

## Bread for the World

Below are some key points that can be included in a letter to Congressman Mike McCaul

### Local Concerns

- Friends church is very concerned about the impact of the USDA cuts to local food pantries. Volunteers from Friends Church provide access to food supplies every Friday afternoon as well as on the first Saturday of each month.
  - Through the Friday afternoon food distribution during March 2025, 461 households, representing 1749 individuals, received food.

### Domestic Nutrition issues

More than one in five U.S. Children are at risk of hunger – but it doesn't have to be this way.

I urge you to support full funding for the WIC program at the level needed to serve all eligible participants and to strengthen the program through reforms that make it easier for families to enroll in the program.

- WIC enables families to purchase nutritious foods and provides health care referrals and information on healthy eating.
- WIC improves the dietary intake of pregnant and postpartum women.
- WIC reduces the rates of low birthweight and premature birth.
- WIC boosts children's intellectual development and helps them get ready to start school.
- Every dollar invested in WIC saves at least \$2.48 in medical, educational and productivity costs.

### Global Nutrition Issues

- Good nutrition is the bedrock for a healthy and impactful life. Without it, children, families and communities face significant challenges: disruptions to physical, mental, and emotional development; lost productivity; strain on healthcare systems; and instability.
- In 2023 USAID nutrition programs reached more than 39 million women and children globally with critical nutrition interventions. But the need is far greater.
- UNICEF estimates that almost 45 million children under the age of 5 suffer from wasting (a condition whereby a child is severely thin for their height due to poor nutrition).
- I urge you to support robust funding for global nutrition in the federal budget so that we can reach even more women and children with lifesaving assistance.