



SOLVING HUNGER IN AMERICA

through Leadership, Action, and Collaboration

AMERICA'S HUNGER CRISIS IS DEEPENING.

Critical federal nutrition programs that keep hunger at bay are under attack. But it doesn't have to be this way.

YOU CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION.

Together, we can achieve our shared vision of a country where every child has access to the nutrition they need where they live, learn, and play; where older adults, veterans, and people with disabilities get the support they need; where the economy is strong and prosperous for all, and communities are thriving and resilient; and where there is a brighter tomorrow for future generations.

For more than five decades, FRAC has been at the forefront protecting, strengthening, and expanding the reach of federal nutrition programs. To achieve this, we provide program training and technical assistance to our network of advocates around the country, conduct and analyze research, raise public awareness, and mobilize people to advocate for policies and programs that lead to positive change.

Maximizing Federal Nutrition Programs

Available nationwide and administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the federal nutrition programs include:

- ▶ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- ▶ Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- ▶ School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program
- ▶ Summer Nutrition Programs and the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) for Children Program
- ▶ Afterschool Nutrition Programs and the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Research has long attested to the efficacy of federal nutrition programs in improving food security, health, and well-being of participants.

FRAC ACTION TIMELINE | 2025

JANUARY

FRAC Urges Administration and Congress to Protect Programs that Reduce Hunger in America

FEBRUARY

FRAC Releases SNAP State-by-State Analysis, Illustrates Harm Cuts to SNAP Would Have on Children, Older Adults, Veterans, Rural Communities

MARCH

Advocates Nationwide Participated in the FRAC SNAP Challenge, Spending Just \$6 a Day, the Average SNAP Benefit, on Groceries

FRAC Protects School Meals From Proposed Congressional Cuts

APRIL

FRAC Pushes Back Against Administration's Efforts to Restrict SNAP

MAY

FRAC Urges MAHA Commission to Promote Greater Investments in Federal Nutrition Programs

JUNE

FRAC Report Finds Gains in Community Eligibility Provision

JULY

FRAC Denounces Passage of Harmful Budget Reconciliation Bill

AUGUST

FRAC Celebrates Senate Vote to Protect WIC Fruit and Vegetable Benefit

FRAC Says SNAP Restriction Waivers Will Exacerbate Hunger

SEPTEMBER

FRAC Criticizes USDA Decision to End Household Food Security Report

NOVEMBER

FRAC Urges Trump Administration/USDA to Stop Blocking Food Assistance for Millions During the Government Shutdown

KEEPING FOOD ON THE TABLE

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



SNAP provides eligible families with funds on an electronic benefits transfer card to help cover the cost of groceries and keep hunger at bay. **One-half of all children will receive SNAP benefits at some point during childhood, and**

half of all adults will use SNAP at some point by age

65. As the largest federal nutrition program, it helps more than **42 million people** put food on the table while also supporting local economies.

The budget reconciliation law (H.R. 1), passed in July, makes historic and devastating \$187 billion in cuts to SNAP. The law shifts unprecedented costs to states, expands punitive eligibility time limits to include veterans, older adults, and youth transitioning out of foster care, and eliminates access for humanitarian-based noncitizens.

FRAC IN ACTION

FRAC has been sounding the alarm on how these harmful cuts will increase food insecurity and take revenue away from farmers, food retailers, and local economies. The government shutdown provided a cautionary tale on how important SNAP is — people cannot go without benefits, and states cannot take on the cost and increased administrative burden of running the program. FRAC is leading the effort to guide and inform program stakeholders to navigate the new H.R. 1 framework and requirements, and after the uncertainty of the government shutdown.



FRAC and nearly **1,500** organizations signed a letter to Congress urging Members to support the Restoring Food Security for American Families and Farmers Act, which would repeal the H.R. 1 SNAP provisions.

Raising Awareness

FRAC experts and research are consistently cited in major national and state broadcast and print media outlets, as well as leading Hill and agriculture trade outlets.

The New York Times

POLITICO

**FOOD
FIX**

**CBS
NEWS**

**FOX
NEWS
channel**

SUPPORTING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF MOMS AND BABIES

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)



WIC provides 7 million pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding individuals, infants, and children up to 5 years of age from households with low incomes with nutritious foods, nutrition education and counseling, breastfeeding support, and referrals to health care and social services.

FRAC created *Connecting Families to WIC: A Practical Toolkit for Health Care Providers* to help health care professionals more effectively identify and address gaps in participation in WIC. The toolkit lifts up ideas on early work to establish partnerships with WIC clinics and anti-hunger organizations, how to learn about WIC policies and procedures, and the importance of identifying champions to lead this work in their setting, and training staff.

FRAC IN ACTION

FRAC continues to mobilize advocates to urge Members of Congress to pass the MODERN WIC Act, which would make virtual service options permanent.



FRAC led more than **388** national, state, and local organizations in signing on to a letter urging Congress to continue its nearly 30-year bipartisan commitment to fully fund WIC for fiscal year 2026.

Mobilizing



22,413 people used the FRAC Action Network platform to send **55,592** messages to Congress



7,895 people attended a FRAC webinar



4,990 organizations joined FRAC's sign-on letters



MORE THAN 1 million impressions across FRAC's social media platforms

EXPANDING AND PROTECTING FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)



More than 27 million students around the country have benefitted from CEP, which allows high-poverty schools to offer school meals to all students at no charge.

CEP is a win for students, families, and schools. It is associated with improvements in school attendance, classroom behavior, and academic performance, and helps stretch household budgets as families across the country struggle with high costs of living.

