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Capital Area Food Bank Launches 18th Annual “Food From the Bar” Campaign to Fight Hunger in the DMV Area

Nearly 40 legal organizations will compete vigorously with one another throughout May to raise enough funds to generate over 1M meals

WASHINGTON – [Capital Area Food Bank \(CAFB\)](#) today kicked off the 18th annual Food From the Bar DC (FFTB) campaign, rallying the local legal community to compete in raising funds for the fight against hunger. During the month of May, law firms, corporate legal departments, and law societies across Washington, DC, compete to see who can raise the most funds to support CAFB efforts to alleviate hunger in the DMV.

The campaign helps provide nutritious meals to the nearly 1.5 million residents in the DC metro area facing food insecurity, especially children who lose consistent access to meals during the summer when school is out of session.

Since 2008, DC’s legal community has made over ten million meals possible through FFTB. With over 50,000 households in the DMV set to lose some or all of their SNAP benefits as a result of changes approved by Congress last year, the campaign is raising the bar and calling on the DC community to do more to meet the increasing need. Last year, the campaign raised nearly \$580,000, and this year’s goal is \$650,000.

“We are seeing a hunger crisis right here in our own backyard. 247,000 children and young adults don’t have consistent access to nutritious meals, and paired with recent economic events, the need is growing,” said **Andrew Cook, FFTB co-chair and partner at K&L Gates**. “As a legal community, we are committed to reducing food insecurity and ensuring every child and family in our region has the nourishment they need to thrive.”

“With much of our region rocked by economic uncertainty over the last year, we know that many families and children in the DMV are facing tough financial circumstances that make it harder to put nutritious food on the table – especially during the summer months when school meals are unavailable,” said **Radha Muthiah, president and CEO of the Capital Area Food Bank**. “The

legal community's longstanding and steadfast commitment to addressing this problem through Food from the Bar is something we're incredibly grateful for. This initiative not only raises funds – it raises awareness about the scale of hunger in our region, it builds community, and it shows that all of us can play a vital role in supporting our neighbors – both today and into the future."

"Hunger doesn't take the summer off," said **Kelly Fisher, co-chair of FFTB and Director & General Counsel at DC Water**. "When school lets out, thousands of children and families across the DMV lose one of their most reliable sources of nutrition. Every dollar we raise this campaign season is a direct investment in making sure no child in this region spends their summer wondering where their next meal is coming from. We are proud of what we have built together, and we are just getting started."

35 legal organizations have so far announced participating in the 2026 Food From the Bar campaign, including:

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| 1. ACC-NCR | 19. GWAC |
| 2. Adams & Reese LLP | 20. Hispanic Bar Association |
| 3. Akin | 21. Hunton Andrews Kurth |
| 4. A&O Shearman | 22. Husch Blackwell |
| 5. Arnold & Porter | 23. K&L Gates |
| 6. Baker McKenzie | 24. Katten |
| 7. Ballard Spahr | 25. Mitratch AdvanceLaw |
| 8. Beveridge & Diamond | 26. MSK |
| 9. Cadwalader | 27. Munger, Tolles & Olsen LLP |
| 10. Carlton Fields | 28. Nossaman |
| 11. Cassidy Levy Kent | 29. Polsinelli |
| 12. Crowell & Moring LLP | 30. Reed Smith LLP |
| 13. Davis Wright Tremaine LLP | 31. Seyfarth Shaw |
| 14. DC Water | 32. Sheppard |
| 15. DLA Piper | 33. Thomas, Thomas & Hafer |
| 16. Everlaw | 34. Thompson Coburn |
| 17. Faegre Drinker | 35. Womble Bond Dickinson LLP |
| 18. Foley & Lardner | |

According to [CAFB's 2025 Hunger Report](#), 77% of food-insecure residents are employed, and households with children are twice as likely to be food-insecure as those without.

When federal job cuts hit, the consequences were swift and severe. Among households with direct or indirect federal government employment that had experienced a job loss, 41% reported food insecurity, more than double the rate among similar households that didn't experience a job loss.

Interested law professionals and firms can sign up to participate throughout May 2026 by [visiting the Capital Area Food Bank](#).

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ABOUT FOOD FROM THE BAR DC:

Food From the Bar is a fundraising event put on each year by the Capital Area Food Bank and is the legal community's response to hunger in the Washington, DC, metropolitan region. During the campaign, law firms and legal professionals compete to win the most points supporting the food bank by donating money, food, or volunteering. In 2025, from a collective effort of the legal community in Washington, D.C, the campaign raised almost \$580,000 for Food From The Bar DC, providing over a million meals to children and families in need. Learn more about Food From the Bar [here](#).