



Increasing Economic Security for Low-Income Seniors And People with Disabilities

California has committed to developing a [Master Plan for Aging](#) in order to meet the needs of older adults today and for generations to come. The state has outlined four broad goals that the plan should accomplish: Every Californian should be able to 1) continue living in our communities and have the help we need to do so; 2) live in and be engaged in age-friendly communities; 3) maintain our health and well-being as we age; and 4) have economic security and be able to live in safe environments throughout our lives.

Advocates and service providers have broadly supported the state's efforts to develop the Master Plan, developing [principles](#) and [priorities](#) to guide the planning process. This set of recommendations focuses on economic security for low-income seniors and people with disabilities, particularly "Objective 4.1: Californians will be economically secure throughout our life span with access to housing, food, and income as we age." and "Objective 4.3: Californians, as communities and as individuals, will plan, prepare and respond to disasters and emergencies fully including the needs and vulnerabilities of older adults and people with disabilities."

Economic security addresses the need we all have for income, a place to live, and food. Older adults who have low incomes face unnecessary barriers in meeting these basic needs, particularly older women, people of color and LGBTQ individuals who experience the compounded effects of systemic discrimination across their lifespan. While the official poverty rate for older adults in California is 10.2%, a modernized version of the official rate (the Supplemental Poverty Measure) shows almost twice as many, 20.3%, in poverty. But economic insecurity is even deeper than that with over one-quarter (26%) having incomes below the basic needs level of the [California Elder Index](#). For older adults living alone the situation is even more dire with close to half (45%) living on incomes below the California Elder Index.

In the larger movement to transform our state into a place where everyone has equitable opportunities regardless of race, economic status or level of support, the Master Plan offers an opportunity to transform the inequitable systems that put up barriers to economic security for low-income older Californians. Policies that remove these barriers will reduce senior poverty rates across the state, helping to ensure that every Californian can move out of poverty and live with dignity.

Below we outline recommendations to ensure economic security for older adults and people with disabilities who have low incomes.

Recommendations in brief
Income
Increase the SSI/SSP grant to an amount that reflects the real costs of living for seniors using the California Elder Index.
Regularly update the California Elder Index. Use the Elder Index to assist with state and local planning and to inform eligibility and benefit levels for SSI/SSP and other safety net programs.
Make the cost of living adjustment for the SSP mandatory and calculate it based on the full SSI/SSP grant.
Work with stakeholders and the Social Security Administration to improve the customer experience and outcomes for individuals applying for disability benefits.
Expand outreach to ensure that all immigrants who are eligible can receive Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) benefits.
Food
Fulfill the SSI Expansion by meeting enrollment targets and re-assessing those targets to enroll all newly eligible SSI recipients into CalFresh, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enabling application and recertification over the phone (telephonic signature access), - providing flexible interview options in all counties (telephonic signature access), - adopting all elements of the Elderly Simplified Application Project to minimize burdens on applicants and counties through eliminating the mid-period report and using the simplified application; and - leveraging the new partnerships established through the Expansion to expand and continue broader collaboration across the agencies that serve the same older adults and people with disabilities.
Adjust Supplemental & Transitional Nutrition Benefits from initial projection to account for actual household losses to the greatest extent possible, and improve the ability of clients to retain benefits to prevent churn and the permanent loss of aid due to administrative barriers. Provide replacement benefits during disaster as is done in CalFresh.
Home Delivered Nutrition Program: Invest \$17.5 million in new, ongoing funding for Senior Nutrition to provide nutritious meals to an additional 12,000 older Californians.
Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Ensure the program is available state-wide, from the current 10 agencies , and increase the income guidelines for eligibility from 130% of the federal poverty guidelines to 235% FPL.
Senior Farmer’s Market Nutrition Program: Provide a 5-fold increase in the number of vouchers, as local agencies report receiving vouchers for only approximately 20% of recipients now.
Senior Brown Bag: Triple existing state funding as Brown Bag programs are cost effective and are crucial for the growing population of older adults who can and want to make their own meals. In FY 2009-10, local providers were issued three months of funding to phase out the program. That funding has never been restored, despite restorations to other programs.
Improve coordination on food access for seniors, such as sharing referrals and resources so no matter who the adult approaches for services, programs are aligned to achieve a ‘no wrong door’ and offer all available options.
Housing and Homelessness
Provide a supplement to the SSI amount for any person who has a housing cost burden exceeding 50% of their income.

