



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Ohio Association of Foodbanks Statement on State of Ohio's Action to Support Food Assistance
During Federal Government Shutdown**

Media Statement from Joree Novotny, executive director, Ohio Association of Foodbanks

“On behalf of the nearly 1.5 million Ohioans – primarily families with children, seniors, and disabled Ohioans – that count on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to help meet their monthly food needs, we thank Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, Ohio Senate President Rob McColley, Ohio House Speaker Matt Huffman, members of the Ohio General Assembly, and our partners at the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services for [today's announcement](#) to provide support for food assistance to help families impacted by the federal government shutdown.

“This meaningful stop-gap funding will assist our statewide foodbank network with its ongoing crisis response and provide additional direct assistance to families with children with very limited resources. The \$7 million directed toward foodbanks will help to replenish the food supply we have that is being rapidly depleted.

“Many corporate and retail partners, community foundations, city and county officials, and individual donors have extended support directly to families and to our hunger relief network as we respond to the impact of the shutdown on the frontlines, and we want to also extend our gratitude for their collective support.

“We agree with Governor DeWine that these responses and emergency funds are not a viable, long-term solution. Thank you to our partners at the State of Ohio for identifying resources to support responsive, short-term relief. We want to thank members of Ohio's congressional delegation for efforts to continue funding for SNAP during the shutdown, including U.S. Senators Husted and Moreno for their co-sponsorship of the Keep SNAP Funded Act of 2025.

“For individuals facing food budget shortfalls who need to locate emergency help with food, please visit ohiofoodbanks.org to [Find Your Foodbank](#) and search for food distributions near you. Thank you to the volunteers and helping hands that continue to give of their time in support of their fellow Ohioans as we work together to meet this moment.”

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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, hot meals, and other hunger relief programs. In SFY 2025, the association and its member foodbanks were able to acquire and distribute more than 235 million pounds of food and grocery items. Follow the association on X, stay connected on Facebook and visit them on the web at www.ohiofoodbanks.org.

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