



2021 Advocacy Agenda

Our Advocacy Agenda creates clear priorities for Northern Illinois Food Bank's Advocacy Team during calendar year 2021. In addition to these targeted issues, we will track and take action on legislation that could impact the neighbors and communities we serve or our Food Bank. By focusing on key issues and relationship building, we will advocate for everyone in Northern Illinois to have the food they need to thrive.

Local Priorities:

- **Educate and advocate with our local government entities** to influence community hunger relief programs, partnerships, and initiatives

State Priorities:

- **Advocating for an Illinois budget that strongly supports social services**, the non-profit sector, and programs that are vital to those we serve and ultimately solving hunger
- **Advocating for administrative, distribution, and eligibility policies** that preserve and strengthen nutrition programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)

Federal Priorities:

- **Supporting and strengthening SNAP** through the continuation of emergency allotments
- **Extending Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)** to meet the nutritional needs of low-income households with school-aged children
- **Extending child nutrition waivers and flexibilities** into the 2021-2022 school year
- **Increasing funding for food purchases to support food banks through TEFAP** and purchasing of additional USDA foods
- **Investing in the infrastructure of the nation's charitable food system** by providing funds for cold storage and transportation capacity
- **Funding an emergency food box program** that will help food banks distribute nutritious, ready-to-load commodities to our neighbors
- **Increasing reliability, consistency, and equity in the Farmers to Families Food Box Program and extending the Food Purchase and Distribution Program**

For more information, please visit www.SolveHungerToday.org/Advocate