Expand the number of assisted living units – using Medi-Cal or another mechanism that can make more units affordable to extremely low income, disabled seniors.
Create a state subsidy program to move homeless seniors into permanent deeply affordable housing.
Ensure In-Home Supportive Services are available to unhoused, disabled, medically vulnerable seniors who live outside, in shelters, and in transitional houses.
Supplement CalFresh for people who do not pay rent and receive only the \$16 minimum benefit by raising this minimum benefit to \$50 a month.
The state should identify all SSI recipients claiming the homeless shelter deduction in CalFresh and help them get permanent affordable housing and provide rental assistance if needed.
Create a state program to support organized informal settlements, aka encampments, with access to public land and basic necessities like hygiene, water and trash pick-up with a strong exit strategy to the state subsidy program mentioned above.
Fill the hole in the safety net represented by the current woefully inadequate General Assistance (GA) benefit by providing higher benefit amounts, increasing eligibility for assistance or having the state take over the GA program with more robust benefits and eligibility.
Disaster Preparedness
Improve the notification and evacuation of older adults (identifying who relies on electric-powered equipment, refrigerated medicine, the time and channels needed for proper noticing, etc.).
Provide comprehensive planning to prepare for and mitigate harm to older adults during disasters, particularly catastrophic events that require evacuation and displacement (such as what community resources exist to provide food, shelter and services), by leveraging existing disaster food planning required for Disaster-CalFresh.

Objective 4.1: Californians will be economically secure throughout our life span with access to housing, food, and income as we age.

Increase income for seniors and people with disabilities who receive SSI/SSP:

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides a very basic income for seniors and people who experience disabilities. SSI grants reduce poverty for 1.2 million Californians and are particularly important for women, who make up 66 percent of seniors and 52 percent of individuals with disabilities receiving SSI.

The state supplementary payment (SSP) to the combined federal and state SSI grant was cut significantly during the recession, with ongoing devastating costs to the individuals who rely on SSI for their basic needs, to their families and communities, and to our state. The recession-era cuts have never been restored, leaving low income seniors and people with disabilities struggling to survive with an income far below the real cost of living in our state. Grants are so low that they [do not cover the cost of a studio apartment, food and healthcare in any county](#) – with significant deficits in counties as diverse as Los Angeles and San Benito. For those who can obtain below-market rent, grants are still insufficient to meet even basic needs for utilities, food, medicine, toiletries, clothing and other necessities that higher income Californians take for granted. This situation has pushed low-income seniors and people with disabilities into homelessness and hunger and is a significant reason why California has the [highest percentage of seniors living under the Supplemental Poverty Measure of any state](#).

We can change this trajectory by taking steps to help the seniors and people with disabilities who receive SSI/SSP to live and grow old safely and with dignity:

1. First and foremost, to build on the SSI program's proven ability to fight poverty, the Plan should prioritize increasing the SSI/SSP grant to an amount that reflects the real costs of living for seniors using the [California Elder Index](#).
2. The California Elder Index should be regularly updated so that it can assist with state and local planning and can inform eligibility and benefit levels for SSI/SSP and other safety net programs.
3. To ensure that the grants can keep up with the cost of living, the cost of living adjustment for the SSP should be made mandatory and should be calculated based on the full SSI/SSP grant. Never again should a progressive reform (such as connecting SSI & SNAP in the 1970s) be allowed by neglect to become a major obstacle to California achieving equity and economic justice.

Beyond the moral imperative, investing in SSP and enabling older adults to have a modest income sufficient to meet basic needs will also bring economic stimulus into our communities that need it most. According to the IMPLAN economic analysis, every \$10 million in increased State Supplementary Payments supports \$15 million in economic output (a multiplier of 1.50), creates 93 jobs, and returns \$0.9 million in state and local tax revenues.

