

## POLICY UPDATE: *H.R.1 – One Year Later*

According to data from the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC), program participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) has declined by approximately 5.8 million people since January 2025, with the majority of that decline (5 million) occurring since the passage of H.R. 1 in July 2025. H.R.1 expanded work time limit requirements, tightened eligibility rules, shifted additional costs to states, eliminated SNAP-Ed, and limited future benefit updates. These changes are reducing access to food assistance and increasing pressure on food banks and other emergency food providers.

**LEARN MORE:** [Visit FRAC's SNAP Cuts Mitigation Hub](#)

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## SECOND HARVEST ON THE ROAD: *Gen Z Food & Hunger Summit*



*Jeffrey (center) during a legislative meeting*

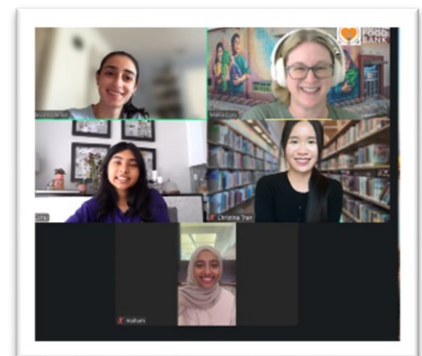
Last month, our Dr. John Ralls Policy and Advocacy Fellow, Jeffrey Schmehl, attended the Gen Z Food & Hunger Summit in Washington D.C, joining young advocates from across the country to discuss strategies for ending hunger and advancing equitable food policy. As part of the summit, participants met with members of the U.S. House of Representatives and congressional staff to advocate for policies that reduce food insecurity, strengthen federal nutrition programs, and expand access to healthy, affordable food.

The summit highlighted the important role of leadership in shaping nutrition policy and reinforced the importance of combining grassroots organizing with direct advocacy. Through policy discussions and meetings on Capitol Hill, participants demonstrated how community-driven advocacy can influence decision-makers and advance solutions that improve food security for families nationwide.

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## AT THE FOOD BANK: *Summer Cohort of Community Voices Academy is Underway*

Also last month, we kicked off the summer session of our Community Voices Academy (CVA) with four new program participants. During the six-week virtual program, participants with lived experience of food insecurity build skills in public speaking, storytelling, leadership, and advocacy through interactive weekly workshops. By centering lived experience, CVA strengthens local advocacy efforts and equips participants to help advance a more equitable food system.



### ENGAGE:

**Hunger Action Month (HAM)** is next month!  
[Take a peek at the HAM Community Calendar](#)

### ON THE CALENDAR:

**August 3-28** – Congressional (House) Recess  
**August 10-21** – Congressional (Senate) Recess  
**September** – **Hunger Action Month**