**July 31, 2019**

**Over 3 Million of our Neighbors Nationally Will Lose SNAP Eligibility --Unacceptable!**

The Trump Administration last week proposed changes in a key SNAP (food stamps) rule which, if implemented, would take away basic food assistance from an estimated 3.1 million people nationally, especially impacting working families with children as well as seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Federal law includes a provision that lets states strengthen SNAP’s rules to encourage work and savings among low-income households — two goals that have long had strong bipartisan support — through a policy called broad-based categorical eligibility (BBCE). States can use BBCE to raise SNAP income eligibility limits somewhat so that many low-income working families that have difficulty making ends meet can receive help affording food. This policy also lets states adopt less restrictive asset tests so that families, seniors and people with a disability can have modest savings without losing SNAP.

The rule change proposal would eliminate broad-based categorical eligibility (BBCE) flexibility to states, restricting SNAP to federal standards. Many of our customers rely on SNAP and Mid-Ohio Foodbank will be commenting on the negative impact this proposal would have on lifting our neighbors out of poverty.

We encourage our anti-poverty partners to also comment; for more analysis on the impact of the proposal, go to The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: <https://www.cbpp.org/press/statements/misguided-trump-administration-rule-would-take-basic-food-assistance-from-working>. For a link to The Food Research & Action Center web page for action on this proposed rule, which provides talking points and other resources along with a link to submit comments, go to <https://frac.salsalabs.org/comment-on-trump-cat-el-proposed-rule/index.html>.

**Advocacy Contacts**

For questions or information, contact your advocacy team: Tim White, Advocacy Manager: (614) 317-9480 or twhite@midohiofoodbank.org; or, Marilyn Tomasi, Vice President, Marketing, Communications and Public Affairs (614) 317-9446 or mtomasi@midohiofoodbank.org. Access [advocacy resources and FAN e-blasts](https://www.midohiofoodbank.org/get_involved/advocacy/ways-to-help/) here; or, for federal advocacy information, visit the [Feeding America](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=SPnfUrAhWwFez6hLDsvQxt6KDijlIXA%2B) and the [Food Research and Action Center](http://salsa4.salsalabs.com/dia/track.jsp?v=2&c=yKcA9%2BRcLHlF7QVGsnEeYd6KDijlIXA%2B) (FRAC) advocacy sites.