

IN THE NEWS: *Federal Government Shutdown & Preparing for HR1 Effects*

On November 12, Congress passed and the president signed legislation to restore funding for the federal government and end the 43-day shutdown that began on Oct. 1. The package included three bills to fund some departments for the full government fiscal year (through Sept. 30, 2026), including USDA and federal food and nutrition programs like SNAP, WIC and TEFAP. It also includes a continuing resolution that funds remaining departments and agencies through Jan. 30, 2026.

During the shutdown, federal nutrition programs found themselves in the crosshairs of debates over funding and a larger political battle. Caught in the middle were the 42 million individuals nationwide who depend on food assistance. Food bank demand soared nationwide, with many struggling to keep up with need. Even though the shutdown has ended, its impact persists as we continue to see heightened food need in our communities.

Now that the government has reopened, our focus now turns to the upcoming impacts of House Resolution 1 (HR1) legislation passed earlier this summer. The bill contains over \$200 billion cuts to SNAP, the biggest cut to the vital nutrition program in a generation.

LEARN MORE:

[Read more about the impacts of HR1 in this FAQ from Feeding America](#)

BEYOND POLICY: *Community Champions Thriving*

Second Harvest's Community Champions are a group of trained volunteer advocates who can be called upon to provide direct input on our advocacy work, as well as share their stories of lived experience and/or passion about food and nutritional insecurity.

One of our Community Champions, Santiago Alva, was able to share his hunger story on behalf of the Food Bank not once, but TWICE, this fall. He first spoke at our Hunger Action Month Kickoff Event in September, and then recently shared his story again at our annual "No Lunch" Lunch event.

We look forward to engaging more with our Community Champions in 2026 and beyond!

You can check out the bios of all of our Community Champions on our website: <https://feedoc.org/community-champions/>



Santiago sharing his story at "No Lunch" Lunch

ENGAGE:

Read more about the current state of food insecurity in OC as food banks brace for the impact from federal policy changes:

[Voice of OC Article](#)

ON THE CALENDAR:

November 13-17 – National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

November 18-26 – Congressional Recess

December 16 – January 1 – Congressional Recess