



ENSURING THAT EVERYONE HAS ACCESS
TO AFFORDABLE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD AND
INFORMATION TO MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS

President's Proposed Cuts to SNAP Will Result in More Hunger and Fewer Communities with Access to Healthy Food

Philadelphia, May 23, 2017 – In its recently released budget, the Trump administration has proposed cutting \$192 billion from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), also known as the food stamp program, which is responsible for putting food on the table of vulnerable populations across the country. More than half of program participants are children; among the remaining half are large numbers of seniors, the disabled, veterans and working people struggling with low wages. Approximately one in five Americans will be on SNAP at some point in their life.

These drastic cuts would have a negative impact on families and communities across the country. Without proper nutrition, not only will children's health deteriorate over time, but their academic performance will suffer, as well. Parents will be at higher risk for diabetes, obesity and other diet-related diseases, and their health care costs could rise significantly. The cuts would have other negative economic consequences, too: notably, a detrimental impact on supermarkets, grocery stores and farmers markets in low-income communities, where dollars from SNAP are a critical component of retailers' weekly sales and farmers' livelihood.

While the President campaigned on a message of jobs and economic security for all, now in office he is proposing policy changes that will result in more hunger and fewer communities with access to healthy food. Many of those most affected would be working-class rural voters who make up his base of support.

The Food Trust will work at the federal level with partners across the country to urge members of Congress to block these cuts and ensure that SNAP continues to protect the most vulnerable among us.

—Yael Lehmann, Executive Director, The Food Trust

The Food Trust's Center for Healthy Food Access is a national collaborative effort working to ensure that every child in the United States has access to nutritious, affordable food. For more information, visit centerforhealthyfoodaccess.org. For media inquiries, contact Carolyn Huckabay at 215-575-0444, ext. 8120, or chuckabay@thefoodtrust.org.