In addition to bolstering the SSI/SSP program's proven ability to reduce poverty, we can take steps to ensure equitable access to SSI benefits:

4. Work with stakeholders and the Social Security Administration to improve the customer experience and outcomes for individuals applying for disability benefits. It can take years for people with disabilities to make it through the SSI application process and be approved, during which time they face the real risks of getting sicker, depleting their savings, and becoming homeless. The barriers are particularly high for individuals who do not have the capacity to manage a complicated administrative process, whether due to a disability or due to circumstances such as having few financial resources, limited education, access to transportation, or limited family and social connections. Increasing the quality of the application process will get disability benefits to more people who qualify more quickly.
5. Expand outreach to ensure that all immigrants who are eligible can receive Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI) benefits. CAPI provides state-funded benefits for certain immigrants who previously would have been able to receive SSI, but who are no longer eligible for SSI because of the restrictions placed on non-citizen eligibility in federal welfare legislation in 1996. Expanded outreach can help this program, created by California in the face of federal attacks on immigrants, meet its promise of providing economic security to immigrant seniors and people with disabilities.

Improve food security and nutrition access among older adults:

Hunger among older adults is often masked by elders living in social isolation and the mix of pride and stigma that keeps too many in need from seeking aid. The lack of access to consistent, healthy food brings [significant health consequences](#), especially in later life.

The reality, however, is stark – [nearly 40% of older adults in California report being food insecure](#), with significantly higher rates among Latinx, Black and Asian communities [than among white elders](#). In addition to the high levels of poverty driven by cuts to SSP grants, many of the food access and nutrition programs that could improve this are severely underutilized. Nationally, home-delivered and group meals have decreased by nearly 21 million since 2005, according to a Kaiser Health News analysis of federal data. Only a fraction of those facing food insecurity get any meal services under the act; a U.S. Government Accountability Office [report examining 2013 data](#) found 83% got none. This is especially painful because connecting older adults to food assistance through programs like [CalFresh achieves tremendous gains](#): annually saving more than two thousand dollars in healthcare expenditures and lowering the likelihood of admission to a hospital (-14%) or nursing home (-23%).

We can support the dignity, health and independence of older adults, while achieving significant health system savings, by maximizing and better coordinating the patchwork federally-funded and state food safety net programs, including:

1. Maximize participation in CalFresh by older adults, and all eligible Californians: CalFresh benefits are 100% federally funded, and as the nation's largest anti-hunger program represents the single greatest opportunity to reduce hunger, improve health, and support our local economies. The Master Plan comes at a key time, in the midst of the historic CalFresh Expansion to SSI consumers, with 360,000 older adults and people with disabilities enrolled since June 1st. There is still much work to fully realize this policy change, and among non-SSI older adults, California's participation badly lags the national average ([19% vs. 42%](#)). Key strategies include:
 - a. Fulfill the SSI Expansion by meeting enrollment targets and re-assessing those targets to enroll all newly eligible SSI recipients into CalFresh, as national analyses suggest that this population is [about 800,000 Californians](#). This should include:
 - i. Enabling application and recertification over the phone, and providing flexible interview options in all counties (telephonic signature access), which were top recommendations in the CalFresh Expansion [Customer Service Framework](#).
 - ii. Adopting all elements of the Elderly Simplified Application Project to minimize burdens on applicants and counties through eliminating the mid-period report and using the simplified application.
 - iii. Leveraging the new partnerships with CDA, DDS and DOR established through the Expansion to expand and continue not just CalFresh outreach, but broader collaboration across the agencies that serve the

same older adults and people with disabilities. Sustain effective efforts pioneered in the Expansion, such as IHSS social workers providing CalFresh information, to encourage cross-program coordination.

- a. Ensure the Supplemental & Transitional Nutrition Benefits truly hold harmless the highly vulnerable older adults and their families from losing food aid as a result of the Expansion, by: adjusting benefits from initial projection to account for actual household losses to the greatest extent possible, and improve the ability of clients to retain benefits to prevent churn and the permanent loss of aid due to administrative barriers.
2. Ensure statewide access to other key food and nutrition programs serving older adults:
 - a. Home Delivered Nutrition Program: Invest \$17.5 million in new, ongoing funding for Senior Nutrition to provide nutritious meals to an additional 12,000 older Californians.
 - b. Commodity Supplemental Food Program: Ensure the program is available statewide, from the [current 10 agencies](#), and increase the income guidelines for eligibility from 130% of the federal poverty guidelines to 235% FPL.
 - c. Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program: Provide a 5-fold increase in the number of vouchers, as local agencies report receiving vouchers for only approximately 20% of recipients now.
 - d. Senior Brown Bag: Triple existing state funding as Brown Bag programs are cost effective and are crucial for the growing population of older adults who can and want to make their own meals. In FY 2009-10, local providers were issued three months of funding to phase out the program. That funding has never been restored, despite restorations to other programs.
 3. Improve Data Collection, Program Coordination Among Older Adult Serving Programs: As there are several food programs serving older adults, administered by multiple Departments, there are excellent opportunities to improve their reach and impact through enhanced data collection and coordination. Presently, data are present on individual programs, but not across programs and Departments to understand barriers to access in certain regions, among certain languages or other populations, and to identify programmatic or policy solutions. The [CHHS Open Data portal](#) is an excellent foundation from which improved data collection and analysis could occur, and CDSS has provided a tremendous window into the CalFresh Expansion through their enhanced Data Dashboard. Furthermore, there is a need for increased coordination between CDSS and CDA, given CDA's administration of Meals on Wheels and Area Agencies on Aging, while CDSS operates CSFP, TEFAP and CalFresh. Improving coordination on food access for seniors, such as sharing referrals and resources so no matter who the adult approaches for services, programs are aligned to achieve a 'no wrong door' and offer all available options. Such enhanced coordination will also incubate new innovations, such

