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Ohio Association of Foodbanks Applauds President Biden For Quick and Immediate Action to Address Hunger

Media Statement from Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, executive director of the Ohio Association of Foodbanks

“We applaud President Biden’s leadership during this unprecedented crisis. As he said in his press conference today, that we have a moral imperative to address this economic and hunger crisis caused by the pandemic, that is impacting 50 million people, including 17 million children who are facing hunger and food insecurity.

President Biden’s executive order to address food insecurity sends an important message to the nation that ending hunger in this country must be a top priority.

This sound and effective action not only provides desperately needed support for tens of millions of Americans struggling to put food on the table but is also an effective trigger for jump-starting the economy. Biden’s new order will allow states to increase SNAP emergency allotments for those who need it most and expand the Pandemic EBT benefits for students who would have qualified for free or reduced-priced school meals were school in session. The executive order will begin the work of revising the Thrifty Food Plan – the basis for determining SNAP benefits – to better factor in the economic realities that families in need must navigate today when accessing their next meal.

President Biden’s leadership and actions are a start to mitigate the spread and scope of this pandemic, while alleviating the burden that is being felt most by low-wage workers and parents.

Congress needs to follow President Biden’s lead and act now to pass a comprehensive COVID relief bill to mitigate the burden of this crisis on vulnerable America’s.”

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About the Ohio Association of Foodbanks

The Ohio Association of Foodbanks is Ohio’s largest charitable response to hunger, representing Ohio’s 12 Feeding America foodbanks and 3,600 member charities including food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. In SFY 2019, the association and its member foodbanks were able to acquire and distribute nearly 230 million pounds of food and grocery items. Follow the association on [Twitter](#), stay connected on [Facebook](#) and visit them on the web at www.ohiofoodbanks.org.