



February 18, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs,

REQUEST: ROLL UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

The ACCESS Food Bank, a regional food bank serving Jackson County, is asking to roll-up one-time funds 2017-19 into the 2019-21 base budget for **Oregon Hunger Response Fund/DHS**, **Farm Direct Nutrition WIC/OHA**, and **Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors/OHA** (see table below for more details).

Here in Oregon, we're making progress in reducing hunger, but this progress is tenuous. Although unemployment rates may be lowering, high costs for housing and stagnant wages mean more Oregonians are forced to choose between food and rent. In recent years, ACCESS has seen an increase in the number of clients we serve and we continue to see a countywide poverty rate higher than the state average.

Recent data from the Oregon Food Bank Network shows patterns of food access similar to those we saw in 2009. We hope this is not a harbinger of recession- but we are planning for an ever-shifting environment. The Oregon Hunger Response Fund and funds like it are vital to our ability to react quickly and effectively to address hunger in our county.

Shifts in federal policy in the past twelve months have already created conditions necessitating funding at 2017-2019 levels. Responding to market fluctuations and trade tension, USDA is purchasing significant quantities of food from American farmers who have lost markets overseas. This unexpected but welcomed bounty—beginning in late 2018 and expected to flow through the end of 2019—has put pressures on our food bank infrastructure to distribute the highly perishable food quickly to hungry families in our county. This pressure has led to the need for immediate investments for additional staffing, cold storage space, and transportation. We have lifted pantry limits and currently allow families to visit our network of food pantries as frequently as needed to feed their families. Even with this audacious change, there are weeks when we struggle to make sure all food reaches a family in time to enjoy.



The increased availability of this nutritious food is only as good as our ability to effectively collect, store, and quickly distribute it to people in need. In Jackson County we have ambitious goals to stop the cycle of hunger and poverty but we need your help to strengthen our capacity and infrastructure. **Oregon's historic investments in state wide food assistance infrastructure have paid-off; they have delivered resilience and responsive programming in the face of these short-term fluctuations.**

I implore you to authorize the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets. Without this fund roll-up our Food bank will lose the \$65,000 gained with the initial \$1.3 million resulting in a reduction in workforce and most importantly, a reduction of food distributed to our county's most vulnerable.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachael Ward".

Rachael Ward
Nutrition Director
ACCESS

Cc

The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority



TABLE- ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| | | <i>Budget</i> | <i>One-time</i> | <u>Governor's Recommended</u> | <i><u>REQUESTED w/ one-time funds</u></i> |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | <u>DHS</u> | \$2.9 million | \$1.3 million | \$2.9 million | <u>\$4.2 million</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | <u>OHA</u> | \$86,888 | \$200,000 | \$6,025 | <u>\$286,888</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | <u>OHA</u> | \$227,421 | \$1,000,000 | \$262,598 | <u>\$1,227,421</u> |



Community Action Program East Central Oregon
Serving Umatilla • Morrow • Gilliam • Wheeler Counties

721 S.E. 3rd, Suite D, Pendleton, OR 97801
Phone: 541.276.1926 or 800.752.1139
FAX: 541-276-7541
www.capeco-works.org

February 18, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

CAPECO Food Share, a regional food bank serving Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wheeler counties, is asking to roll-up one-time funds 2017-2019 in these three specific programs for the 2019-2021 biennium: **Oregon Hunger Response Fund**, **Farm Direct Nutrition WIC**, and **Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors**. (See the attached table for more details.)

CAPECO Food Share serves as one of 21 Regional Food Banks in the state-wide Oregon Food Bank Network. We partner with the Oregon Food Bank, who delivers USDA commodities and donated food to CAPECO's warehouse in Pendleton and then rely on us to distribute the product to local food pantries and individuals across our four-county region.

We have used the Oregon Hunger Response Fund to directly acquire donations through food drives and from local food industry and agriculture. Our most distant distribution point is 200 miles from our warehouse. These funds have significantly helped to increase the perishable fresh and frozen produce that we distribute to the individuals living in some of the most rural communities in Oregon.

Oregon is making progress in reducing hunger. Last fall, when the United States Department of Agriculture (UDSA) annual food insecurity statistics were released, Oregon was closer to the national average than it has been in the last 15 years. But this progress is tenuous.

Shifts in federal policy in the past twelve months have already created conditions necessitating funding at 2017-2019 levels. Responding to market fluctuations and trade tension, USDA is purchasing significant quantities of food to support American farmers. Much of this nutritious food is highly perishable. Across the Oregon Food Bank Network, this unexpected bounty—beginning in late 2018 and expected to flow at least through the end of 2019—has put unexpected pressures on the food bank network infrastructure, resulting in immediate investments in additional refrigeration and freezers, transportation capacity and adaptive client services. The increased availability of nutritious food is only as good as our ability to effectively collect, store and quickly distribute it to people in need.

These funds are critical in serving families throughout our rural region in eastern Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tori Colvard
 Program Manager
 CAPECO Food Share

- cc The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
- The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
- Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
- Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
- Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
- Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

Attached Table – ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

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| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | OHA | \$86,888 | \$200,000 | \$6,025 | <i>\$286,888</i> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | OHA | \$227,421 | \$1,000,000 | \$262,598 | <i>\$1,227,421</i> |

Community Connection



Of Union County

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.

February 19th, 2019

Community Action Agency
Area Agency on Aging (Dist. 13)
Community Housing Development Organization
Youth and Intergenerational Program Agency

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon is asking the Legislature to roll-up one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the table attached for more details.)

Oregon is making progress in reducing hunger, but this progress is tenuous. Even as unemployment rates have dropped, the number of clients that Community Connection serves is increasing. We hope this is not a harbinger of recession – but we are planning for an ever-shifting environment. We anticipate policy instability at the federal level and a potential recession will impact food security in our state in the next biennium.

