NEW YORK NEW YORK STATE BUDGET PRIORITIES

As many as **1 in 6** children in New York State could live in food insecure homes. As families in every corner of New York State struggle to put food on the table, it is critical that the State enact policies, pass legislation and implement a state budget that help those struggling with hunger.

Further, with the expiration of federal support, 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 FY 24-25 budget:

- Support \$13 million for the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Program. Summer EBT is a new federal grocery benefit for eligible families that will provide \$120 for eligible families for the summer months. In order to draw down these funds, New York State must contribute half of the administrative funds \$13 million which is included in the Executive Budget proposal.
- Fully Fund Healthy School Meals for All New York Kids. While the budget maintains funding for the expansion of no-cost school meals (breakfast and lunch) through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), it does not include additional funds for statewide expansion.
- Increase funding to \$5.503 million for the Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP). NOEP, provides outreach, education and SNAP application services to potentially eligible low-income New Yorkers.
- 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.
- Increase funding for the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) to \$64 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.
- Support \$75 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.
- Level funding of \$250,000 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.

For more information, please contact Rachel Sabella, Director of No Kid Hungry New York, at <u>rsabella@strength.org</u> or 646.517.3657.