



# HUNGER CONNECTION

## Ending Hunger, Fueling Hope

### Digging in to Feed Our Neighbors



Navigating Reduced  
Federal Support and  
Increased Need



Expanding Our Crop  
Variety at the Hunger  
Task Force Farm



Advocating for Strong  
Nutrition Programs on  
Capitol Hill





# Standing Strong Together This Summer



***“... recently, proposed changes to SNAP (called FoodShare in Wisconsin) within the federal budget reconciliation would jeopardize benefits for over 700,000 Wisconsinites, including 240,000 people locally in Milwaukee, and put them at risk of losing their food buying power.”***

**- Matt King, CEO**

As summer arrives in Wisconsin, it's a season of both abundance and challenges. At Hunger Task Force, we remain steadfast in our mission to end hunger—even as we navigate reduced federal support and a rising demand for food assistance.

Across all our programs, we're serving more than 50,000 people each month. Visits to our food pantry network have risen by 35% compared to this time last year. Yet, while need grows, federal support is shrinking. Recent cuts to key USDA programs – the Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) and Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) – threaten the supply of fresh, local food and key staples we rely on to nourish our community.

At the time of the LFPA program's termination, most of the partnering vegetable farmers already had seeds in the ground for the 2025 growing season. Hunger Task Force is honoring our commitments to these farmers because we believe it's the right thing to do. These folks are vital to our local economy and food system and partnering with Wisconsin growers, ranchers, dairy farmers and cheesemakers is part of our tradition and mission.

Even more recently, proposed changes to SNAP (called FoodShare in Wisconsin) within the federal budget reconciliation would jeopardize benefits for over 700,000 Wisconsinites, including 240,000 people locally in Milwaukee, and put them at risk of losing their food buying power. The average recipient receives just \$6 per day. These cuts not only threaten food security but could also cost Wisconsin taxpayers an estimated \$314 million annually.

**Despite these challenges, there is hope—and it begins with you.**

**Because of the strength of our local community, we are rising to meet the need.**

- With your support, The Hunger Task Force Farm has become the most reliable source of high-quality fresh fruits and vegetables for our local emergency food network.
- Despite funding cuts and rising need, strong local support has sustained a steady food supply across our pantry and meal site network, ensuring everyone in need is served.



**INCREASING NEED:**

**50,000**

**PEOPLE SERVED EACH MONTH;  
PANTRY VISITS INCREASED BY**

**35%**



**CUTS TO LFPA AND CCC:**

**THREATEN SUPPLY OF FRESH, LOCAL  
FOOD TO THE COMMUNITY**







## How You Can Help:

- Over 180 sites have been organized to feed kids during summer, which is the peak time for childhood hunger when students lose access to school meal programs. Last year over 416,000 meals were provided to kids in our community. Our collaborative is ready to deliver again to our most vulnerable kids.
- Hunger Task Force serves 10,000 seniors each month through the Stockbox program. We also recently hit a milestone by distributing more than 50,000 Stockboxes through our DoorDash partnership!
- This summer we are providing over 5,000 Farmers Market Vouchers to local seniors so they can purchase healthy and fresh foods at markets.

Over the past year, Hunger Task Force has been aggressively advocating for strong nutrition programs—including FoodShare, school meals and the food programs that keep our food bank stocked—with our state and federal elected officials. At the forefront of our message is the vital role that these nutrition programs play in our community and state and the massive impact cuts or changes to these programs would have on local families. We've organized thousands of concerned citizens to raise their voice through our Voices Against Hunger group. We encourage you to add your voice if you have not already. It's also a great way to stay informed as the federal budget process plays out this summer.

As you see the impact within this newsletter, please consider ways to get involved and take a closer look at how we're cultivating solutions – from Wisconsin farm fields to Capitol Hill.

**This summer, we thank you for your collaboration and invite you to take action: make a donation, volunteer your time and lend your voice by joining our Voices Against Hunger advocacy network.** Together, we will continue to fight hunger and nourish hope!