In the communities that Community Connection serves (Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties), we have also seen increasing housing instability, with a marked increase in homelessness in our communities. Rent continues to rise above the level of affordability for many of our clients. We often see families making the decision between rent and food, and we're glad to be able to help in their time of need. At Community Connection, we fund a staff member to pick up grocery rescue donations from local grocery stores in Union County. Much of those donations are shared throughout our four-county area. Through the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, we have doubled our grocery rescue pounds in the past year.

Shifts in federal policy in the past twelve months have already created conditions necessitating funding at 2017-2019 levels. Responding to market fluctuations and trade tension, USDA is purchasing significant quantities of food to support American farmers. Much of this nutritious food is highly perishable. Across the Oregon Food Bank Network, this unexpected bounty—beginning in late 2018 and expected to flow at least through the end of 2019—has put unexpected pressures on the food bank network infrastructure, resulting in immediate investments in additional refrigeration and freezers, transportation capacity and adaptive client services. The increased availability of nutritious food is only as good as our ability to effectively collect, store and quickly distribute it to people in need. Community Connection has a relatively small warehouse, but covers a relatively large service area. As our communities need access to fresh food, we work to get it to them. **Oregon's historic investments in state wide food assistance infrastructure have paid off, they have delivered resilience and responsive programing in the face of these short-term fluctuations.**

Community Connection



Of Union County

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.

Community Action Agency
Area Agency on Aging (Dist. 13)
Community Housing Development Organization
Youth and Intergenerational Program Agency

The consequences of recent federal action are still unfolding and will undoubtedly reverberate throughout Oregon's economy for some time. Additionally, the federal administration is attempting to chip away at SNAP eligibility through rule-making, Public Charge and Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents waivers being two recent examples. Because federal nutrition programs are the single most effective bulwark against hunger, even slight shifts in eligibility will significantly impact hunger rates in our communities.

Please authorize the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets. Without this fund roll-up, our Food Bank will lose \$65,000, resulting in a reduction of workforce, and possibly the amount of food we have been able to distribute to the most vulnerable people in our communities.

Sincerely,

Audrey Smith
Union County Manager and Regional Food Bank Manager
Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.

cc The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
Representative Greg Barreto
Senator Bill Hansell
Representative Lynn Findley
Senator Cliff Bentz
Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

Attachment: TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

Community Connection



Of Union County

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.

Community Action Agency
 Area Agency on Aging (Dist. 13)
 Community Housing Development Organization
 Youth and Intergenerational Program Agency

TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM | STATE AGENCY | 2017-19 ADOPTED | | 2019-21 BUDGET PROPOSED | |
|---|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | | <i>Budget</i> | <i>One-time</i> | Governor's Recommended | <i>REQUESTED AMOUNT w/ one-time funds</i> |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | DHS | <u>\$2.9 million</u> | <u>\$1.3 million</u> | <u>\$2.9 million</u> | <u>\$4.2 million requested</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | OHA | <u>\$86,888</u> | <u>\$200,000</u> | <u>\$6,025</u> | <u>\$286,888 requested</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | OHA | <u>\$227,421</u> | <u>\$1,000,000</u> | <u>\$262,598</u> | <u>\$1,227,421 requested</u> |

February 18th, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

I am a thirty-two year veteran of food security and food banking work across Oregon. Currently I am developing and managing Columbia Gorge Food Bank (CGFB), a transitional program of Oregon Food Bank serving Wasco, Hood River and Sherman counties. I am writing on behalf of the people and partner agencies we serve. CGFB is a three year old Regional Food Bank working to support hunger relief efforts and build food security for the population of the Gorge. Far too many residents of the region struggle to make ends meet because of a lack of affordable housing and the gap between wages and the actual cost of living. For too many people the money runs out before they make it to the grocery store. Food pantries and supplemental food programs are the only alternative to make ends meet. CGFB is currently serving 29 Partner Agencies at 34 sites and we are not reaching all those who are in need.

The Oregon Food Bank Network needs the certainty of a baseline budget that incorporates one-time funds from the previous biennium to ensure that we can respond to the following uncertainties in 2019-21:

- Volatility at the federal level that has impacted the SNAP program including limitations on eligibility and shutdown disruptions. SNAP and WIC recipients no longer trust the stability of the program benefits.
- The US/China trade-tariff impasse that has led to more USDA purchases of food coming to food banks, creating unplanned operational costs for storage and distribution; and
- Another recession would increase demand on food banks when food banks are still distributing food higher than the level before the 2007-09 Great Recession.

The loss of these funds could cause Columbia Gorge Food Bank to lose our truck driver position. That position is critical in acquiring local donations from grocery stores, food drives, orchards and local food processors. One of these donors is Tofurky whose average weekly donation is 4000 pounds. This donation is shared with the OFB Network and the inability to recover it could remove up to 200,000 pounds of a healthy protein from the Network's food supply. This driver delivers to our partner agencies throughout the region.

We have made a major increase in services to rural communities and underserved populations, but there is still a need to expand services to meet the region's needs. A loss of these funds would halt that expansion.

Please roll-up one-time funds 2017-19 into the 2019-21 base budget for **Oregon Hunger Response Fund/DHS, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC/OHA, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors/OHA.**

Sincerely,



Sharon Thornberry
Manager, Columbia Gorge Food Bank
541=609-8903

**COLUMBIA GORGE
FOOD BANK**

*Serving Wasco, Hood River
and Sherman counties*

3610 Crates Way, The Dalles, Oregon
541-370-2333

| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
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P.O. Box 1031, St. Helens, OR 97051
cpfb@cpfoodbank.org

Serving Columbia County
www.cpfoodbank.org

Phone: (503) 397-9708

February 14, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

Request: Roll-up of one time funds in hunger programs for 2019-2021

Hunger in Columbia County continues to increase despite the positive news about the economy. We have seen an increase of 6.5% in the number of household accessing our distribution system in the last year. It has increased 12.9% with the number of individuals increasing 9.9% when compared to 2015. Our current numbers are higher than 2009 when the most recent recession was hitting our area the hardest.

