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Member of
**FEEDING
AMERICA**
Federal Tax ID: 94-2418054

November 10, 2025

Solano County Board of Supervisors

675 Texas Street, Suite 6500
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Chair Mashburn and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano writes to express our deep concern regarding the ongoing impacts of the federal government shutdown on CalFresh recipients in Solano County. The disruption to this critical nutrition program is already creating hardship for thousands of households and straining the emergency food network across our region.

As of November 1, 2025, more than **33,000 Solano County households** — and over **54,000 individuals** — experienced delays in receiving their CalFresh benefits, totaling more than **\$10 million in food assistance**. CalFresh is often the determining factor between food security and hunger, and even a temporary interruption intensifies hardship for the children, seniors, working families, immigrants, and federal workers who rely on it.

In response, **emergency food providers** — including the Food Bank, Food is Free Bay Area, and Catholic Charities — are serving unprecedented needs in communities across Solano County. At one Fairfield distribution alone, we saw 100 new families. We urge the Board to continue supporting these frontline organizations and to encourage people experiencing hunger to find an existing food distribution location at www.foodbankccs.org/findfood.

We also want to clarify that **Governor Newsom's recent announcement of \$80 million for California food banks reflects funding already included in the state budget**. While we are grateful for this support, **it is not sufficient to meet the surge in demand caused by CalFresh delays**.

Although the USDA announced plans to issue CalFresh benefits for November, and the State of California has issued November benefits, there appears to be **no clear plan for December**.

We respectfully call on the Solano County Board of Supervisors to agendize a discussion on the emergency at hand at the November 18, 2025, meeting. Surrounding areas of Solano County are taking steps to address the harm that the shutdown is creating. On November 4, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, in partnership with the Employment and Human Services Division, passed a resolution to fund **\$21 million in food benefits to residents through gift cards to be used at grocery retailers**. They plan to reserve these funds for December if the shutdown continues and benefits are again delayed or not issued. Additionally, the Napa County Board of Supervisors approved up to **\$1 million in emergency food assistance funding** to help households that rely on CalFresh. This includes grocery store gift cards. We ask the Board of Supervisors to explore similar avenues that work specifically for Solano County, to provide relief and prevent hunger in our community.

We remain committed to working alongside county leadership, nonprofit partners, and philanthropy until the government reopens. Together, we can help ensure families do not go hungry during this critical time and demonstrate the leadership and compassion that Solano County is known for.

Thank you for your continued partnership and dedication to serving our community.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Sly
President & CEO
Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano
Food is Free Bay Area
United Way Bay Area
Samoan Christian Fellowship
Fairfield CANB
Vallejo Adult School
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Boys and Girls Empowerment Group
Cal State Maritime
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
House of Acts
Catholic Charities
The Edge Community Church
Bethel Community Church
Meals on Wheels Solano County
St. Dominic's SVdP
Benicia Community Action Council
Liberty Church
Rio Vista Food Pantry
Incredible Blessings 4 U
The Salvation Army Kroc Center
Rebuilding Together Solano County
Casa Nova Mobile Home Park
First Baptist Vallejo, Sparrow Project
Operation Rooftop
True Love Baptist Church
Solano Community College
Wayside United Methodist Church
Suisun Fairfield Congregational Church
Cornerstone Church Dixon
Caminar