Hello,

My name is [Insert Name] with [Insert Pantry or Organization Name], writing to let you know that a program your school district qualifies for has become more important than ever. The [**Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/special-provision-options/community-eligibility-provision) and allows schools in high-need areas to serve all students, regardless of family income, breakfast and lunch at no charge.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most Wisconsin counties saw between a 10 and 20 percent increase in FoodShare, or SNAP, participation and record high unemployment rates. Our [food pantry(ies), agency, etc] also experienced an increase in the number of households seeking emergency food. Consequently, the **Identified Student Percentage** used to qualify your school to participate in CEP may be higher than ever before. I urge you to please continue running [**Direct Certification**](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/program-requirements/direct-certification)reports through June 30th, 2020 to ensure you have an accurate snapshot of the economic state of your district so that you can maximize reimbursement through CEP.

Access to free school meals helps reduce the burden on food pantries so that we can continue to serve the most vulnerable members of our community. Hunger Task Force, Milwaukee’s only Free & Local food bank and Wisconsin’s anti-hunger leader, is providing technical support to any school interested or currently applying to participate in CEP.

To access the application, instructions, and resources please visit the [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Community Eligibility Provision Webpage](https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/special-provision-options/community-eligibility-provision)

For questions, please contact Matt Stienstra, Advocacy Campaign Manager, at [matt.stienstra@hungertaskforce.org](mailto:matt.stienstra@hungertaskforce.org)

Thank you for feeding our youth!

Best,

[Insert signature]