We have used the Oregon Hunger Response Fund to increase our distribution network from 21 to 39 locations throughout the county over the past 5 years. We have increased our distribution from 5.5 tons to 12 tons a week during that same time span. These funds have also helped to underwrite the increased storage and distribution costs of the large amount of perishable fresh and frozen produce that we distribute to create healthier food consumption for those in need.

The Farm Direct Nutrition WIC and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors funds have been successfully used at the Clatskanie Farmer's Market creating a very positive impact in an area with a high rate of poverty.

The current environment is unpredictable, but indications are that there will be an increased need for access to food at the local level with the uncertainty of the continuation of current levels of support at the federal level and the potential for another recession.

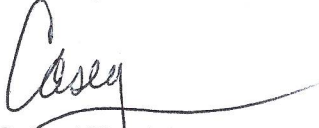
The Columbia Pacific Food Bank is asking to roll-up one-time funds from the 2017-2019 in these three specific programs for the 2019-2021 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the attached table for more details).

We are committed to continuing our work regardless of the political and economic environment and hope that you will collaborate with us by authorizing the Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Department of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-2012 base budgets.

"BECAUSE NO ONE SHOULD BE HUNGRY!"

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Casey Wheeler
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kim Fredlund, Department of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

Attachment: Table – Anti-Hunger Programs Requests for 2019-2021 Budget

TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM | STATE AGENCY | 2017-19 ADOPTED | | 2019-21 BUDGET PROPOSED | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Budget | One-time | Governor's Recommended | REQUESTED AMOUNT w/ one-time funds |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | DHS | \$2.9 million | \$1.3 million | \$2.9 million | \$4.2 million requested |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | OHA | \$86,888 | \$200,000 | \$6,025 | \$286,888 requested |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | OHA | \$227,421 | \$1,000,000 | \$262,598 | \$1,227,421 requested |



FOOD
For Lane County

770 Bailey Hill Road
Eugene, OR 97402
PH (541) 343-2822
FX (541) 343-5019
info@foodforlanecounty.org
foodforlanecounty.org

Board of Directors

Linda Eaton, Chair

Lane County Health &
Human Services (retired)

Mike Drennan, Vice Chair

Home Federal Bank (retired)

Rachel Ulrich, Secretary

Pacific Continental Bank

Stephen Mallery, Past Chair

Mallery Financial

Diana Bray, Member at Large

5th Street Public Market

Benj Epstein

Epstein + Associates

Keri Garcia

Moss Adams

Todd Gorham

Umpqua Bank

Greg Hazarabedian

Public Defender Services of Lane
County, Inc. (retired)

Justin King

King Estate Winery

Charles Stanton

Stanton Vineyard

Sarah Stapleton

University of Oregon

Jossi Stokes

Pearly Whites of Eugene

Boris Wiedenfeld-Needham

Bo's Wine Depot, Inc.

Dr. Thomas K. Wuest

Trillium Community Health Plan

Distribution
Partner of



FFLC is an equal opportunity
provider and a member of

LIVE UNITED



and the Oregon Food Bank Network

February 14th 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

Request: ROLL-UP ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Lane County's hunger rate is 15.4% and is among the 2nd highest of Oregon counties. Chronic and persistent hunger remains an issue that we continue to address. Some reasons our Lane County neighbors are experiencing high hunger, despite and improving economy include low paying jobs, part time hours and high housing costs. Many in our community have not been able to recover from the recession losses, and the recent government shutdown has created uncertainty, gaps in federal nutrition assistance and lost pay for some of our friends.

Additionally, renters in Lane County continue to experience food insecurity at much higher rates than home owners considering 30% of Lane County renters are paying more than half their income towards housing expenses, and at the same time, more than one in three Lane County residents (32%) is eligible for emergency food assistance (living at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level). Seniors and children in our county continue to need on-going assistance, face housing instability, and parents of young children working on low-incomes struggle to meet rising day care costs. More than half of Lane County children qualify for free/reduced school meals.

Although Lane County's unemployment rate is up slightly which signals an improving job picture, the level of need is not decreasing. **For these reasons, we are requesting a roll up of one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors.**

For FOOD for Lane County, without the one-time funds from the last biennium rolled into the base budget, it will mean close to 65,000 less over two years to assist us with meeting the high demand that we are experiencing in our community. Moreover, we have already diverted funds from other programming to account for delays and the uncertainty the shutdown has caused, which has also impacted our ability to get our second warehouse up and running.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beverlee Potter,
Executive Director, FOOD for Lane County

Cc:

The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee

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535 NE 1st Street | Newport Or. 97365 | 541-265-8578
www.foodsharelincolncounty.org

February 14, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chair of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97391

Dear Co-Chairs,

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Food Share of Lincoln County, a regional food bank of the Oregon Food Bank Statewide Network, is asking to roll-up one-time funds 2017-19 into the 2019-21 base budget for **Oregon Hunger Response Fund/DHS, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC/OHA, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors/OHA**. (See attached table for more details)

These funds are critical in serving families in our coastal communities of Lincoln County. Program recipients have shared their stories with us such as “retirement hit us hard and we’d be hurting without your food help” or “the food share program has made it so my medication is more affordable” and “if not for this program, my 9 year old son would not be able to eat at the end of the month”. Our pantries, meal sites, after school and senior outreach programs provide help and hope to those affected by lack of affordable housing, low-wage/seasonal jobs, and the high cost of healthcare.

During the recent partial government shutdown, Food Share of Lincoln County handled numerous phone calls from concerned community members and local government officials, as to how our food bank could respond to the financial crisis many of our Coast Guard and federally employed families were facing. Having year-round food assistance programs in place, we were able to provide immediate resources for families facing the hardship of missing a paycheck(s), with no waiting period needed to implement services.