With gratitude,

Matt King  
CEO, Hunger Task Force

**Give**



**Serve**



**Act**



**SNAP CUTS:**

**700,000**

**WISCONSINITES AFFECTED BY  
PROPOSED FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS**

**240,000**

**LOCALLY IN MILWAUKEE; PROPOSED FEDERAL  
BUDGET CUTS COST WISCONSIN TAXPAYERS**

**\$314 million annually**







# Growing More

**The Hunger Task Force Farm grows 70 different types of fruits and vegetables resulting in a bounty of 500,000 pounds by season's end.**

This summer, we're introducing spaghetti squash to our fields – a nutrient-dense, high-fiber crop that's easy to prepare and perfect for the families, children and seniors we serve. We're also trialing celery in our hoop houses for the first time!

In addition to new crops, we're expanding the diversity of what we already grow by testing new varieties of:

- Collard greens
- Yellow squash
- Zucchini
- Kale
- Tomatoes
- Nutrient-dense iceberg lettuce
- Spinach
- Watermelon

These trials will help us determine which varieties grow best in our conditions while maximizing flavor, nutrition and yield.

## **Advancing Sustainable Farming Practices**

We're committed to sustainable agricultural practices. This year, we're expanding on roller crimping, which uses a piece of equipment like a giant, ridged rolling pin attached to a tractor. It rolls over cover crops (like rye), flattens them and damages the stems just enough to stop growth. What's left behind becomes a thick, natural mulch that suppresses weeds and conserves moisture.

Other practices we continue to use include:

- **Cover cropping** for soil health
- **Conservation tillage** to protect soil structure
- **Controlled traffic farming** to reduce soil compaction
- **Biodegradable mulch trials** for tomatoes, watermelon and cantaloupe
- **Drip irrigation** to conserve water and improve efficiency

## **Supporting The Farm**

Help us continue this important work! Your monetary donation directly offsets the rising costs of seed, fertilizer, fuel and equipment parts. You can also join our Adopt-A-Crop program, which is a meaningful way to contribute to a specific crop's success and make a direct impact on our community.







# The FARM

## HUNGER TASK FORCE



### **Prioritizing Fresh, Local Produce**

Freshness is key! Produce harvested at The Farm is delivered to our network of food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and low-income senior sites within 24 to 48 hours to ensure it's local, fresh and packed with nutrients.



### **Honoring a Legacy of Farming**

The land that's now home to the Hunger Task Force Farm has been under continuous cultivation since 1847 – one year before Wisconsin achieved statehood! For generations, this fertile soil has supported farming families and nourished local communities. Today, we're proud to carry that legacy forward by growing fresh, nutritious produce for children, families and seniors in need.



To save your spot, email Sarah Bressler, Farm Director, at [sarah.bressler@hungertaskforce.org](mailto:sarah.bressler@hungertaskforce.org).

### **Visit The Farm!**

RSVP today for a guided tour of the Hunger Task Force Farm, where sustainable agriculture meets community impact. Choose from two dates, **Thurs., Aug. 28 (1–2:30 p.m.)** or **Sat., Sept. 6 (10–11:30 a.m.)** – or schedule your own private tour – to explore our fields, greenhouses and natural areas and see how we grow half a million pounds of free, healthy produce for local children, families and seniors.



# Growing Better



**Camille Robert-Quakkelaar**  
Major Gifts Officer  
camille@hungertaskforce.org  
414.988.6502

## Meet Camille!

### Please Welcome Our New Major Gifts Officer

Hunger Task Force is thrilled to introduce our new Major Gifts Officer Camille Robert-Quakkelaar. She brings six years of development experience in higher education to Hunger Task Force. In her role, Camille is responsible for growing, developing and stewarding Hunger Task Force's individual donor base, including efforts focused on the annual campaign, the agency's endowment fund and planned giving.

