



HUNGER **FREE COLORADO**

**The Fight for Food
Justice in Colorado**

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Hunger Free Colorado

Vision: Every Coloradan has equitable access to the nutritious food needed to thrive and reach their full potential

Mission: Connect people to food resources to meet existing needs and drive policy, systems and social change to end hunger

POLICY CHANGE
+
SYSTEMS CHANGE
+
SOCIAL CHANGE
+
COLLABORATION
=
ENDING HUNGER
IN COLORADO

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



- SNAP is by far the largest anti-hunger program in the country – providing more than 9 times the food support provided by all food banks and food pantries combined
- SNAP provides funds on an EBT card that families can use to purchase food at grocery stores, including some on-line stores
- More than 600,000 Coloradans are currently receiving SNAP benefits – more than 10% of the state's population

WIC

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



- WIC supports pregnant and breastfeeding women and children younger than age 5 by providing funds to purchase healthy food, breastfeeding support, and personalized nutrition counseling and recipes.
- Almost 100,000 children and pregnant women are currently receiving WIC in Colorado

Other National Nutrition Programs for Kids and Older Adults

- National School Lunch Program
- Summer Meals – KidsFoodFinder.org
- Summer EBT - cdhs.colorado.gov/summer-ebt
- Child and Adult Care Food Program -
<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/COFoodProgram>
- Everyday Eats – Food Boxes for Older Adults -
<https://cdhs.colorado.gov/CSFP>

Colorado-Specific Nutrition Programs

Community Food Assistance Provider Grant Program (formerly the Food Pantry Assistance Grant Program)

- Provides state funds for food pantries and food banks to purchase nutritious, culturally relevant food from local farmers and ranchers

Healthy School Meals for All

- Allows public schools to offer free breakfast and lunch to all students, regardless of household income – eliminating stigma and school meal debt and boosting participation
- When fully funded, will also provide dedicated funds for districts to purchase food from local farmers and ranchers, boost wages for front-line school nutrition professionals and provide training and equipment to support more from-scratch cooking

An Attack on SNAP: Impact of the Federal Reconciliation Bill

- Slashes \$189 billion in funding for SNAP, by far the biggest cut in the history of the program
- Reduces benefits immediately for many SNAP recipients and for all recipients in the future
- Expands harsh work requirements without investing in job training. It targets parents with teens, older adults up to age 65, and even veterans and people experiencing homelessness. Both parents in two-parent households would now be required to work—even when one is needed at home.
- Cuts food assistance for lawfully present immigrants, including refugees and survivors of violence, despite their humanitarian status
- Shifts massive costs onto the state – adding an estimated \$50 million a year in costs to Colorado to administer the program and potentially \$130 million or more a year in unprecedented benefit cost-sharing

Hunger Free Colorado's Current Priorities



Sustain and fully fund Colorado's Healthy School Meals for All Program by supporting Propositions LL and MM this November

- ✓ Make sure no child goes hungry at school and students can focus on learning
- ✓ Invest in more nutritious meals to support child health and well-being

Fight to fund and sustain SNAP in Colorado – protecting and supporting access for all who are eligible

- Make sure the state covers the costs needed to continue funding SNAP
- Making sure federal restrictions are implemented with the least harm to Coloradans
- Advocate for Congress to restore the cuts

How You Can Help

Support our campaign for Prop LL and MM

- Organizationally endorse the campaign:

bit.ly/endorseLLMM

- [Sign up to volunteer](#) for the campaign

- Get involved in our Pledge to Vote campaign – and Vote!

Support our SNAP and other policy advocacy

- [Sign up for our Action Alert list](#) to receive timely opportunities to advocate at the state and federal level