Food Share of Lincoln County has utilized Oregon Hunger Response funds to engage in partnerships with our local medical community by implementing nutrition education programs for children, teens, families and seniors to promote health dietary choices, along with hands-on instruction for meal preparation and shopping on a budget. Additional community collaborations include screen and intervene programs with public health and the school district to identify and support school aged kids experiencing food insecurity.

OHRF funds have significantly helped cover the increased costs of storage and distribution associated with our expanded programming and distribution of healthy fresh food.

The consequences of recent federal action along with the uncertainty of SNAP funding will significantly impact hunger rates in the rural coastal community of Lincoln County. Please join Food Share of Lincoln County and the Oregon Food Bank Network in the fight against hunger in our state by authorizing the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$ 2.5 million in one-time funds to support these critical anti-hunger programs.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Nancy Mitchell
Executive Director
Food Share of Lincoln County

Cc: The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
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Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

Attachment: TABLE-ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | <u>Budget</u> | <u>One-time</u> | <u>Governor's Recommended</u> | <u>REQUESTED w/ one-time funds</u> |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | DHS | \$2.9 million | \$1.3 million | \$2.9 million | <u>\$4.2 million</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | OHA | \$86,888 | \$200,000 | \$6,025 | <u>\$286,888</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | OHA | \$227,421 | \$1,000,000 | \$262,598 | <u>\$1,227,421</u> |



Josephine County Food Bank

3658 Upper River Road
PO Box 250
Grants Pass, Oregon 97528
Phone: (541) 479-5556
Fax: (541) 476-6268

Feb. 13, 2019

To: Sen Betsy Johnson
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
Rep. Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Funding for hunger programs in 2019-21 budget

President John Kennedy delivered a speech in 1963 that included the observation “A rising tide lifts all boats.” His message was clear: An improving national economy will eventually improve life for all Americans.

The ups and downs in the American economy during the last 56 years cast doubt on the veracity of the president’s rhetoric. It can minimally be said that a rising tide does not lift all boats equally, which is certainly true when it comes to people struggling with food insecurity in Josephine County.

At the peak of the “Great Recession,” our food bank was helping to feed more than 13,000 people each and every month. By the end of 2017, this number had declined to 11,000. But beginning early in 2018, demand started to tick back up and we are now serving more than 12,000 people a month. This steady increase over the course of the past 12 months has taken place at a time when our nation’s economy is strong and unemployment is low. Clearly, not all boats are rising.

Even these numbers don’t tell the whole story of food insecurity in Josephine County. According to the Oregon Department of Human Services, more than 22,000 residents in Josephine County – including families with a total of 6,600 children – qualify for the federal SNAP program. That’s more than 1 in 4 of all residents in our county. Depending on decisions made at the federal level about this important federal nutrition program – the real first line of defense against hunger in our state and in our nation – we could be seeing many of these people seeking help from the pantries in our network.

Therefore, it is extremely important that funding for programs aimed at feeding those who need our help remain at levels at least equal to where they were in the 2017-19 budget. I respectfully request that the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, administered by the Department of Human Services, be funded at \$4.2 million in the 2019-21 budget, the same level as in the previous budget. Similarly, I would ask that the Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors program be funded at its previous level of \$286,888 and the Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families program be funded at its previous level of \$1,227,421.

“Because no one should be hungry!”

This funding, particularly the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, is critical to our operations at the Josephine County Food Bank. We do all we can to utilize volunteers – last year volunteers contributed more than 9,400 hours of their time to the Josephine County Food Bank. However, whether we are talking about local food drives, our participation in the Fresh Alliance food rescue program in partnership with local grocers, or other food-sourcing efforts, it still takes considerable time, effort and energy by our staff to round up this food and get it out to the people who need it. Cuts in the OHRF program would seriously impede our ability to source this food in an efficient and safe manner.

We are committed to serving those facing food insecurity in our community. I respectfully request that you consider maintaining funding levels for these critical programs.

Sincerely,



Kevin Widdison
Executive Director
Josephine County Food Bank

“Because no one should be hungry!”



PO Box 1920 • Corvallis OR 97339 • 541-758-2609 • www.linnbentonfoodshare.org

...dedicated to eliminating hunger in Linn and Benton Counties

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Access to healthy food is important to all our communities. The investments by the State of Oregon in anti-Hunger programs is crucial to ensuring that “everybody eats” and thrives. Linn Benton Food Share is asking to roll-up one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the table attached for more details.)

Crucial investments through the Oregon Hunger Response Fund have strengthened Linn Benton Food Share’s ability to respond to community needs as they arise. In the days of the recent Federal Government Shutdown, our community looked to Linn Benton Food Share to fill rising need and assure our food insecure neighbors that resources would be available. The Oregon Hunger Response Fund, supporting our ability to acquire and distribute food, was at the heart of this pledge.

Perhaps more troubling than episodic changes in the political climate is the steady demand for emergency food services in Linn and Benton Counties. Linn Benton Food Share is delivering more food and feeding more people through our Network today that at the height of the Great Recession (even after accounting for population growth). In fact, emergency food box distribution is 12.1% higher today than in 2009-10. The need for Oregon Hunger Response Funds is very real.

The investment the State of Oregon is making in the Oregon Food Bank Network pays off in more than simply pounds of food distributed. With each emergency food box given out, caring goes along with it. Food banks are at the center of community compassion, where volunteers give their time, but also learn about themselves and their town. At the same time, recipients are presented with crucial food and the knowledge that it’s their community, too.



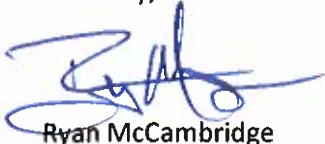
*Linn Benton Food Share is a department of Community Services Consortium
and a member of the Oregon Food Bank network*



We ask for the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets.

