



October 22, 2025

Dear Members of the New York Congressional Delegation:

As leading statewide anti-hunger organizations in New York, we are writing to express our deep concern about potential impacts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other federal nutrition programs in the event the government shutdown continues beyond October.

Nearly 3 million New Yorkers—the majority of whom are children, seniors, or people with disabilities—rely on SNAP to put food on the table. Fortunately, SNAP benefits for October were issued without disruption despite the government shutdown; however, there is increasing uncertainty about funds for November benefits, creating widespread fear and confusion among New York families. Most recently, USDA [instructed](#) states to delay transmission of November benefit files to EBT vendors, while Secretary of Agriculture Brook Rollins [stated](#) SNAP will run out of funds by the end of October.

Any delay or reduction in SNAP benefits will have devastating impacts on food security in New York and nationwide. Emergency food providers cannot fill the gap; Feeding America estimates that for every one meal distributed through their network of food banks and pantries, SNAP provides nine meals. Disruptions in food benefits will also hurt New York's economy, including the more than 17,000 grocery stores, farmers' markets, and other retailers that accept SNAP benefits.

Child nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, remain operational in New York; however, a prolonged government shutdown could also jeopardize operations for those vital programs that serve millions of our youngest New Yorkers.

Historically, USDA has used contingency and carryover funds to sustain SNAP benefits during budget crises and shutdowns. The authority to do so remains intact. The agency can and should use all available resources to ensure federal nutrition programs can continue to provide critical food resources for our low-income seniors, children, and working families.

In the absence of an agreement to reopen the federal government, we urge you to work with the Administration to ensure there are no disruptions to nutrition programs. Most immediately, USDA must identify funds for November SNAP benefits and issue swift guidance to enable states to distribute benefits without delay.

We appreciate your partnership in ensuring food security for New Yorkers.

Sincerely,

Community Food Advocates

Feeding New York State

Hunger Free America

Hunger Solutions New York

The Alliance for a Hunger-Free New York

WIC Association of New York State