



HUNGER & THE WISCONSIN STATE BUDGET SUPPORTING WISCONSIN'S LARGEST ANTI-HUNGER PROGRAM: Create a strong, accessible, and effective FoodShare program

FoodShare is the largest anti-hunger program in Wisconsin.

Nearly **40%** of
FoodShare recipients
are **children**.

Every dollar spent in **FoodShare** benefits
helps **generate** between **\$1.50** &
\$1.80 in **economic activity**.



Over the April-Dec 2020 period these families reported their children weren't eating enough in the past week because they couldn't afford enough food.*

7.5%

White Families*

23.4%

Hispanic Families*

39.5%

Black Families*

*Judi Bartfeld, PhD, School of Human Ecology and Division of Extension, UW-Madison, based on analysis of the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey

Wisconsin has one of the highest racial disparities in food insecurity in any state in the country.
Wisconsin can help address food insecurity by strengthening the FoodShare program.



ELIMINATE BARRIERS TO FOODSHARE EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

- Drug testing should not be a condition of getting help with food.
- Drug testing prevents eligible families from seeking public assistance because they are deterred by the stigma of taking a drug test.
- Repeal the requirement that DHS implement drug screening and testing for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents participating in FoodShare Employment & Training.

ELIMINATE ELIGIBILITY BARRIERS TO FOOD BENEFITS

- The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting impacts demonstrated how the lack of childcare creates a burden for working parents, particularly harming women.
- Mandating FoodShare Employment & Training for parents without providing any provision for childcare, will simply cut families off of food aid.
- 34% of FoodShare households in Wisconsin contain minor children
- Repeal the requirement that parents with children participate in FoodShare Employment and Training

FUND THE HEALTHY EATING INCENTIVES PILOT

- FoodShare is the largest anti-hunger program in Wisconsin. Funding the Healthy Eating Incentives Pilot will provide up to 2,000 FoodShare households with discounts on fresh produce and other healthy options
- Every Wisconsinite should have equitable access to fresh, healthy food. A nutritious diet is the key to promoting health and wellbeing. This pilot program will help increase access to healthy options for eligible low-income households.
- A key step we can take to fighting hunger and combat 'food deserts' is to make healthy, affordable, good food available to the greatest number of people in our community.




FEEDING WISCONSIN

The list below indicates the locations of the public hearings.

Make your voices heard!

The Joint Finance Committee will hold four public hearings on the proposed 2021-2023 biennial budget. Three hearings will be held in person, and one hearing will be virtual. All of the hearings will be streamed on Wisconsin Eye (wiseye.org).

If you are planning on attending one of the public hearings, here are a few important things to note:

- The primary purpose of the public hearings will be to hear from Wisconsinites. This is your opportunity to share your story.
- No one in Wisconsin should be hungry. We need your help speaking up on these important issues.
- Speakers (virtual and in-person) will be given two minutes to speak.
- The Joint Finance Committee will be following the guidelines from local public health departments for the host location regarding masking, social distancing and room capacity.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2021
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
 Irvin L. Young Auditorium
 930 W. Main St.
 Whitewater, WI 53190

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21, 2021
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Hodag Dome
 665 Coolidge Ave.
 Rhinelander, WI 54501

THURSDAY, APRIL 22ND
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 University of Wisconsin-Stout
 Great Hall of the Memorial Student Center
 302 10th Ave E
 Menomonie, WI 54751

VIRTUAL HEARING:
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2021
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Virtual
 The virtual hearing will require pre-registration. Details will be released via The Joint Finance Committee website: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/virtual/>

Comments may also be submitted via email to Budget.Comments@legis.wisconsin.gov and on the [Joint Finance Committee Budget Comment Website](https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/submit-comments/) <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/submit-comments/>

www.feedingwi.org/statebudget