



## 2020 Oklahoma Food Banks Advocacy and Policy Priorities

*In order to “fight hunger and feed hope,” we must craft policies that address the root causes of hunger and poverty in Oklahoma. Economic, food, and health insecurities intersect and often affect one another. Stronger communities exist when people experience financial, health, and food stability.*

*We commit to both **feeding the line** through food distribution that helps those who fall on hard times and ultimately **shortening the line** as we advocate for improved conditions for Oklahoma families to thrive. This agenda sets a vision for local, state, and federal leaders of what is needed to end chronic hunger and put more Oklahomans on the path to self-sufficiency.*

Feed the Line	Shorten the Line
<p><b>Protect and Sustain:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Local, state, and federal resources that help increase awareness and access to vital hunger relief programs and their funding</b> like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Women Infant and Children (WIC), the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the Commodities Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).</li> <li>• <b>Charitable tax deductions, food donation tax incentives, and incentives</b> that help Oklahoma’s Food Banks and their partners feed more Oklahomans.</li> </ul> <p><b>Advocate for</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Child Nutrition programs</b> that reduce childhood hunger and improve wellness.</li> <li>• <b>Policies that reduce barriers and increase meals</b> through the Summer Food Service Program.</li> <li>• <b>Expanding access to federal nutrition programs</b> like school breakfast and lunch, summer meals, and SNAP.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Support and Strengthen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tax credits and programs that give relief to Oklahoma families</b> like making the Earned Income Tax Credit refundable, and increasing the sales tax relief credit.</li> <li>• <b>Policies that effectively expand access to nutritious foods</b> and incentivize healthier choices.</li> </ul> <p><b>Advocate for</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Retained integrity of programs</b> that make it possible for people to get the help they need.</li> <li>• <b>Policies that address the intersections of hunger and health</b>, like expanding health coverage, promoting nutritious education, and increasing utilization of nutrition assistance programs.</li> <li>• <b>Participation in the census</b>, to ensure more federal dollars come to Oklahoma for programs.</li> </ul>