as the Home-Delivered Grocery program that is presently underwritten by San Francisco County. It is an example of potential coordination with IHSS such that IHSS workers can get additional hours to serve as proxies to pick-up groceries for their consumers at nearby food pantries.

Increase access to housing for seniors with high housing cost burdens and seniors who are unhoused:

Adults over age 55 are the fastest growing population of homeless persons. Because many have limited ability to have earnings from work, they rely on a fixed income. When housing costs go up, they are forced to pay more of their limited income towards housing. This makes it hard for them to save and susceptible to losing their housing. Once a person is paying 50 percent or more of their total income for housing they are at high risk of losing their housing if they have an unexpected bill. Once they become homeless the cost to re-house them can run into the low thousands of dollars and if they remain on the street for even a short period of time they can develop medical and mental health conditions that can linger for years at enormous cost to government.

One way to prevent these negative outcomes and social costs is to take steps to ensure that people do not become homeless. While the state can likely not help all seniors with high housing cost burdens, it can pinpoint those persons with high housing costs from existing programs, particularly CalFresh. Now that California allows SSI recipients to apply for CalFresh 360,000 recipients have newly enrolled. To determine the CalFresh grant amount each applicant must provide to the county the cost of their housing. Those with high housing costs get higher CalFresh grants. Thus the state has an existing data base of which seniors (and persons with disabilities) are paying high housing costs and could target assistance to those most at risk of becoming homeless. The state could provide a supplement to the SSI amount for any person who has a housing cost burden exceeding 50% of their income. The amount of the supplement would be modest, likely in the \$150-\$300 monthly range, so that they would have enough income to remain housed. Santa Monica has piloted a similar program and has had no evictions so far.

Ensuring that Californians who are unhoused or who are at risk of homelessness can be economically secure requires policy solutions across sectors:

1. Expand the number of assisted living units – using Medi-Cal or another mechanism that can make more units affordable to extremely low income, disabled seniors.
2. Create a state subsidy program to move homeless seniors into permanent deeply affordable housing. This could be modeled after the federal “VASH specific to veterans” program, or the Shelter Plus Care program.

3. Ensure In-Home Supportive Services are available to unhoused, disabled, medically vulnerable seniors who live outside, in shelters, and in transitional houses.
4. Supplement CalFresh for people who do not pay rent and receive only the \$16 minimum benefit by raising this minimum benefit to \$50 a month. Unhoused seniors face the difficult and costly challenge of having enough to eat while living outside.
5. The state should identify all SSI recipients claiming the homeless shelter deduction in CalFresh and help them get permanent affordable housing and provide rental assistance if needed.
6. Create a state program to support organized informal settlements, aka encampments, with access to public land and basic necessities like hygiene, water and trash pick-up with a strong exit strategy to the state subsidy program mentioned in Number 2.
7. General Assistance (GA) is an important bridge program to SSI. But there are many single individuals who won't apply for SSI because they are neither disabled or elderly so a robust GA program is a critical part of the safety net.

The current GA benefits are woefully inadequate as they are based on ancient funding standard of 40 percent of the 1991 federal poverty level for a single person. Additionally, counties are permitted under state law to limit GA to three months out of twelve. These are the same people who are least likely to apply for or receive SSI. Thus they fall between the cracks of both an inadequate GA program and SSI. Having higher benefit amounts, increased eligibility for assistance or having the state take over the GA program with more robust benefits and eligibility are critical to filling the hole in the safety net.

