

October 30, 2025

Dear Senators Capito and Justice; Representatives Miller and Moore:

As the government shutdown continues, the undersigned West Virginia organizations, congregations, food pantries, and small businesses urge you to use the podium and privilege of your office to do everything in your power to see that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) **rescind its memorandum issued to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) State Agency Directors on October 24th** which stated that USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is suspending all November 2025 SNAP benefit allotments.

As USDA has done during previous shutdowns, the agency can use its authority to designate contingency and carryover funds to keep SNAP running, a program on which nearly 42 million people rely to feed their families. Please do everything in your power to ensure that emergency contingency funds and all other available funds to distribute November SNAP benefits to families.

Allowing SNAP payments to lapse and hunger to deepen during a shutdown is not an inevitability, it is a policy choice and a preventable cruelty. West Virginia families need assurances that food assistance will continue and that their representatives are doing all they can to help.

Despite the USDA's [lapse of funding plan](#) indicating that funds would be available for SNAP during a lapse in appropriations, the Trump administration and USDA has thus far deprioritized protecting low-income families' access to food through SNAP.

Therefore, we the undersigned implore you to communicate with USDA and the Trump administration the urgency to use contingency funding to ensure that SNAP benefits continue into November, and beyond if necessary. Feeding families is not optional, it is a federal obligation.

Both Republican and Democratic administrations found ways to sustain this vital lifeline during previous shutdowns by using contingency funds, carryover appropriations, and short-term adjustments. These funding options are on the table, so we ask you to keep food on the table for the nearly 279,000 West Virginians who need it.

In the avoidable event that November benefits are delayed, any missed payments should be issued to the state retroactively when the government reopens.

Please uphold your responsibility to protect West Virginians.

Respectfully,

American Friends Service Committee

West Virginia Council of Churches

United Way of the River Cities

The Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia

Wellspring of Greenbrier

Saint James Episcopal Church - Lewisburg

Good News Mountaineer Garage

TEAM for West Virginia Children

Prevent Child Abuse WV

West Virginia Alliance for Sustainable Families

Mountain State Justice

KISRA

Ronceverte Episcopal Church of the Incarnation

Voices of Hunger WV

Doddridge County Farmers Market

Doddridge County Family Resource Network

Appalachian Community Partners

The Hope Dealer Project

Facing Hunger Foodbank

Family Resource Network of Roane County

Pleasants County FRN

St. Marks United Methodist Church, Charleston

West Virginia NAACP Conference

Race Matters, Inc

St. John's Episcopal Church
Temple Israel, Charleston
Temple Israel Social Action Committee
Greenbrier County Chapter of Read Aloud WV
Greenbrier County Health Alliance
The MARVEL Center
Glimmer Collaborative LLC
Zion Episcopal Church, Charles Town
Lewisburg/Fairlea Food Locker
West Virginia Citizen Action
West Virginia Institute for Spirituality
CHANGE, Inc.
West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy
West Virginia Faith Collective
T.L. Fruits and Vegetables
T.L. Soaps
Larna LLC
WVU Center for Resilient Communities