

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP) BRINGS FOOD & JOBS TO CA-1



COVID-19 has underscored SNAP as our nation's largest and most important anti-hunger program, and the urgent need for continued investments to support the District.

Several temporary SNAP improvements have mitigated food insecurity during the COVID-19 crisis, but will expire when the federal Public Health Emergency ends. This will result in a significant hunger cliff for millions of people.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (CalFresh in California) provides nine meals to every one provided by food banks — a gap that private charity could never fill.<sup>1</sup>



Yet, because SNAP benefits are inadequate, nearly 4 in 10 SNAP households still rely on food banks.<sup>2</sup>

# The Value of SNAP

**SNAP is crucial to the local economy.** Last year, 87,300 participants – 12% of the District – received SNAP, ranking #19 in California.<sup>3</sup>

#### SNAP delivered to the District:<sup>4,5,6</sup>



SNAP benefits are spent in and generate this economic stimulus at 650 authorized EBT retailers across the District.<sup>7</sup>

We call on the CA Congressional Delegation to continue the federal response to historic hunger from COVID-19: improve SNAP benefit adequacy, expand access for all low-income Californians, and prevent any benefits cliff.

Learn more: http://cafoodbanks.org

# **SNAP Benefits are Vital but Inadequate**

This year, SNAP will help 4.4 million Californians fight hunger and escape poverty, but the benefits stop short of what is really needed.<sup>8</sup> In California:<sup>9,10,11,12</sup>



historically allocated per person, per meal



4 IN 10

rely on supplemental food from food banks



loss in SNAP, per person per month, when PHE ends



increase in nutritionrelated hospitalization risk at month's end

### **Historic Hunger**

Right now, Californians are facing historic and devastating levels of hunger.

#### **10 Million**

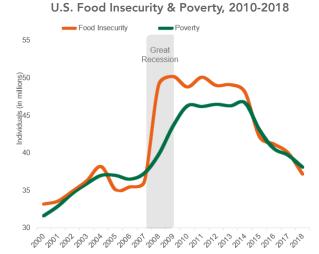
Californians are food insecure. That's nearly one in five households (18%), almost double prepandemic (9.9%).<sup>13,14</sup>

### **Deep Disparities**

Compared to white households (12.9%), food insecurity is far higher among Black (23.1%) and nearly double in Latinx households (25.5%).<sup>15</sup>

## Impact of SNAP





"I just wanted to say thank you for this program. I was feeling so ashamed to have to ask for help but now, after finding the application very easy to complete, I feel grateful knowing I will receive help soon and be able to get back on my feet again, thrive, and be able to help others again. With gratitude."<sup>17</sup>

California food banks urge members of Congress to fully leverage SNAP's proven record as our nation's most important anti-hunger program for the duration of the economic downturn caused by COVID-19.



CAFB's 2022 factsheet citations: http://cafoodbanks.org/citations