

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**APHSA Recognizes D.C. Hunger Solutions and the District of Columbia's Department of Human Services with the AASD Collaborating Star Award**

*Honoring Exceptional Work Addressing Hunger and Improving Nutrition Support Services at the 2023 Economic Mobility and Well-Being Conference*

**ARLINGTON, VA:** At this year's Economic Mobility and Well-Being (EMWB) Conference, the American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) was honored to recognize D.C. Hunger Solutions and the DC Department of Human Services (DHS) Economic Security Administration as recipients of the American Association of SNAP Directors (AASD) Collaborating Star Award.

This award recognizes their exceptional collaboration in addressing hunger and improving nutrition support services across the District of Columbia. Leaders across both organizations have shown an unwavering commitment to partnering across sectors to best serve their communities.

Describing the collaboration between the two organizations, Carla Drake, Assistant Deputy Administrator of DHS, said, "D.C. Hunger Solutions' partnership with DHS on the adoption of Elderly Simplified Application Project (ESAP) to streamline the SNAP application process for older adults to increase SNAP participation has been extremely successful. D.C. Hunger Solutions is very deserving of this award."

D.C. Hunger Solutions, part of the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC), is committed to enhancing SNAP participation to ensure essential nutrition support in the District of Columbia. Working with DHS, they partnered to utilize targeted outreach, application assistance, and education about the ESAP to successfully increase SNAP participation and success with elderly community members.

APHSA is honored to recognize the collaborative and innovative approach taken by D.C. Hunger Solutions and the DC Department of Human Services Economic Security Administration.

*The [EMWB Conference](#) brings together three APHSA affinity groups including the American Association of SNAP Directors (AASD), the National Association for Program Information and Performance Measurement (NAPIPM), and the National Association of State TANF Administrators (NASTA). This year's event is being held August 27-30, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Long Beach in Long Beach, CA.*

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## **About APHSA**

The American Public Human Services Association (APHSA) supports leaders from state, county, and city human services agencies to advance the well-being of individuals, families, and communities nationwide. As a bipartisan membership association, they work with their members to generate pragmatic solutions grounded in lived experience with a lens for equity and belonging. Visit [www.aphsa.org](http://www.aphsa.org) to learn more.

