



# 2021 State Policy Agenda

Our State Legislative Agenda is a key element of our strategy to leverage the political process and the collective voice of advocates to end hunger in San Francisco and Marin counties. Amid the unprecedented economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, advocating for equitable, effective policies that respond to the scale of the need is more valuable than ever.



## ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CALFRESH BENEFITS

### Improve food access for immigrants

**SB 464 - Hurtado** — Food4All — Expand eligibility for the California Food Assistance Program, ensuring that immigration status is no longer a barrier to food assistance



### Improve CalFresh access for older Californians and people with disabilities

**SB 107 - Wiener** — Simplify the CalFresh application for older adults and people with disabilities and make it easier to complete the application and other forms by phone



### Improve CalFresh access for college students

**AB 396 - Gabriel** — Expand access for thousands of students to CalFresh benefits by increasing the number of higher education programs that apply and certify under one of the CalFresh student exceptions



## PROTECT CALIFORNIANS MOST IMPACTED BY COVID-19

### Provide Emergency Food Relief for Undocumented People

**AB 221 - Santiago** — Provide Emergency Food Benefits for immigrants adversely affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic and excluded from federal aid



## MAKE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS WORK BETTER FOR ALL

### Improve Food Security for CA Children

**SB 364 - Skinner** — Provide free school meals for all children with increased access to freshly prepared, California-grown items. Extend the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program indefinitely, ensuring that children have access to food during holiday breaks or emergencies.

### Improve Linkages Between Food and Health Outcomes for Medicaid Recipients

**AB 368 - Bonta** — This bill would establish a food prescription pilot program in partnership with the Medi-Cal managed care plans to provide food prescriptions to Medi-Cal beneficiaries with diet-related diseases. This Food as Medicine pilot would be paired with behavioral, cooking, or nutrition education, coaching, and counseling.

### Reduce Hunger and Hardship for People Aging out of Foster Care

**SB 739 - Cortese** — Provide direct cash assistance through a statewide universal basic income (UBI) Pilot Program for the approximately 3,000 youth who age out of Extended Foster Care in California each year.

## ENSURE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR FOOD BANKS

### Maintain/increase state support for food bank food purchase

**Budget Investment** — By injecting \$110M into food banks across the state, CA can ensure food banks keep their doors open and continue to serve their communities.

### Protect donated food pipeline via tax credit

**SB 240 - Eggman** — Support farmers and reduce food waste by extending the tax credit that otherwise expires December 2021, for California grown produce, proteins, and other healthy foods.

Learn more about our advocacy priorities in our full [Policy Platform](#).

**Questions?** Please contact Meg Davidson, Director of Policy & Advocacy  
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