## Sample email to NY City Council Member/Mayor

Note: To locate your City Council Member

- Use the https://www.mygovnyc.org/ to enter your address.
- Click on the District when it appears, and it will direct you to the City Council member's page.
- On the lower right side, there is a "Send Email" box.
- Click and cut and paste this email or write your own.

Dear Council Member (or Dear Mayor),

As you well know, the Community Food Connection (CFC) has been a lifeline to emergency food providers throughout the city who are on the frontlines serving the millions of New Yorkers struggling to make ends meet and suffering with food insecurity.

Please increase the CFC program funding to \$100 million city-wide to more adequately provide food pantries with the resources they need. The proposed Fiscal Year 2026 budget for the Community Food Connection program to \$20.9 million, or a decrease of 58%, in woefully inadequate to serve the millions of New Yorkers suffering with Food Insecurity.

Thank you for supporting food pantries, food banks and soup kitchens, so that those who are hungry can know where their next meal is coming from.

Sincerely, (insert your name)

## **Sample Letter: New York State Officials**

Note: To locate your New York State Assembly Member or New York State Senator

- Use these links to find your Assembly Member or Senator by entering your address.
- Your elected official will appear on screen, with a blue box to "mail" them
- Click and cut and paste this email or write your own.

Dear Assembly Member or Senator,

As you well know, emergency food relief organizations (EFROs) are on the frontlines serving the millions of New York State residents struggling to make ends meet and suffering with food insecurity.

It is imperative that you provide adequate funding for the Hunger Prevention Assistance Program which provides state and federal funds to improve the quality of food distributed to an estimated 2,500 Emergency Food Relief Organizations (EFRO) in New York State. In addition, funding needs to increase for Nourish New York, which helps people who are food insecure to access the nourishment that they need from food pantries and soup kitchens, while providing a market for farmers to sell their products.

It would be especially beneficial to low-income families if you also increase the SNAP minimum in New York State.

Thank you for taking care of New York State residents who continue to struggle to put food on the table.

Sincerely, (insert your name here)

## Sample Letter for Senators and Congressional Representatives

Note: To locate your Congress Person

- Use <a href="https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm">https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm</a> to find your Senator and use <a href="https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative">https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative</a> to find your member of the House of Representatives by entering your address.
- Your elected official will appear on screen, with a blue box to "mail" them
- Click and cut and paste this email or write your own.

Dear (insert title),

As you well know, emergency food providers are on the frontlines serving the more than 47 million Americans struggling with food insecurity.

It is imperative that you reinstate the Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement, which allocated \$500 million this year to food banks and food pantries to purchase locally sourced food from farmers and food purveyors. The USDA's refusal to release these grant funds doesn't just hurt farmers in the program, it devastates the most vulnerable, food-insecure communities relying on food pantries and food banks.

Thank you for supporting food pantries, food banks and soup kitchens, so that those who are hungry can know where their next meal is coming from – and farmers so they can fulfill the contracts they'd entered, and keep themselves afloat.

Sincerely, (insert your name)