We can do more together, demonstrating the power of food to unite our communities in this crucial fight against Hunger. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Ryan McCambridge
Director
Linn Benton Food Share

cc The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

Attachment: TABLE – ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

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| ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM | STATE AGENCY | 2017-19 ADOPTED | | 2019-21 BUDGET PROPOSED | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
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| OR Hunger Response Fund | DHS | \$2.9 million | \$1.3 million | \$2.9 million | \$4.2 million requested |
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February 19, 2019

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The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Marion-Polk Food Share cares about the people in our community and believes that everyone deserves access to healthy food, every day.

The Food Share collects and distributes food to a network of more than 100 partner-agencies, including meal sites, food pantries, foster homes, low-income day care centers, shelters and senior housing sites across the Mid-Valley.

Marion-Polk Food Share is currently providing food assistance to nearly 40,000 individuals each month. In addition, the Food Share runs the local Meals-On-Wheels program serving nearly 500 seniors a day with a warm meal delivered by caring volunteers.

To best meet the needs of those in our community who are facing hunger on a regular basis, I am asking the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to roll-up one-time funds in three specific anti-hunger programs: The Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition – WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition – Seniors. (See the table below for more details.)

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Rick Gaupo
President & CEO
Marion-Polk Food Share

A member of



Leading the fight to hunger in Marion and Polk counties...because no one should be hungry.
1660 Salem Industrial Drive NE • Salem, OR 97301-0374 • P: 503 581-3855 • www.marionpolkfoodshare.org



TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM | STATE AGENCY | 2017-19 ADOPTED | | 2019-21 BUDGET PROPOSED | |
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February 18th, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs,

REQUEST: Roll-up of one-time funds in anti-hunger programs for 2019-21

I am reaching out to you as the manager of OFB Metro Services, the Oregon Food Bank Branch striving to ensure that the estimated 157,000 food insecure people in Multnomah and Clackamas Counties have reliable access to healthy, culturally appropriate food. OFB Metro Services serves this area through a strong, dedicated network of 260 community partners, including organizations like SnowCap, the Linnton Community Center, Sisters of the Road Café, Lift Urban Portland, our incredible School Pantry partners, and many more.

As a member of the Oregon Food Bank Statewide Network, OFB Metro Services is asking to roll-up one-time funds in three specific anti-hunger programs: **The Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition - WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition – Seniors.** (The attached table gives more details).

Last fall, the USDA released its annual report on hunger in America, and it showed that overall, we are winning the fight against hunger in Oregon. The food insecurity rate in Oregon is closer to that of the country at large for the first time in 15 years. And yet this progress is tenuous, and it is uneven. A strengthening economy and employment rate in the Portland Metro area doesn't benefit everyone equally. As an Oregon Employment Department economist is quoted in a recent Gresham Outlook [article](#), "there is more poverty and unemployment in this county than Central Oregon, Eastern Oregon and the Oregon Coast combined." Indeed, we know that for the nearly 90,000 individuals and families we serve each month, the high cost of living in the Metro area creates a relentless cycle of poverty and food insecurity. Compounding this is the volatility of our current political climate, as many people we serve experience hostility due to immigration status.

And volatility is expected to continue to threaten the Oregon Food Bank Network's fragile achievements in Oregon's food insecurity rate. Every month seems to offer a new shock, putting pressure on our systems and necessitating at least 2017-19 biennium funding levels for the Oregon Hunger Response Fund and other anti-hunger efforts. These shocks look like:

- Unexpectedly large volumes of American commodities flowing through our Network, driven by increases to the USDA TEFAP program in response to federal trade policy. Much of this food is highly perishable – e.g. fresh produce, fluid milk – so while it gives us an important resource to continue our fight against hunger, this food is only as helpful as our ability to quickly move it.

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Headquarters /
Metro Services
7900 NE 33rd Drive
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503-282-0555

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Washington County
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503-439-6510

Oregon Food Bank
Tillamook County
Services
PO Box 1344
Tillamook, OR 97141
503-842-3154

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- The historically long government shutdown, which created the conditions for food insecurity for the first time for furloughed federal employees while compounding existing levels of food insecurity. In the Metro area, we were able to rapidly respond to a request for food assistance from the Coast Guard Base on Swan Island by offering mobile pantry services to over 100 households that were working without pay. The shutdown also created the current predicament to SNAP recipients, who received their February benefits on January 18th, and won't see their benefits again until March 1. Our partners are reporting increased numbers and a markedly higher degree of anxiety and fear due to the shutdown and the resulting "SNAP Gap."
- A steady stream of natural disasters both here in Oregon and across the country. As providers of a one of the most basic needs, we are called to respond to communities in crisis during and after a fire or hurricane. We are committed to supporting those impacted by natural disaster, as well as those impacted by the disaster that is hunger on a daily basis.
- The looming threat of the next economic recession. Another recession would increase demand for food assistance, which is our Network is already providing at a level higher than during the 2007-09 Great Recession.

Given the size of the food insecurity population in the Metro area, each of these shocks reverberates more profoundly. And yet in the face of all this uncertainty, OFB Metro Services and the Oregon Food Bank Network is a remarkable demonstration of strength, coordination, and commitment to a shared mission. We have been there, and will continue to be there, for our neighbors facing hunger.

We ask that the Joint Ways & Means Committee affirms the state's investment in the fight against hunger by taking the steps necessary to roll up \$2.5M in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority base budgets.

Thank you for your continued collaboration,



Jen Turner
Regional Network Manager
Oregon Food Bank – Metro Services

Cc: The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
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February 19, 2019
The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services is a branch of Oregon Food Bank and part of the Oregon Food Bank Network of Regional Food Banks. We currently serve over 30 partner agencies throughout the Malheur and Harney counties. At this time we are not reaching all the food insecure and underserved individuals, seniors, families, and children throughout these 2 large counties.

