

2018 Policy Agenda



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

With federal threats to the safety net, we must act to end our status as #1 in the nation in poverty:

1 in 5 Californians lives in poverty when including our high cost of living ([US Census Bureau](#)).

Hunger

- + Provide a **supplemental state CalFresh benefit** of \$28/month to fight hunger and improve health, and improve the CalWORKs special food benefit by converting it to CalFresh EBT and expanding it to children with unsafe water or lead poisoning. **Companion legislation AB 2297** (Asm/Sen Human Services Budget).
- + Fight hunger, improve health, and support California agriculture by **establishing the California Fruit and Vegetable EBT pilot** for CalFresh customers to earn matching benefits via EBT for CA-grown produce. **Companion legislation SB 900**. (Asm/Sen Human Services Budget).
- + Fund the **CalFood Program at \$20.6 million** to enable California food banks to purchase 103 million meals of California grown foods, and provide \$25 million one-time for food bank infrastructure. (Asm/Sen Human Services Budget)
- + Support young children in low-wage working families by ensuring they have **nutritious food in childcare** by restoring state supplemental funding for breakfast and lunch served to eligible children in child care through the federal food program. (Asm/Sen Education Budget)
- + **AB 1871 (Bonta)** would ensure that **low-income public charter school students** are guaranteed access to a free or reduced-price, nutritious school meal, just like all other K-12 students have been since 1975.
- + **AB 1892 (Jones-Sawyer)** would **expand CalFresh Transitional Benefits** to prevent hunger in the transition from welfare-to-work.
- + **AB 1952 (Mayes, Arambula, Steinorth)** would **establish a plan to end hunger in California** and create a more just food system.
- + **AB 3033 (Maienschein)** would **streamline the CalFresh application process** by allowing persons applying for Medi-Cal through Covered California to simultaneously apply for CalFresh.
- + **AB 2152 (Weber)** would define the number of days that experiencing hunger would leave someone “unfit for work” and, therefore, exempt from the CalFresh 3-month time limit for able-bodied adults.

Poverty

- + Raise **Supplemental Security Income (SSI) grants \$100 a month to reach 100% of federal poverty level** and **restore the state COLA**. **Companion legislation AB 3200** (Asm/Sen Human Services Budget)
- + Achieve **an equitable end to Cashout for SSI recipients** so they can be eligible for CalFresh, while holding harmless any households that would otherwise lose benefits. (Sen/Asm Human Services Budget)
- + Establish a floor for **CalWORKs grants** to protect families from deep poverty and restore the **CalWORKs 60-month clock**. **Companion legislation SB 982**.

Who We Are

For 26 years, CHAC has been California's premier anti-hunger coalition: a broad-based membership organization that unites the foremost statewide and regional anti-hunger groups. From the Oregon to Mexico borders, CHAC joins together food banks, faith-based, legal aid and other organizations dedicated to ending hunger and the root causes of poverty and inequity in California.

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Food is a human right!

