



Fight Hunger in California Fund CalFood at \$17.5 million!

For one in eight Californians – including more than 2 million children – food banks are a critical source of nutrition. Even among CalFresh recipients, one-third visit food banks.¹

Reduce Hunger Effectively

CalFood strengthens our emergency food network by enabling California food banks to purchase California grown foods.

Funding CalFood at \$17.5 million would enable California food banks to provide roughly 87.5 million meals for those who need it most.

Support California Agriculture & Local Economies

CalFood funds must be used to purchase and distribute foods grown or produced in California, benefiting our agricultural sector. CalFood funding also increases economic activity by providing food for families in need who are able to spend precious dollars on non-food items in our communities.

The national food bank network Feeding America estimates that at the retail cost for food, it would take \$3 billion annually to end hunger in California.² Food banks leverage tremendous economies of scale, however, and could provide these missing meals at a fraction of that cost, approximately \$325 million annually.

We ask that California fight hunger and support our farmers by investing \$17.5 million in CalFood

Peer State Investments in Emergency Food Assistance

State	Annual State Emergency Food Funding ²	Food Insecure Persons ³	Annual Expenditure Per Person	SNAP (CalFresh) Participation Rate ⁴
Massachusetts	\$15.03 million	767,550	\$19.59	95%
New York	\$34.5 million	2,739,920	\$12.59	86%
Ohio	\$19.2 million	1,951,880	\$9.84	96%
Pennsylvania	\$17.8 million	1,808,660	\$9.84	90%
New Jersey	\$6.8 million	1,101,750	\$6.17	76%
Washington	\$6.05 million	1,017,900	\$5.94	100%
Texas	\$2.9 million	4,653,290	\$0.62	77%
California	\$2 million	5,731,740	\$0.35	66%

1 USDA Economic Research Service. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/chart-gallery/detail.aspx?chartId=56777&ref=collection>.

2 Compiled from each state's EFAP funding data.

3 Feeding America. Map the Meal Gap. <http://feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/hunger-studies/map-the-meal-gap.aspx>

4 USDA. State SNAP Participation Rates in 2013. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/ops/Reaching2013.pdf>

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