Objective 4.3: Californians, as communities and as individuals, will plan, prepare and respond to disasters and emergencies fully including the needs and vulnerabilities of older adults and people with disabilities.

Improve Disaster Preparedness, Recovery and Resiliency of Older Adults:

Finally, recent disasters have exposed the significant disparate impact on older adults, from the tragic loss of life in Paradise to the inhumane stranding of elders in the dark across Northern California during the PSPS outages this fall. The Plan must improve the notification and evacuation of older adults (identifying who relies on electric-powered equipment, refrigerated medicine, the time and channels needed for proper noticing, etc.), evacuation and displacement (such as what community resources exist to provide the shelter and services), and serve the needs of older adults who have the hardest and longest recovery of any Californians.

1. Provide adequate emergency assistance to affordable senior housing sites including back up electricity, heat and hot meals. For example, allow affordable housing sites to apply for emergency response funds to pay for emergency items such as generators, lighting, prepared meals, etc. When the PSPS outages occurred in Sonoma County and elsewhere, many seniors reliant on powered wheelchairs were left on the 4th floor of a senior housing building, with no access to light or ability to get downstairs.
2. Provide comprehensive disaster planning for emergency food before, during and following disasters that includes the needs of older adults and people with disabilities. Current law requires annual, county-level leverage existing planning for Disaster CalFresh in [AB 607 \(Gloria, 2017\)](#), however, recent experiences in several counties points to the need for much stronger collaboration between first responder feeding organizations, permanent community food providers like food banks, as well as the several local, state and federal public agencies that oversee this work.

The recommendations in this letter are intertwined because the barriers that low-income seniors face are intertwined. With poverty being a primary driver of homelessness, solving our homelessness crisis means solving our poverty crisis. Solutions to increase income supports and provide targeted housing assistance all work together to reduce senior poverty, hunger and homelessness, and ensure quality of life for the most vulnerable California seniors now and into the future.

Californians for SSI (CA4SSI) is a statewide coalition of over 200 organizations across the aging, disability rights, housing and homeless, anti-hunger and anti-poverty sectors. CA4SSI seeks to ensure that blind, aged and people living with disabilities living on SSI/SSP obtain adequate support to lead their lives with dignity.

CA4SSI Statewide Organizational Endorsers

AARP, ACLU California, AllCare Alliance, The ARC CA, California Association of Food Banks, California Alliance for Retired Americans, California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS, California Church IMPACT, California Council of the Blind, California Emergency Foodlink, California Food Policy Advocates, California Foundation for Independent Living Centers, California IHSS Consumer Alliance, California Partnership, California Senior Legislature, Californians for Disability Rights, CLUE: Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, Community Services Unlimited Inc., County Welfare Directors Association of CA, Courage Campaign, Disability Rights California, Educate Advocate, Food Chain Workers Alliance, Housing California, IHSS Consumers Union, Insight Center, Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California, Justice in Aging, Lutheran Office of Public Policy – California, Magnolia Women's Recovery Center, Meals on Wheels California, National Association of Social Workers/CA Chapter, National Center for Lesbian Rights, Produce Good, SEIU, UDW/AFSCME Local 3930, Western Center on Law and Poverty