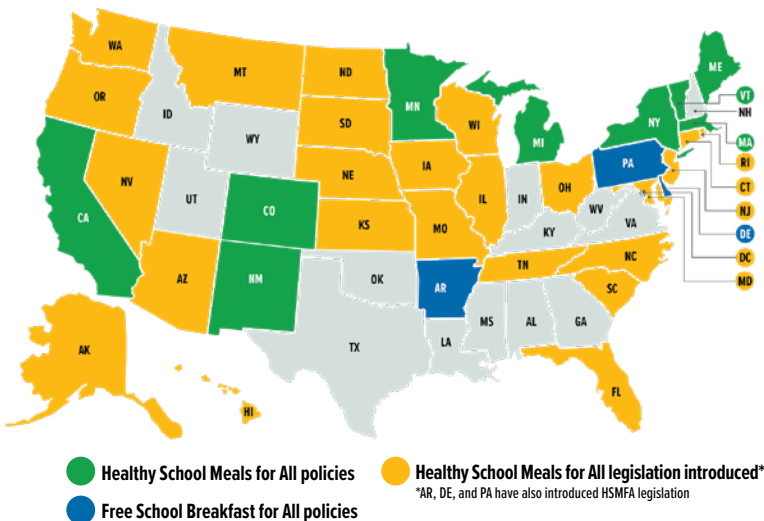
School Breakfast Program National School Lunch Program



During the 2023–2024 school year, 60 percent of schools that participated in the National School Lunch Program offered free meals to all their students, either because the school utilized the Community Eligibility Provision or because the school was in a Healthy School Meals for All state.

Healthy School Meals for All

Momentum continues to build for Healthy School Meals for All policies, which offers all students, no matter their household income, free meals.



UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2025



FRAC continues to provide guidance and support to our network of advocates who are pushing for statewide legislation that ensures all students have access to school meals at no charge. FRAC created a guide to help states implement Healthy School Meals for All policies.

The national Healthy School Meals for All Coalition, led by FRAC, is a diverse group of organizations dedicated to building support for and passing nationwide free Healthy School Meals for All legislation.

CLOSING THE SUMMER CHILDHOOD HUNGER GAP

The Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) for Children Program

Summer EBT reduces summer hunger by providing \$120 per eligible child to buy groceries during the summer to families whose children are certified to receive free or reduced-price school meals during the school year. The program bridges the nutrition gap left by traditional summer meal programs, which provide food and enrichment activities at designated sites, to keep children fed while they are not in school. The program is a proven method to decrease food insecurity and increase nutrition during the summer months.



FRAC has led efforts to expand the reach of Summer EBT:

- ▶ Creating state-specific fact sheets on the benefits of the program
- ▶ Providing technical assistance and outreach toolkits to help states implement the program
- ▶ Urging all states to adopt the program



37 states, **5** Indian Tribal Organizations (ITOs), and all **5** U.S. territories participated this past summer.

FUELING MINDS AND BODIES IN AFTERSCHOOL AND CHILD CARE

Afterschool Meals and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

The Afterschool Nutrition Programs provide funding to serve suppers and snacks to children alongside educational and enrichment programming. CACFP pays for nutritious meals and snacks for eligible children who are enrolled at participating child care centers and family child care homes.



FRAC continues to create and share best practices and policy recommendations and resources, including the annual *Afterschool Suppers Report*, to ensure more children have access to the healthy snacks and suppers they need to decrease afterschool hunger.



1.24 million children received an afterschool snack on an average weekday in October 2024.



1.26 million children received an afterschool supper on an average weekday in October 2024.

FRAC State Initiatives

D.C. Hunger Solutions (DCHS)



D.C. Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger in the nation's capital

Founded in 2002, DCHS works with its allies to develop and support self-sustaining strategies and solutions to overcome barriers to nutrition access and improve the economic security of District residents. The DCHS 2025 *Minding the Grocery Gap* report revealed that the total number of full-service grocery stores in Washington, D.C., increased from 76 to 80 in 2025 but that inequities continue to persist, with lower numbers of full-service grocery stores in lower-income communities.

Maryland Hunger Solutions (MDHS)



Maryland Hunger Solutions
Ending hunger and promoting well-being

Founded in 2007, MDHS works with state and community partners to increase awareness about hunger across Maryland and ways to solve it. The MDHS 2025 *Maryland Hunger Profiles* report found that nearly 700,000 residents rely on SNAP to put food on the table. MDHS is urging state leaders, community advocates, and residents to push back against the harmful H.R. 1 law that includes historic cuts to SNAP. Additionally, the report found over half of all Maryland students were enrolled to receive free or reduced-price school meals in school year 2023–2024.

New Jersey Food Security Initiative (NJFSI)



Led by FRAC, NJFSI is a three-year cross-sector, collaborative, community-centered effort supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to increase food security and good nutrition, and advance health equity, in New Jersey. NJFSI has awarded \$375,000 in grants to local government agencies to strengthen their work to deepen community engagement, expand outreach, and improve access to critical nutrition programs such as SNAP and WIC. In 2025, grantees included three county-level government agencies.

FRAC
Food Research & Action Center

Crystal FitzSimons

PRESIDENT OF FOOD RESEARCH & ACTION CENTER



In May, the FRAC Board of Directors selected Crystal FitzSimons to serve as president of the national anti-hunger organization after a nationwide search. FitzSimons has been with FRAC for 26 years, most recently serving as FRAC's director of Child Nutrition Programs and Policy.

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FRAC is supported by a range of foundations, corporations, government agencies, unions, faith-based organizations, and individuals.

Donate today. Together, we can build a nation free from hunger.

HUNGRY PEOPLE CAN'T WAIT.