



NEW YORK

## Memo of Support – New York State Budget SFY 22-23

Since the start of the pandemic, food insecurity has risen significantly especially right here in New York. As many as 1 in 5 children in New York state could live in food insecure homes. It is critical that New York State enact policies, pass legislation and implement a state budget that will provide tools and resources to help New Yorkers struggling with hunger. Further, with federal support expiring, now is the time for New York State to step up and invest in solutions that will help New Yorkers put food on the table. No Kid Hungry New York supports the following programs in the New York State budget:

- **Invest at least \$34 million to expand free school meal programs** which provide more than 120,000 students with breakfast and lunch during School Year 2022-2023. By investing state dollars in a CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) Incentive, NYS would also draw down up to \$ 8million in additional federal funds.
- **Increase funding to \$5 million for the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP).** NOEP, provides outreach, education and SNAP application services to potentially eligible low-income New Yorkers. In the previous year, NOEP helped over 25,000 households receive SNAP benefits in New York.
- **Level funding of \$258,000 for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) outreach and assistance.** CACFP is a federally-funded nutrition assistance program that provides healthy meals and snacks to low-income children in child care centers, family day care and after-school programs. These funds allow for outreach and technical support to eligible child care providers. Currently, only 50% of eligible licensed day care and afterschool providers participate in CACFP.
- **Update the 30% NYS Lunch Reimbursement Initiative Budget Language and Maintain \$10 million in funding for the Farm to School Purchasing Incentive.** The Farm to School Purchasing Incentive encourages school districts to purchase and serve more New York grown food to kids and this change would also add breakfast to the program.
- **Grown the Farm to School Grants Program Investment to \$3 million.** Increase the current investment for the Farm to School Grants Program to \$3 million to help schools purchase more farm fresh foods by supporting equipment purchases, staff training, and hiring of farm to school coordinators.
- **Increase funding for the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) to \$54 million.** HPNAP provides funding for food banks, food pantries and other emergency food providers across the state and an increase is necessary to adjust for rising food costs and increased need.
- **At least \$85 million in funding for Nourish New York.** Nourish New York connects New York products with the state's food bank network and provides food to those who turn to the emergency food network for help.

For more information, please contact Rachel Sabella, Director of No Kid Hungry New York, at [rsabella@strength.org](mailto:rsabella@strength.org) or 646.517.3657.