April 24, 2025

The Honorable Glenn "GT" Thompson Chairman House Committee on Agriculture Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Angie Craig Ranking Member House Committee on Agriculture Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Thompson, and Ranking Member Craig:

We write today to respectfully urge your support for the Training & Nutrition Stability Act which would fix a current law that is preventing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients from pursuing valuable job training through SNAP's Employment and Training (E&T) program.

The bipartisan 2018 Farm Bill strengthened E&T by allowing paid training opportunities and apprenticeships recognizing the effectiveness of transitional jobs and other types of work-based learning that improve job outcomes for populations with high barriers to employment. This change in law enables participants to gain evidence-based work experience and training that helps them find permanent gainful employment and transition away from SNAP benefits. Unfortunately, the temporary E&T "income" participants receive as authorized by this change is being counted toward the determination of SNAP eligibility. As a result, working people in a SNAP Employment & Training program are being kicked off SNAP because they've received income from the SNAP E&T program itself. Further, since the SNAP E&T program is exclusive to SNAP enrollees, losing SNAP eligibility means participants can no longer continue in the E&T program and may lose access to the job training program as well.

Certainly Congress did not intend for participation in the SNAP E&T program expansion to negatively affect enrollees' eligibility for their basic SNAP benefits or ongoing participation in a job training program that ultimately leads to self-sufficiency. To solve this challenge, we respectfully urge your support for excluding temporary income derived from a public workforce training program from SNAP income calculations. There is also precedent for excluding other categories of income from SNAP calculations such as loans with deferred payments (excluding student loans), infrequent/irregular income, or money received from nonrecurring lump-sum payments such as income tax refunds.

In a recent House Agriculture Committee hearing on expanding opportunity through SNAP, Chairman Thompson emphasized the importance of SNAP and quality E&T programs in helping people get high-quality jobs in in-demand industries. He noted that one impactful way to do this is by increasing access to SNAP E&T programs and excluding wages earned from SNAP E&T or other career and technical education programs from counting towards income for SNAP eligibility; "Families should not be forced to choose between keeping their benefits and taking a job or pursuing the training that could lead to long-term financial independence." Excluding "income" earned in a short-term SNAP E&T program or public workforce program from determining SNAP eligibility through the Training & Nutrition Stability Act is a straightforward fix that will have a major impact for SNAP enrollees' success in job training and transitioning to permanent employment. It will also pave a smoother path for SNAP recipients to ultimately transition out of the program – a benefit to both the recipient and the American taxpayer.

We thank you and members of your committees for their previous bipartisan support for expanding the SNAP E&T program to quality job-training programs. We hope that same commitment will extend to addressing this unintended consequence and appreciate your and other Members' ongoing interest in fixing this issue in the next Farm Bill. Thank you for your consideration of this matter and please do not hesitate to contact us at lebacon@ceoworks.org should you have any questions or need more information.

## Sincerely,

Alliance to End Hunger	Washington, DC
America Forward	Washington, DC
American Public Human Services Association (APHSA)	Washington, DC
Anti-Hunger & Nutrition Coalition	Seattle, WA
Appetite For Change	Minneapolis, MN
Arizona Center for Economic Progress	Phoenix, AZ
Arizona Food Bank Network	Phoenix, AZ
Bayaud Enterprises	Denver, CO
Bridgeways	Everett, WA
Building Beginnings	Spanish Fork, UT
CAEL (Council for Adult & Experiential Learning)	Indianapolis, IN
Catalyst Kitchens	
Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)	New York, NY
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)	Washington, DC
Center for Living and Learning	Los Angeles, CA
Center for Rural Affairs	Lyons, NE
Center on Education and Labor at New America	Washington, DC
Centro Cultural	Cornelius, OR
Chef Ann Foundation	National
Chrysalis	Los Angeles, CA
Church World Service	Washington, DC
Coalfield Development	Huntington, WV
College and Community Fellowship	New York, NY

Colorado Equitable Economic Mobility Initiative

Denver, CO

Columbia Industries Kennewick, WA

Community Financial Resources Oakland, CA

Community Health Councils (CHC)

Los Angeles, CA

Community Kitchen Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA

Community Servings Inc. Boston, MA

Conservation Corps of Long Beach, CA

Long Beach, CA

Covenant House California Los Angeles, CA

Covenant House National National

Crossroads Campus Nashville, TN

Crossroads of Iowa Urbandale, IA

DC Central Kitchen Washington, DC

Downtown Women's Center Los Angeles, CA

Drug Policy Alliance New York

Emma's Torch New York, NY & Washington, DC

Empowerment Plan Detroit, MI
Farestart Seattle, WA

Farming Hope San Francisco, CA

Food Lifeline Seattle, WA

Foodlink, Inc. Rochester, NY

Food Shift Alameda, CA

FPWA (Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies)

