



STATEMENT ON BIDEN ADMINISTRATION EXECUTIVE ORDERS

January 22, 2021

Second Harvest Heartland, along with our partners in hunger-relief, is pleased to see swift action by the Biden Administration to support the 1 in 9 Minnesotans, including 1 in 6 children, struggling through our current public health and economic crises. Today's executive orders will provide meaningful, though temporary, relief to thousands of children and families in our region.

A 15 percent increase of Pandemic-EBT benefits will mean kids who normally receive free or reduced-price breakfast and lunch at school will have the resources to stay fed and healthy wherever they are learning this winter.

The expansion of benefits for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will enable 12 million Americans, including more than 220,000 Minnesota households by our estimates, who have not benefitted from COVID-era programs to boost SNAP benefits to the maximum amount, to receive urgently needed food assistance.

Finally, by calling for a revision of the USDA's Thrifty Food Plan, which is used to determine SNAP benefit amounts, this order ensures the program will better reflect the higher cost of a nutritious diet so that SNAP doesn't just keep families fed, but fed well.

"This action will fill fridges and put minds at ease. It will say to millions of Americans that the community is going to stand beside them, until we can create better times together," commented CEO Allison O'Toole.

While this is much-needed relief, as the Biden Administration made clear, these measures are meant as only partial solutions to immediate and long-term recovery. We look forward to continuing our work with federal, state, and local officials to bring relief and recovery to our communities struggling with food insecurity.

For those with SNAP and P-EBT eligibility or application questions, [our SNAP Outreach team](#) is here to assist you.

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