

December 14th, 2021

The Office of Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Ave,
Washington DC 20500

RE: Institutions across the country support a national conference on food, nutrition, hunger, and health that also focuses on college student hunger.

Dear President Biden:

Thank you for your continued proactive responses to the unprecedented health, economic, and education hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We, as a higher education community, join the call by all [twenty-five house committee chairs](#) to convene a national conference on food, nutrition, hunger, and health that draws together all the sectors of government, state and local leaders, tribal leaders, nonprofit and for-profit businesses, researchers, students, advocates, and those with lived experiences to design a roadmap to end hunger in America by 2030. By working past government silos and focusing on comprehensive solutions for college students, we can overcome the issue of food insecurity in this underrepresented population and thereby improve the nation's health and nutrition while strengthening our country's food system.

Recently, the higher education community was affirmed by the inclusion of college students and eradicating college hunger as priorities in the "Ending Hunger In America" efforts led by House Committee on Rules Chairman James P. McGovern (D-MA). On Wednesday, September 8th, "[Ending Hunger in America: Hunger on College Campuses](#)" was the eighth in this committee's series to inform and vision a future where hunger is no longer a daily experience for college students across our country. By the end of this session, it was presented that:

- (i) One in three college students experience food insecurity, with disproportionately higher rates of insecurity across first-generation college students, pell grant recipients, students with disabilities, students with dependents, and other intersectional identities.*
- (ii) We have research and existing effective models that can be amplified as transformative solutions for college students across our country.*
- (iii) A bipartisan commitment could eradicate college hunger.*

With that, it is time to eradicate hunger on college campuses across the country.

To date, there has only been one conference on food security, which took place 52 years ago. Through that effort, Congress developed the hunger safety-net programs that support millions of Americans at every stage of the life course in securing access to meals. Unfortunately, college students were missed in the design of this safety net. The unique challenges that today's college students experience through their undergraduate or graduate/professional school academic paths warrant consideration. We strongly believe that by eradicating college hunger among college students, we will improve their abilities to access, perform, and succeed so that they can make meaningful contributions in the communities they serve after completing their degrees.

We are ready to work alongside you to chart the final frontier to end hunger and to create a future where the promise of the American Dream is in reach for every person in our country.

Sincerely,
The undersigned institutions of higher education and organizational partners

Swipe Out Hunger
Universities Fighting World Hunger
University of California System
The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice
Aramark
Baylor University
Central Washington University
College of the Holy Cross
Cornell University
Delaware County Community College
Dominican University of California
Harvard University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
New Mexico State University
Nutrition Policy Institute, University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Oregon State University
Penn State University
San José State University
State University of New York (64 institutions represented)
The New England Council
The Ohio State University
The University of Massachusetts Amherst
The University of North Carolina System
Tulane University
UC Student Association
University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of California Graduate & Professional Council
University of California Riverside
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Los Angeles
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
University of Florida
University of Iowa
University of Massachusetts
University of Massachusetts Boston
University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School
University of New Hampshire
University of Oregon
Washington State University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Backpack International Inc
Ben Johnson Educational Center
Center for Healthy Communities at Chico State

Cc: House Agriculture Committee, Senate Agriculture Committee, Congressman Cole, Senator Booker, Congressman McGovern, House of Representative Ed/Labor Committee, USDA, Department of Education, Senator Murray, Domestic Policy Council, Senate HELP Committee, Office of Management and Budget.