

Act Now to Preserve SNAP & Other Social Care Programs

SAMPLE SCRIPTS FOR CONTACTING LEGISLATORS & KEY TALKING POINTS

Why it Matters

Nearly 1 in 8 WA households already face hunger. Now, critical social care programs including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), school meals, and food bank funding face severe cuts. We know hunger isn't caused by individual choices—it's the result of systems that fail to ensure everyone has access to nutritious food. We're committed to both immediate food assistance AND addressing hunger's root causes through advocacy, awareness, and collective action.

But we can't do it alone.

What You Can Do

Contact your legislators and talk with your neighbors. It will take all of us, working together with a shared purpose, to protect these vital supports for people experiencing hunger and food insecurity. Find sample scripts and key talking points below.

SAMPLE SCRIPT: PHONE

- *Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME] and I'm a constituent from [YOUR CITY/TOWN]. I'm calling about the proposed cuts to food assistance programs.*
- *One in eight Washington households already struggles with food insecurity. The proposed cuts to SNAP, school meal programs, and food bank funding would make this situation significantly worse for our communities.*
- *These programs aren't just charity—they're essential investments in our state's health, education, and economy. For every SNAP dollar spent, \$1.50-\$1.80 is generated in local economic activity.*
- *I'm urging [LEGISLATOR'S NAME] to protect funding for food assistance programs and to consider the real impact these cuts would have on people in Washington.*
- *What is the [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE]'s position on protecting these vital programs?*
- *Thank you for your time.*

SAMPLE SCRIPT: EMAIL

Subject: Protect Food Assistance Programs in Washington

Dear [LEGISLATOR'S NAME],

As your constituent from [YOUR CITY/TOWN], I'm writing to express my deep concern about proposed cuts to essential food assistance programs.

The potential reductions to SNAP benefits, school meals, and food bank funding would have devastating consequences for the nearly one in eight Washington households already experiencing food insecurity. These programs provide critical support to children, seniors, working families, and vulnerable community members across our state.

I want to share why this matters to me personally:

[SHARE YOUR PERSONAL CONNECTION OR MOTIVATION]

These programs aren't just about providing immediate relief—they're about addressing the systemic barriers that cause hunger in the first place. Research shows that access to adequate nutrition improves health outcomes, educational achievement, and workforce productivity.

I urge you to:

- Oppose cuts to SNAP, school meal programs, and food bank funding
- Support policies that strengthen our food security safety net
- Address the underlying causes of hunger, including housing costs, healthcare access, and living wages

How do you plan to ensure Washington residents maintain access to these critical resources?

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR ADDRESS & CONTACT INFORMATION]

KEY TALKING POINTS FOR COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Economic Impact

- Every \$1 in SNAP benefits generates \$1.50-\$1.80 in local economic activity
- Food assistance programs support local farmers, grocers, and food systems
- Hunger costs Washington billions annually in healthcare, lost productivity, and educational outcomes

Children and Families

- Nearly half of all SNAP participants in Washington are children
- School meal programs ensure students can learn and thrive
- Working families often rely on food assistance to make ends meet despite employment

Community Impact

- Food banks and pantries cannot fill the gap if federal and state support is cut
- Rural communities are disproportionately affected by food assistance reductions
- Programs like SNAP are among the most effective anti-poverty tools we have

Systemic Solutions

- Food insecurity is a symptom of broader systemic issues
- Investing in food security saves costs in healthcare, education, and social services
- Food assistance should be viewed as a fundamental right, not charity