She holds a bachelor's degree in community and nonprofit leadership and education policy from University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has been a proud Wisconsin resident since college and she and her husband recently purchased their first home in Milwaukee. In her free time, Camille loves visiting Cranky Al's for donuts, going to Milwaukee Brewers games and taking her dog on walks through Milwaukee County parks.

Camille is proud to work for Hunger Task Force and is thrilled to support the agency's mission to end hunger.

## WILL You Plan Today to Give Tomorrow?

August is National Make-A-Will Month, the perfect time to create or update your will to ensure you leave the legacy you want! By including Hunger Task Force in your will or trust, you make a lasting impact on our mission to end hunger. A planned gift – no matter the size – helps ensure that our Free & Local commitment lives on, in your name or anonymously, for generations to come.

The Hunger Task Force Legacy Society was created to honor and recognize donors who support our *Free & Local* mission through a planned gift, a bequest in your will or a beneficiary designation. By documenting your estate intentions with Hunger Task Force, you ensure your philanthropic goals are met and provide Hunger Task Force with the opportunity to celebrate your commitment.



### Joining our Legacy Society is easy and takes just four steps!

**1. Connect with us.**

Reach out to learn more about planned giving options.

**2. Talk to your advisor.**

We encourage you to consult your financial or legal advisor.

**3. Include this sentence in your will:**

"I, [name], of [city, state, zip], give, devise, and bequeath to Hunger Task Force, Inc. [written amount, percentage, or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose."

**4. Let us know!**

Submit our simple Letter of Intent so we can say thank you.



HUNGER TASK FORCE  
**LEGACY  
SOCIETY**

Your legacy will feed future generations. Let us plan today for a hunger-free tomorrow.

For more information on legacy gifts, visit [www.HungerTaskForce.org/planned-giving](http://www.HungerTaskForce.org/planned-giving).



# Event Highlights & Memorable Moments

## HUNGER TASK FORCE

FREE & LOCAL

5000 W. Electric Avenue  
West Milwaukee, WI 53219  
Phone 414.777.0483

Hunger Task Force believes that every person has a right to healthy food obtained with dignity. We work to prevent hunger and malnutrition by providing food to people in need today and by promoting social policies to achieve a hunger free community tomorrow.

### OUR CORE VALUES

DIGNITY | JUSTICE | EQUITY  
COMPASSION | STEWARDSHIP

Hunger Task Force, Inc. is a charitable, 501(c)3 organization.  
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1. Following the National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference in Washington, D.C., Hunger Task Force's advocacy team took to Capitol Hill to champion dignified access to healthy food for all and advocate for essential nutrition programs.
2. Batter up! Through our Double Helping for Hunger program, our friends at Sargento Cheese donate \$200 to Hunger Task Force for every Milwaukee Brewers double – nearly 100 and counting this season!
3. The Garden to Plate Summer Session is underway, welcoming local students to The Farm for hands-on lessons about where food comes from and how to make healthy, informed choices.
4. Guests in town for the 12th International Public Markets Conference, hosted by the Milwaukee Public Market, visited the Hunger Task Force Farm to learn about our farm-to-food-bank model and tour the Mobile Market.
5. Hunger Task Force has reached a major milestone – 50,000 deliveries through our Stockbox DoorDash program. Stockbox DoorDash brings nutritious food directly to homebound seniors with convenience and dignity!

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## STOP Summer Hunger

**When the school year ends, too many kids face a harsh reality of summer hunger.**

Together, we can change that. Summer is when childhood hunger hits hardest, with thousands of children missing the meals they rely on during the school year. Every donation to STOP Summer Hunger helps families put wholesome meals on the table and gives children the energy they need to grow, learn and play.

**Help us feed vulnerable kids by making a donation because no child should go hungry this summer.**



**Donate Online Today to**  
**STOP Summer Hunger!**

