

THE CHALLENGE OF RISING HUNGER IN MINNESOTA

Rising grocery prices and cuts to critical food programs have driven demand for food assistance to new highs, and Minnesota's food banks and food shelves are operating beyond capacity as a result. These community pillars need new and ongoing state funding to continue to serve their neighbors facing hunger throughout our state.

MINNESOTA FOOD SHELF PROGRAM

The Minnesota Food Shelf Program (MFSP) is a critical and longstanding lifeline for nearly 300 food shelves across the state, providing flexible funding that allows local organizations to respond to what their communities need most.

HF3624/SF3904 would provide an additional \$5.4 million annually to eligible food shelves and Tribal Nations, bringing base MFSP funding to \$10 million per year. This investment would prevent a de facto funding cut following several years of one-time investments and help ensure food shelves can continue to meet record high levels of need.

REGIONAL FOOD BANK PROGRAM

A new Regional Food Bank Grant program would also help address the above challenges by creating a reliable funding source specifically for food purchasing and distribution, providing an infusion of much-needed food at no cost to food shelves across the state.

HF3586/SF3770 would allocate \$10 million annually to the five food banks serving Minnesota, along with participating Tribal Nations, using current federal distribution formulas as a guide. This formula disproportionately benefits food banks serving Greater Minnesota, where the demand for food is high, but resources are even harder to come by.



1 in 5 Minnesotans can't afford the food they need.

FOOD BANKS SERVING MINNESOTA



Rochester



East Grand Forks



Brooklyn Park



Duluth



New Hope

For more information contact:

Sophie Wallerstedt, swallerstedt@2harvest.org + Peter Woitock, pwoitock@thefoodgroupmn.org