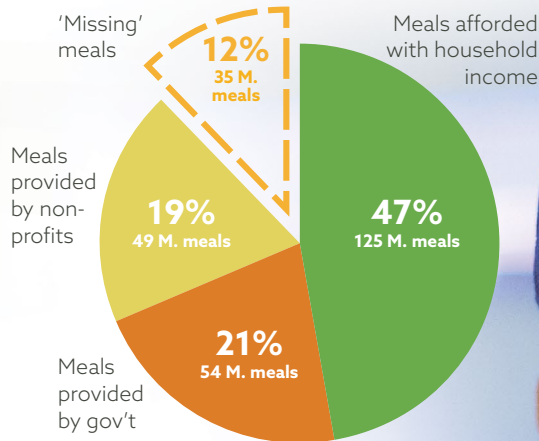


# Hunger is not a *personal* choice, it's a *political* choice.

## CHALLENGES

- California has the **highest poverty rate** of the 50 states under the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM).
- **35 million meals** are “missing” in San Francisco and Marin.  
Data from Missing Meals in San Francisco and Marin, 2019



- **CA ranks toward the very bottom** of all states in enrolling eligible people in CalFresh (food stamps), leaving millions in potential benefits on the table.

## STRATEGIES



### LEGISLATION

We raise our voice in support of bills in Sacramento and in DC that protect successful basic needs programs that improve our participants' ability to feed themselves and their families.



### CALFRESH PROGRAM ACCESS

We work on policies that make it easier and more equitable for people who need CalFresh (food stamps) to access the program with dignity.



### BUDGET

We advocate for funding in both state and county budgets to support food banks and secure new investments in critical food programs.



### RESEARCH & DATA

Through research and analysis of available data, we push to deepen our understanding of need and hunger so that the solutions we develop are rooted in facts.



### ELECTED OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENT

We need our elected representatives to join the fight. We build strong relationships with decision makers to influence policy at all levels of government.



SF·MARIN  
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# MAJOR POLICY WINS

Our voice is louder when we speak together! The Food Bank amplifies our policy reach as a member of several statewide and national advocacy coalitions. Together, we have achieved several crucial advancements in the fight to end hunger.

2011

## ALLIANCE TO TRANSFORM CALFRESH

Founding member of a coalition of non-profits gathered to move California from a 66% participation rate in CalFresh to 80% participation rate to significantly reduce hunger in our state.

2017

## CALFOOD FUNDING

Successfully secured \$8 million in state funding for CalFood, a program that allows food banks to use their collective buying power to purchase California-produced food to feed the hungry.

2018

## FARM BILL

Protected SNAP (food stamps) from attempts to drastically cut benefits and secured \$206M in federal funding for food banks through The Emergency Food Assistance Program.

2019

## CALFRESH EXPANSION FOR SSI

Overturned a state law that had prohibited older adults and people with disabilities with Supplemental Security Income (SSI) from receiving CalFresh food benefits, improving food security among some of our most vulnerable neighbors.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- **Follow us on Twitter** for the latest policy news and ways you can advocate with us. @SFMFoodBank
- **Make sure you're registered to vote** — ending hunger starts at the polls!  
<https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov>
- **Subscribe to eNews** for monthly updates from our Policy & Advocacy team  
<https://sfmfoodbank.org>



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