In addition to storing a distributing food, one of our biggest challenges is the vast distance we have to cover. Our ability to effectively serve our communities is greatly enhanced by Oregon Hunger Relief Funds (OHRF). We use OHRF to support storage and distribution costs associated with increased fresh and frozen produce in our network. Additionally, these funds provide capacity to deliver to communities that are a 2.5 hour drive one way from our warehouse as well as a new community school pantry that serves a rural community in Malheur County that is approximately 20 minutes from food access.

In the last biennium, OHRF one time funds provided Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services the ability to replace our refrigerated truck that was totaled in an accident in November 2017 and has increased our capacity to provide services to people experiencing hunger at schools and in low-income housing communities. This distribution strategy and programming dovetails with where people are physically located during the day. As a result, it removes many barriers including: lack of transportation; limited time in the day to access services; and social stigma.

Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services is asking to roll-up one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the table attached for more details.)

As I'm sure you are aware, the recent partial federal government shut down increased pressures on food banks like ours. Even though it's over, there are still consequences we need to weather. SNAP benefits were released early for February. We believe this will result in SNAP recipients experiencing a gap in benefits at the end of February and cause an increase in the number of SNAP recipients accessing our programs, some for the first time. In addition, more USDA purchases of food are coming to food banks, creating unplanned operational costs for storage and distribution. There is also a likelihood of another recession that would increase demand on food banks. To ensure that we can continue to respond to the needs of people experiencing hunger in our communities, please authorize the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sheila Hiatt
Branch Services Manager
Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services

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Oregon Food Bank -
Southeast Oregon Services
773 S Oregon Street
Ontario, OR 97914-3914
541-889-9206



| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
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February 19, 2019
The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Oregon Food Bank Tillamook County Services is a branch of Oregon Food Bank and part of the Oregon Food Bank Network of Regional Food Banks. We serve over 30 partner agencies and provide programs for seniors, families, children, and underserved individuals throughout the county.


Our ability to effectively serve our communities is greatly enhanced by Oregon Hunger Relief Funds (OHRF). We use OHRF to support storage and distribution costs associated with increased fresh and frozen produce in our network. Additionally, these funds provide capacity to deliver to the 3 new Community Baskets programs in North County, increasing access to food from 2 hours to over 30 hours a week. We are also able to deliver to 2 new School Pantries in Tillamook School District 9 and a new pantry at Tillamook Bay Community College.

In the last biennium, Oregon Hunger Relief one time funds increased our capacity to provide services to people experiencing hunger at schools and in low-income housing communities. This distribution strategy and programming dovetails with where people are physically located during the day. As a result, it removes many barriers including: lack of transportation; limited time in the day to access services; and social stigma.

Oregon Food Bank Tillamook County Services is asking to roll-up one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the table attached for more details.)

During the recent partial government shutdown, SNAP benefits were released early for February. We believe this will result in SNAP recipients experiencing a gap in benefits at the end of February and cause an increase in the number of SNAP recipients accessing our programs, some for the first time. In addition, more USDA purchases of food are coming to food banks, creating unplanned operational costs for storage and distribution. There is also a likelihood of another recession that would increase demand on food banks. To ensure that we can continue to respond to the needs of people experiencing hunger in our communities, please authorize the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, 
M. Carlson-Swanson
Branch Services Manager
Oregon Food Bank Tillamook County Services

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541-889-9206





| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
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Oregon Food Bank -
 Southeast Oregon Services
 773 S Oregon Street
 Ontario, OR 97914-3914
 541-889-9206



February 19, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-chairs of the Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301



RE: Funding for hunger programs for 2019-21

I am reaching out to you as the representative of Oregon Food Bank Washington County Services and member of the Oregon Food Bank Network. Hunger exists every day in Washington County; which is one of the most beautifully diverse communities in Oregon. Washington County Services has about 100 partners, including pantries, meal sites, shelters, residential treatment centers, community centers, school programs such as school pantries, backpack programs, and before/after school programs. Washington County is home to diverse families and seniors but our largest school district has the most homeless students in the state.

The Coalition of Communities of Color report “Leading With Race; Research Justice in Washington County,” states that communities of color in Washington County experience disproportionately negative outcomes in employment, income, education, community safety, and health. We have a humble responsibility to value and respect our Washington County community members and ensure that no one is hungry. We have used the Oregon Hunger Response Fund to increase food distribution network across our county. Last year alone, Oregon Food Bank Washington County Services served 27,000 individuals. This funding is imperative to serve our hungry neighbors in Washington County and across our state.

The Oregon Food Bank Network needs the certainty of a baseline budget that incorporates one-time funds from the previous biennium to ensure that we can respond to the following uncertainties in 2019-21:

- Volatility at the federal level that has impacted the SNAP program including limitations on eligibility and shutdown disruptions. Our neighbors are running out of their SNAP benefits early in February as the result of the federal shutdown. They will be coming to food banks sooner than usual for food assistance, putting pressure on operations and food supply.
- The US/China trade-tariff impasse that has led to more USDA purchases of food coming to food banks, creating unplanned operational costs for storage and distribution; and
- Another recession that would increase demand on food banks when food banks are still distributing food higher than the level before the 2007-09 Great Recession.

