



**Hunger Free
Communities
Network**

April, 2020

Hunger Free Communities Network™ QUARTERLY BULLETIN

New ways to collaborate with the network

We hope you are staying healthy and safe both physically and mentally during these trying times. Thank you for your continued efforts to support the people who need it most. We have taken your suggestions and created the following opportunities to share information with the network.

The Alliance has created a [Covid-19 Resources and Needs page](#) with up to date information from the Center for Disease Control, US Department of Agriculture and other reliable sources, as well as a tab for sharing the HFC's specific resource requests. [Send us your requests](#) to have them added to the list.

We have launched an ongoing platform for HFC members to share resources, [The HFC Google Group](#). In the short term, the drive features a Covid-19 Response Folder where you can find information on new coalition practices during the pandemic, guidance from State, Federal, and National organizations, and more.

For more direct communication we have started a private [Hunger Free Communities Network Information Sharing group](#) on Facebook. It is a place to share and ask other HFC members for guidance, suggestions, examples, or tools to help your communities.

Amazon Accepts SNAP EBT in Select States

The USDA has teamed up with Amazon for a pilot to allow SNAP EBT use online for grocery delivery. This opportunity allows SNAP recipients to continue to receive food while many grocery stores are unable to stock shelves quickly enough, and helps promote social distancing. Amazon currently accepts SNAP EBT in AL, FL, IA, NE, NY, OR, and WA.

For more information, visit the Amazon SNAP page [here](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT HFC QUARTERLY WEBINAR

Tuesday, June 9th,
2:00PM-3:30PM (EDT)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

THE 2020 HFC SUMMIT WILL BE VIRTUAL!

Details to come.

Community Foodbank of Central Alabama Hiring Chief Executive Officer

The Food Bank seeks an executive who is driven to combat hunger, who is a passionate servant-leader, and who brings relevant professional experience in managing an organization of similar complexity and scope. This person will bring passion for the mission and the multiple talents required to ensure the Food Bank realizes its ambitious aspirations. Find more information [here](#).

Become a Global Gardener!

Seed Programs

International is looking for partners for their buy one give one seed packet buying program. Could you benefit from seed donations? Contact [Rosanna Kingston](#) or visit the [SPI website](#) for more information.

UPDATES TO OUR RESOURCE LIBRARY

WE'VE ADDED SOME MORE RESOURCES TO OUR [LIBRARY](#)! HERE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS:

“The Disaster Relief Playbook” by O’Side Kitchen Collaborative

“Food Security in a Pandemic” by PAHO and WHO

“Measuring Racial Equity in the Food System: Established and Suggested Metrics” by MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

“#RealCollege 2020: Five Years of Evidence on Campus Basic Needs Insecurity” by The Hope Center

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

Move For Hunger Partners with Worldwide Moving & Storage to Rescue Fresh Produce

With increased demand for food assistance due to Covid-19, Food Share of Ventura County asked Move For Hunger for help delivering shipments. Worldwide Moving and Storage agreed to join their network and deliver 14 pallets of tomatoes and cucumbers and 40 pallets of paper products and diapers to Food Share. Learn more about Move For Hunger at their [website](#).

Swipe Out Hunger and Hunger Free NJ on Passing the Hunger Free Campus Bill

Each year, 1 in 3 college students go hungry. And this year, with the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis, we expect food security to be a challenge for even more students and their families. While traditional anti-hunger programs make a difference, the presence of hunger on campus continues. That’s why Swipe Out Hunger and a number of Hunger Free coalitions are advocates of the Hunger Free Campus Act. To date, the bill has sent over \$20 million directly to campuses to fight hunger.

In 2017, Swipe Out Hunger ideated and helped to pass the new Hunger Free Campus Bill. First passed in California in July 2017, the bill creates a financial incentive for public colleges to develop a Swipe Out Hunger program and other hunger fighting initiatives. The bill required campuses have three things to access the funds: at least one staff member able to conduct SNAP enrollment, a campus pantry or popup pantry and if the campus had meal plans, a Swipe Out Hunger program which allows students to donate their meal swipes to their peers.

Following the passage of the bill, Swipe Out Hunger worked directly with the state’s public colleges, supporting them in effectively scale meal assistance programs and ensuring they were eligible to receive the funds.

Our west coast movement made its way to New Jersey in 2019 when Hunger Free NJ passed the NJ Hunger Free Campus Act. Under the leadership of Adele LaTourette, a \$1 million fund was established in the Garden State to support sustainable solutions to address campus hunger. Again, Swipe Out Hunger worked with campuses across the state to ensure their compliance and thus ability to receive these funds. Currently, Maryland and Pennsylvania have introduced their own Hunger Free Campus Bills.

As students return to campus, basic needs insecurity for low-income students will be at an all time high. Campuses, nonprofits, and local governments will need new solutions to address this need. Swipe Out Hunger will be there stepping into action and co-creating innovative solutions that address the persisting need of college students. We invite more Hunger Free Communities Network partners to work with us to bring Hunger Free Campus Bills to your states.

To learn more, reach out to [Robb Friedlander](#).

If you have any questions or feedback, or if you'd like to share any news with the rest of the network in our next bulletin, please reach out to Olivia McConnell at omeconnell@alliancetoendhunger.org.

