Advocacy Update

September 2025



IN THE NEWS: Hunger Action Month is Here!

September is **Hunger Action Month** – an annual nationwide campaign that unites food banks, anti-hunger organizations and the public to inspire people to take action against hunger and to raise awareness for those facing food and nutritional insecurity in our communities.

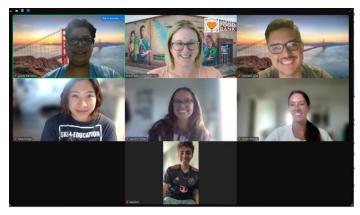
Everyone needs nutritious food to thrive, and yet over 359,000 individuals in Orange County are food insecure, including over 86,000 children.

That's why each September, we ask everyone to join in the movement to end food insecurity in Orange County. Throughout the month, food banks and the community can come together to support those in need.



LEARN MORE: Learn more about how you can get involved during Hunger Action Month

BEYOND POLICY: Advocates Assemble!



Second Harvest works to center the voices of the community in our advocacy efforts.

Twice per year, Second Harvest holds an advocate training program called the Community Voices Academy, with the aim of the program being to prepare community members to be able to confidently share their stories of lived experience of food insecurity. Our goal is to integrate the voices of our community members in our advocacy work to influence sustainable change in our food systems.

Congratulations to our Summer 2025 Cohort graduates: Gisela B., Santiago A., Nela S., Lauren T., Jackie S., and Kassem I. We look forward to working together with you in our advocacy efforts here at Second Harvest!

ENGAGE:

Use the resources in the <u>Hunger Action Month</u> <u>digital toolkit</u> to help spread awareness and encourage your communities to take action via digital channels.

Examples include raising awareness for Hunger Action Month in community newsletters, community calendars and on social media.

ON THE CALENDAR:

Check out the <u>Hunger Action Month Community</u> <u>Calendar</u> for ideas on ways to get involved throughout the month!

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