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**Columbia Gorge
Food Bank**
3610 Crates Way
The Dalles, OR 97058
541-370-2333



We are committed to our community and will continue to work and advocate for our hungry neighbors. We hope that you will partner with us and authorize the roll-up of one time funds from 2017-19 into the 2019-21 base budget for **Oregon Hunger Response Fund/DHS, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC/OHA, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors/OHA.**

Sincerely,



Amy Powers
Washington County Services
Oregon Food Bank

CC:

The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
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The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

Attachment: Table - Anti-hunger Programs Requests for 2019-21 Budget



| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | <u>Budget</u> | <u>One-time</u> | <u>Governor's Recommended</u> | <u>REQUESTED w/ one-time funds</u> |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | <u>DHS</u> | \$2.9 million | \$1.3 million | \$2.9 million | <u>\$4.2 million</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | <u>OHA</u> | \$86,888 | \$200,000 | \$6,025 | <u>\$286,888</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | <u>OHA</u> | \$227,421 | \$1,000,000 | \$262,598 | <u>\$1,227,421</u> |





Oregon Coast Community Action

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February 18, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court St. SE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN THE HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

South Coast Food Share, the Regional Foodbank that services all cities within Coos and Curry Counties, wishes to ask to roll-up one-time fund levels of 2017-19 into the 2019-21 budget for these specific programs: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, DHS Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families, and Farm Direct Nutrition: Low Income Seniors.

As with all things, servicing the food needs within a community is an ever-changing process. The needs of any given community fluctuate with economic change. As unemployment decreases, a person could easily draw the conclusion that the need for food banks would decrease with it. Recent data collected does not reflect this. The working force are affected by a lack of affordable housing, low-wage and or seasonal jobs, and an increasing cost of healthcare, making it more difficult to be able to afford food. These same individuals and families will earn too much to qualify for the SNAP benefits now that they are able to work. Our pantries fill a critical need to the working individuals just as much as those who are unable to work.

"This food bank is invaluable to my survival. I am blessed to have such beautiful people in my community"- Meuw a homeless kid

In our service area of approximately 83,915 people, 17.3% live with financial means below 100% of the federal poverty level. 7.4% of our service area lives in a household with income below 50% of the federal poverty level. Nearly 29% of those people are children. 44.4% of our service area's senior population is disabled and 20.7% of the age demographic of 18-64 years of age are also disabled. Food banks will be needed more than ever to support these vulnerable groups of people whose incomes are fixed.

"My disability doesn't cover the cost of living"- anonymous food bank client



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Several events have occurred of late, which change the outlook of how we do business in the future:

In light of the recent temporary government shutdown, we saw an increase to the use of our services, not just by those who had never needed to use a food bank before and suddenly found themselves without an income, but our regular clientele came to us more frequently. This was likely the result of the shift in the dispersal of SNAP benefits. It affected how our clientele budgeted their food dollars causing many to be spent out early and increasing their access to emergency food services seeking aid.

Although we do understand that a shutdown like this was not only temporary, but uncommon, it did show us what even a small lapse in income and support can do to impact our region as a whole. The conclusion is that we are needed more than ever, to be operating at full capacity, and to be able to respond when sudden, emergent community needs arise.

Amidst a recent trade deal, the USDA is purchasing a large quantity of perishable food to support American farmers. Though we appreciate the abundance of food that this has been able to provide our region, it has put pressure on us and our food distribution agencies to be able to store this perishable food long enough for it to be given to clients for consumption. Supportive funding such as Oregon Hunger Relief funds allow us to purchase equipment items for them, such as shelving, freezers and refrigerators to support this need. This not only builds their food distribution capacity but also helps maintain integral food safety.

In the past, we have utilized the Oregon Hunger Response Funds to support our partners with expansions to food distribution capacity; To support the collection of donations throughout our region; To support outreach and education around food safety and creative recipes and to develop a means to coordinate services with other entities that provide also provide services for those experiencing economic instability.

Moving forward, we here at South Coast Food Share are committed to the goal of closing the hunger gap in our community for good. We know that good healthy food promotes wellness, and wellness reduces the strain on the medical professionals, because wholesome food is the easiest preventative medicine that exists.

*"Was a homeless vet and you kept me alive. The community warmth is amazing.
Brought together with food. Thank you." -E-4*



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We implore you to authorize the Ways and Means Subcommittee to do what is necessary to roll-up the \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Department of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 budgets. Without this fund roll-up, the consequences will be a considerable loss for our food bank. We will lose the \$65,000 gained with the initial \$1.3 million which will negatively impact our workforce and our capacity to distribute food to our region's most vulnerable constituents.

Thank you for your consideration and ongoing support of anti-hunger programs.

Sincerely,

Laura Hunter
SCFS Program and Operations Director
Oregon Coast Community Action

Mike Lehman
Executive Director
Oregon Coast Community Action

Cc The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
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Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority
Senator Arnie Roblan
Representative Caddy McKeown
Representative David Brock Smith

Attachment: TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

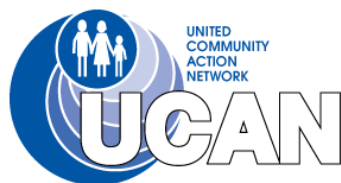


Oregon Coast Community Action

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TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS | STATE AGENCY | 2017-19 ADOPTED | | 2019-21 BUDGET | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | <i>Budget</i> | <i>One-time</i> | Governor's Recommended | <i>REQUESTED w/ one-time funds</i> |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | DHS | \$2.9 million | \$1.3 million | \$2.9 million | \$4.2 million |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | OHA | \$86,888 | \$200,000 | \$6,025 | \$286,888 |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | OHA | \$227,421 | \$1,000,000 | \$262,598 | \$1,227,421 |



February 15, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

The UCAN Food Bank, a regional food bank serving Douglas County, is asking to roll-up one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the table below for more details.)

As you may realize, Oregon is making progress in reducing hunger. Last fall, when the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) annual food insecurity statistics were released, Oregon was closer to the national average than it has been in the last 15 years. But this progress is tenuous and isn't necessarily indicative of what is happening statewide. Here in Douglas County, we are still well above the national average for people experiencing food insecurity and while it is improving, it is a very slow process and instability at the federal level will certainly impact food insecurity in the next biennium.

