

Opportunity

Throughout 2019, we engaged in defense, fighting against multiple policies that would make it harder for Californians to put food on the table. Although these attacks sought to divide and push us backward, we remained united in a movement for greater equity and inclusion. As we sharpen the tools in our toolbox to continue the fight, we look to Congress to move forward policies that will help prevent food insecurity, alleviate poverty, and eliminate the stark inequities that harm many of our friends and neighbors. 2020 is a year to lay the groundwork for the change we want to achieve. We are committed to engaging our state and national partners in advocating solutions that create a better life for all Californians.

Call to Action

Protect and strengthen the safety net.

Federal safety-net programs, including SNAP, are improving economic security, health, and nutrition for millions of Californians, but these programs are constantly on the chopping block. These supports must be strengthened, invested in, and not weakened.

Improve financial security for low- and moderate-income households.

Californians who work hard and play by the rules shouldn't be left behind. Taxpayer money should be used to share prosperity with everyone, not just the few and the wealthy. Programs with a proven track record in improving economic mobility must be strengthened.

Oppose policies that let hate dictate immigrants' right to food and opportunity.

The Trump Administration has rolled out multiple policies to create an "Invisible Wall," causing immigrant families to fear accessing available basic needs programs and limiting legal immigration for those who are not white and wealthy. These attacks must be stopped.

California Food Policy Advocates advances policies that prevent food insecurity, alleviate poverty, and eliminate the stark inequities that harm many of our fellow Californians.

Strengthen investments in nutrition programs for older adults.

We all deserve the ability to age with independence and dignity, but a growing number of older adults are struggling to meet basic needs. Senior nutrition programs exist to help older adults gain access to food, but funding for these programs needs to keep pace with demand.



Increase access to healthy foods for our youngest learners.

For many of our youngest children enough healthy food is just out of reach. To increase access, federal changes are needed to strengthen and expand the Child and Adult Care Food Program and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

Expand free school meals: stop school meal debt and lunch shaming.

All students deserve access to healthy school meals, but not everyone can afford them. Without changes to expand eligibility for free school meal programs, children who can't afford school meals will continue to be shamed and challenges with meal debt will continue.



Stop child summer hunger.

When school is out too many students lose out on the benefits of school meal programs. Summer nutrition programs can help close the gap. Their reach should be extended and existing Summer EBT pilots should be made permanent and expanded to all states.