- and we continue to need the state's help to serve our community and keep everyone healthy." ***- Second Harvest of Silicon Valley***

"We are seeing a ten-fold increase in the number of calls to our CalFresh hotline. We're helping hundreds more people apply for the program every week, while advocating at the state and federal level to strengthen this vital nutrition safety net program." ***- SF-Marin Food Bank***