Shifts in federal policy in the past twelve months have already created conditions necessitating funding at 2017-2019 levels. Responding to market fluctuations and trade tension, USDA is purchasing significant quantities of food to support American farmers. Much of this nutritious food is highly perishable. Here in Douglas County, this unexpected bounty—beginning in late 2018 and expected to flow at least through the end of 2019—has been some a welcome gift to us, unfortunately, it has also put unexpected pressures on the food bank network infrastructure, resulting in immediate investments in additional refrigeration and freezers, transportation capacity and adaptive client services. The increased availability of nutritious food is only as good as our ability to effectively collect, store and quickly distribute it to people in need.

There's more that can be done to contain hunger in Oregon. We are doing great work, but we don't want to go backwards. UCAN and all of the Oregon Food Bank Network are committed to weathering both the known and unknown repercussions of the current political and economic moment. We ask that you collaborate with us by continuing one-time funds to support these critical anti-hunger programs and roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets. And we look forward to

further conversation as we assess additional consequences of the shut-down. Thank you for your consideration.

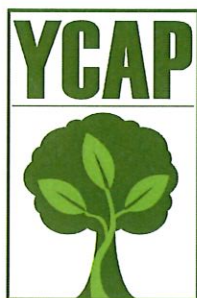
Sincerely,

Sarah McGregor
 Food Bank Manager
 United Community Action Network

- cc The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Rob Wagner, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Dallas Heard, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
- The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
- The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
- Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
- Laurie Byerly, Legislative Fiscal Office
- Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
- Sue Woodbury, Oregon Health Authority

TABLE - ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS REQUESTS FOR 2019-21 BUDGET

| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM</u> | <u>STATE AGENCY</u> | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET PROPOSED</u> | |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| | | <u>Budget</u> | <u>One-time</u> | <u>Governor's Recommended</u> | <u>REQUESTED AMOUNT w/ one-time funds</u> |
| OR Hunger Response Fund | <u>DHS</u> | <u>\$2.9 million</u> | <u>\$1.3 million</u> | <u>\$2.9 million</u> | <u>\$4.2 million requested</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: Low-Income Seniors | <u>OHA</u> | <u>\$86,888</u> | <u>\$200,000</u> | <u>\$6,025</u> | <u>\$286,888 requested</u> |
| Farm Direct Nutrition: WIC Families | <u>OHA</u> | <u>\$227,421</u> | <u>\$1,000,000</u> | <u>\$262,598</u> | <u>\$1,227,421 requested</u> |



February 15, 2019

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
The Honorable Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
The Honorable Dan Rayfield
Co-Chairs of the Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

REQUEST: ROLL-UP OF ONE TIME FUNDS IN HUNGER PROGRAMS FOR 2019-21

Here in Yamhill County we're making progress in reducing hunger. Last fall, when the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) annual food insecurity statistics were released, Oregon was closer to the national average than it has been in the last 15 years. But this progress is tenuous. Even as unemployment rates have dropped, the number of clients coming into our partner agency food pantries and meal sites is increasing. We've seen firsthand the increased need since 2016 as the homeless continue to fill our entryway into our CAP agency campus (see attached photo).

Recent data from the Oregon Food Bank Network show patterns of food access similar to those we saw in 2009. We hope this is not a harbinger of recession – but we are planning for an ever shifting environment.

This is why the YCAP Regional Food Bank in Yamhill County is asking to roll-up one-time funds in three specific hunger programs for the 2019-21 biennium: Oregon Hunger Response Fund, Farm Direct Nutrition WIC, and Farm Direct Nutrition Seniors. (See the table for more details.)

Shifts in federal policy in the past twelve months have already created conditions necessitating funding at 2017-2019 levels. Responding to market fluctuations and trade tension, USDA is purchasing significant quantities of food to support American farmers. Much of this nutritious food is highly perishable. In Yamhill County this unexpected *but welcomed* bounty—beginning in late 2018 and expected to flow at least through the end of 2019—has put unexpected pressures on our food bank infrastructure, resulting in immediate investments for additional service delivery and transportation needs. We've added pop-up distributions throughout the county as well as delivered fresh food to the recently furloughed federal workers at the Federal Corrections Institution in Sheridan. The increased availability of this nutritious food is only as good as our ability to effectively collect, store and quickly distribute it to people in need.



1317 NE Dustin Court PO Box 621 McMinnville, OR 97128 Phone: 503-472-0457 Fax: 503-472-5555
Youth Outreach: 719 E First Street Newberg, OR 97132 Phone: 503-538-8023 Fax: 503-538-2100
CCB #50960 This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

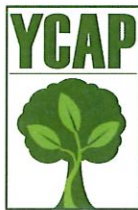


I implore you to authorize the Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee to take the necessary actions to roll-up \$2.5 million in one-time funds when it considers the Dept. of Human Services and Oregon Health Authority 2019-21 base budgets. Without this fund roll-up our Food Bank will lose the \$65,000 gained with the initial \$1.3 million resulting in a reduction in workforce and most importantly a *reduction of food distribution to our county's most vulnerable.*

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Martha Penhall, Regional Food Bank Manager
Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP)
 PO Box 621, 1317 NE Dustin Court
 McMinnville, Oregon 97128
www.yamhillcap.org | 503-883-4170
Changing Lives, Strengthening Our Communities



cc

The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
 The Honorable Lee Beyer, Co-Chair Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
 The Honorable Cedric Hayden, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
 The Honorable Sheri Schouten, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
 The Honorable Duane Stark, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
 The Honorable Andrea Salinas, Joint Ways & Means Human Services Subcommittee
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 The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President
 The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House
 Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office
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 Kim Fredlund, Dept. of Human Services
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| <u>ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAMS</u> | STATE AGENCY | <u>2017-19 ADOPTED</u> | | <u>2019-21 BUDGET</u> | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | <u>Budget</u> | <u>One-time</u> | <u>Governor's Recommended</u> | <u>REQUESTED w/ one-time funds</u> |
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YCAP Yamhill Community
Action Partnership

1317 NE Dustin Court

THE LEE HEANS CAMPUS