New York, NY

Food Research Action Center (FRAC) Multiple Locations

FreeWorld National

Futures Without Violence Washington, DC

Goodwill of Silicon Valley San Jose, CA

Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland & East Central Ohio Cleveland, OH

Greater Boston Foodbank Boston, MA

Greater Hartford Legal Aid Hartford, CT

GreenLight Fund Atlanta Atlanta Atlanta

GrowGood Los Angeles, CA

Heartland Alliance Chicago, IL

Heart Ministry Center Omaha, NE

HomePlate Youth Services Beaverton, OR

Homeward Bound of Marin Novato, CA

Hunger Free Oklahoma Oklahoma

Hunger-Free Oregon Portland, OR

Indy Hunger Network Indianapolis, IN

Inspiration Corporation Chicago, IL

Boston, MA; Washington, DC;

Jobs for the Future (JFF) Oakland, CA

Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Washington, DC

JusticeLink Tulsa, OK

JustLeadership USA New York, NY

JustUS Coordinating Council New York, NY

JVS SoCal Los Angeles, CA

Juma Ventures San Francisco, CA

Keys2Work Indianapolis, IN

LA Conservation Corps Los Angeles, CA

Landforce Pittsburgh, PA

Law Enforcement Action Partnership Beverly, MA

Legal Action Center/National H.I.R.E Network New York, NY

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Washington, DC

Los Angeles Regional Food Bank Los Angeles, CA

Manna on Main Street Lansdale, PA

Mass Law Reform Institute Boston. MA

MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger Washington, DC

Meadowlark Employment Services Portland, OR

Merrimack Valley Food Bank Lowell, MA

Michigan Collaborative to End Mass Incarceration Lansing, MI

Michigan League for Public Policy Lansing, MI

Mile High WorkShop Denver, CO

Mississippi Center for Reentry Southaven, MS

Montana Food Bank Network Missoula, MT

My Story Matters Provo, UT

National Alliance of Trauma Recovery Centers

San Francisco, CA

National Association of Counties

Washington, DC

National Coalition for the Homeless

Washington, DC

National Skills Coalition Washington,DC

Nebraska Appleseed Lincoln, NE

Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice Washington, DC

New Avenues for Youth Portland, OR

New Earth Organization Culver City, CA
New Moms Chicago, IL

New York Association of Training and Employment

Professionals Albany, NY

New York City Employment and Training Coalition New York, NY

No More Empty Pots Omaha, NE
Northern Valley Industries Wausau, WI

Open Hand Atlanta Atlanta Atlanta, GA

Operation New Hope Florida

Orion Industries Auburn, WA
Osborne Association Bronx, NY

Paul's Place & Groundwork Kitchen

Per Scholas

New York, NY

Pioneer Human Services

Seattle, WA

Project Bread East Boston, MA

Project Feast Kent, WA

Project Real Life Y.O.T.C. Riverdale, GA
Project Return Nashville, TN
Purple Door Coffee Englewood, CO

RISE Omaha, NE

RecycleForce Indianapolis, IN

REDF San Francisco, CA

Relmagine Appalachia (OH, KY, WV, PA)

Repowered (fka Tech Dump/Tech Discounts)

St Paul, MN

RESULTS Washington, DC

Results for America Washington, DC

Root Salem, MA

Safer Foundation Chicago, IL

San Jose Conservation Corps San Jose, CA

Second Chance Center Colorado Aurora, CO

Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC Winston-Salem, NC

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley
San Jose, CA
Stone Soup PDX
Portland, OR

Stop the Drug War Washington, DC

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts Hatfield, MA

The Fortune Society Long Island City, NY

The Idaho Foodbank Meridian, ID

The Light House, Inc Annapolis, MD

The Los Angeles Regional Reentry Partnership Los Angeles, CA

The Prison Scholar Fund Seattle, WA

Together Omaha, NE

Trade Institute of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, PA

Treatment Communities of America Washington, DC

Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Education Program,Inc Los Angeles,CA

Universal Income Project Oakland, CA

UNOM New Day Centers, Inc. Phoenix, AZ

Uplift Northwest Seattle, WA

Urban Corps of San Diego County San Diego, CA

UTEC Inc Lowell, MA

Valeo Vocation Tacoma, WA

Vehicles for Change Halethorpe, MD

West Side Catholic Center Cleveland, OH

Weld Seattle Seattle, WA

Wildfire Phoenix, AZ
William E. Morris Institute for Justice Phoenix, AZ

Women's Bean Project Denver, CO

Worcester County Food Bank Shrewsbury, MA