



## HUNGER IN COLORADO

In tens of thousands of homes across the state, our neighbors are struggling to make ends meet. Parents are forced to choose between buying food for their children and paying for other basic needs like gas or rent. Too many children start the day hungry and unable to focus at school. And after a lifetime of working, Colorado seniors are left to fend for themselves and face the question of whether to buy medicine or food. Working families and those experiencing long-term unemployment are faced with having to seek public assistance—many of them for the first time. Too often they encounter a benefits system that is wrought with complicated application processes and lengthy delays.

### ABOUT US

Hunger Free Colorado is the state's leading anti-hunger organization dedicated to ensuring that all Coloradans have sustainable access to nutritious, affordable food. We leverage the power of system change, policy change and social change to educate, advocate and mobilize Coloradans to take an active stance against hunger in our community and to ensure that no Coloradan goes hungry.

### OUR WORK

To immediately reduce hunger in our community, we identify, investigate and expose unnecessary gaps and barriers that prevent food access to Coloradans at risk of hunger. We educate elected officials and their constituents to implement policy change that ensures that Coloradans have access to nutritious, affordable food. Current projects include:

### THE HUNGER FREE HOTLINE

The Hunger Free Hotline is toll-free number that functions as a fast-track through the complicated system of federal nutrition programs and charitable food distribution. Resource navigators ask high-level screening questions and tailor guidance to each caller's unique situation in English and Spanish.

### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP/ FOOD STAMPS)

We are working to make SNAP more streamlined and accessible. Last year, we advocated successfully for the removal of the asset test and the creation of a statewide outreach plan. Currently, we provide technical assistance for the online application; help counties provide quality service; and conduct outreach to underserved populations.

### CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Through advocacy, outreach, and strategic partnerships, we ensure that children have access to food where they live, learn, play and pray – all year round. We work with schools, community-based organizations, and local governments to make sure that children can access school breakfast, summer food, afterschool nutrition, and early childhood nutrition programs.

### THE CAMPAIGN TO END CHILDHOOD HUNGER

The Campaign to End Childhood Hunger is a statewide, public-private initiative of Governor John Hickenlooper, Share Our Strength and Hunger Free Colorado. The Campaign partners work to create the public will and support necessary to implement the five year plan to end childhood hunger.

### THE SPROUT CLINIC

At the Sprout Clinic, children and their families work with a pediatrician, registered dietitian, and social worker to ensure they have the support and resources necessary to grow and thrive. In conjunction with the clinic-based care, the Food Pharmacy provides access to nutrient-dense supplemental food, free of charge. Rocky Mountain Youth Clinics is our first medical partner in the Sprout Clinic.

**GET INVOLVED** We need your help to accomplish our ambitious goals. Whether you are looking to contribute time, resources, skills, or experience, there is a place for you at the table.

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