Bay Area

ABD Productions, AIDS Housing Alliance/SF, Alameda County Commission on Aging, Alameda County Community Food Bank, Ala Costa Centers, Alameda County Developmental Disabilities Planning and Advisory Council, Alameda County Homeless Action Center, Allen Temple Arms, All Saints Episcopal Church, Asian Law Alliance, Bay Area Community Services, Berkeley Food Pantry, Berkeley Food Policy Council, Bethel Community Presbyterian Church, CANV Food Bank, Center for the Vulnerable Child, Central City SRO Collaborative, City of Oakland Human Services Department, Choice in Aging, Community Action Alliance / Agnes Memorial Church, Community Action Marin, Community Action of Napa Valley Food Bank, Community Resources for Independent Living, CSI Support & Development, Disability Services & Legal Center, Downs Memorial United Methodist Church, East Bay Food Justice Project, Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa, Family Emergency Shelter Coalition, Food 2 Go, Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, Harbor House Ministries, Hayward Seventh Day Adventist Church, Hazon Bay Area, Hope 4 the Heart, Independent Living Resources of Solano and Contra Costa Counties, Jewish Family & Children's Services of the East Bay, L.A. Kitchen, Lake Merritt United Methodist Church Food Pantry, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley, Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County, LIFT – Levantate, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Los Robles Apartments, Marin Aging Action Initiative, Marin Asian Advocacy Project, Marin Food Policy Council, Meals on Wheels of Alameda County, Meals on Wheels of San Francisco, Mercy Brown Bag Program, Mission for the Homeless, Multi-Faith Action Coalition of Contra Costa, Oakland Food Pantry, Oakland Mayor's Commission on Aging, Redwood Empire Food Bank, San Francisco Food Security Task Force, Satellite Affordable Housing Associates, Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, Second Harvest Santa Cruz, Senior & Disability Action, Senior Services Coalition of Alameda County, Seventh Step Foundation, SF-Marin Food Bank, Silicon Valley Independent Living Center, Society of Saint Vincent de Paul-San Leandro Conference, South Hayward Parish, St. Anthony Foundation, St. Francis Living Room, St. Lawrence O'Toole Parish, St. Mary's Center, Street Level Health Project, Tenderloin Housing Clinic, The Gubbio Project, The Neighborhood Village, The R.E.F.U.G.E, Tri-City Volunteers, United Seniors of Oakland and Alameda County, Whistlestop

Central Valley

Central California Food Bank, Community Action Partnership of Kern County, Disability Resource Agency for Independent Living, FoodLink for Tulare County, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, Kern County Independent Living Center, Neighborhood Industries, Second Harvest Food Bank of San Joaquin & Stanislaus Counties

Los Angeles / Southern California

ACLU of Southern California, Adams Vermont/Gardena CFMS, Center for Health Care Rights, Clergy Caucus of Inland Congregations United for Change, Communities Actively Living Independent & Free, Community Action Agency, Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino, Dayle McIntosh Center, Educate. Advocate., Disabled Resources Center, Inc., Downtown Women's Center, Fair Trade LA, Feeding America Riverside-San Bernardino

Counties, FIND Food Bank, Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County, Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, Food & Water Watch, Friends Across The Line, Friends In Deed, Guerrilla Food Not Bombs, Homeless Action Center, Homeless Health Care Los Angeles, Hunger Action LA, Huntington Hospital Senior Care Network, Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, Jewish Labor Committee Western Region, John Tennant Memorial- Episcopal Senior Communities, Latino Diabetes Association, Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition, Los Angeles Community Action Network, Los Angeles for a New Economy, Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, Orange County Food Access Coalition, MLK Coalition of Greater Los Angeles, Orange County Food Bank, Orange County Hunger Coalition, Personal Assistance Services Council of LA County, Project Angel Food, Prototypes, Retirement Housing Foundation, Santa Barbara Food Alliance, Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County, SEIU Local 721, Service Center for Independent Life, Social Justice Learning Institute, Southern CA Resource Services for Independent Living, Starting Over, Inc., St. Barnabas Senior Services, Thai Community Development Center, The East Los Angeles Community Union, Time for Change Foundation, Urban & Environmental Policy Institute at Occidental College, VELA, Veterans For Peace Los Angeles, Westside Center for Independent Living, WORKS (Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge & Services), Youth Justice Coalition

Sacramento/Northern California

2-1-1 Humboldt, Area 1 Agency on Aging, California Emergency Foodlink, Capitol People First, Cottage Housing Inc., DOGFITE (Disability Organizing Group for Initiating Total Equality), Food for People, Inc., Ford Street Project, Life Support Alliance, Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction, Mary Immaculate Residential Facility, Mendocino Food & Nutrition Program, Placer Food Bank, Placer Independent Resource Services, River City Food Bank, Sacramento Housing Alliance, Resources for Independent Living-Sacramento, Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, Sacramento Loaves & Fishes, Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness, The Resource Connection Food Bank, Yolo County Commission on Aging and Adult Services, Yolo Food Bank, Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance, Yuba-Sutter Gleaners Food Bank, Inc.

San Diego

Access to Independence, A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing), Community Resource Center, Feeding San Diego, Hunger Advocacy Network, IHSS Network San Diego, Imperial Valley Food Bank, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Leichtag Foundation, Meals-on-Wheels Greater San Diego, Inc., San Diego Food Bank, San Diego Hunger Coalition, San Diego Senior Alliance