



# SNAPSHOT OF 2023 Policy Agenda by Issue Area

For over 42 years, the Capital Area Food Bank has served as the backbone of the region's hunger relief infrastructure. In FY22, the Food Bank distributed 52 million meals to neighbors in need across the DMV. However, we know that ending hunger takes more than good food today; advocating for policies and programs that enable long-term food security, financial empowerment, and health equity is an essential aspect of our commitment to building brighter futures. The following portrays issue areas of focus which inform the impactful interventions that the Food Bank will advocate for in 2023 to end hunger and its root causes.

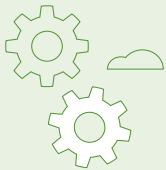
## END HUNGER



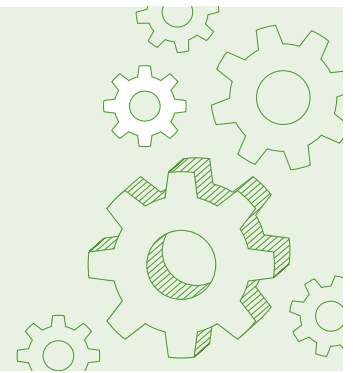
- Implement universal school meals
- Modernize and expand eligibility standards for SNAP and WIC
- Increase grocery access through innovation and investment
- Give SNAP a raise by increasing the minimum benefit
- Permanently implement non-congregate feeding waivers in out-of-school programs



## ENHANCE FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCY

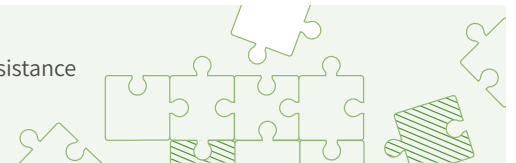


- Improve The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)
- Strengthen the Commodity Supplemental Food Program
- Fully fund state-level programs that support agricultural surplus donations to or purchasing by food banks
- Create and fund county-level food security offices
- Incorporate food security as a formal priority in agency-level strategic and administrative planning
- Support cross-regional strategic approaches to food system resiliency



## INCREASE USE OF THE SOCIAL SAFETY NET

- Utilize, implement, and expand Categorical Eligibility for utility assistance
- Invest in inter-programmatic benefit enrollment experts



## PROMOTE FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

- Permanently enact the Child Tax Credit
- Permanently extend expansions of the Earned Income Tax Credit
- Implement county- or state-level Earned Income Tax Credits



## ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY



- Implement "Health-In-All Policies" approach to governance, with the prioritization of food security and nutrition
- Create state-level health equity funds
- Incentivize the reimbursement, usage, and leveraging of food-as-medicine activities
- Develop 1115 Medicaid waivers to instill greater levels of health equity

