

CCA Regional Food Bank 2010 SE Chokeberry Avenue

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TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Dusten Martin, COO, CCA Regional Food Bank

RE: State Budget DATE: April 7, 2003

Co-Chair Steiner, Co-Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Committee

The CCA Regional Food Bank provides a safety net to folks living and working in Clatsop County. We supply needed food resources to our county's children, seniors, workforce, and families as they wrestle with inflation and stretched household budgets. We know we do not do this work alone. Our local Network of food pantries, senior centers, backpack programs, meal sites, shelters, and volunteers work in coordination to provide safe and efficient distribution of approximately 1.5 million pounds of food resources annually, but we also need your help. That is why we are respectfully asking you to support the following budget requests:

## \$9M for the Oregon Hunger Response Fund to maintain funding for emergency food distribution efforts statewide.

The Oregon Hunger Response Fund is a critical funding source to our rural Regional Food Bank. It is used to help support staffing, transportation expenses, and facility utilities. These funds allow us to transport fresh produce, gather protein products such as salmon from our local hatchery and cuts of meat from our local supermarket partners. In short, these funds keep the trucks rolling and the doors open.

## \$10M to fund critical food purchases through the Oregon Department of Human Services.

With pandemic-related issues negatively affecting food industry donations, funding to assist in food purchasing is required to keep the food supply at adequate levels. The CCA Regional Food Bank supports our Clatsop County stores, workers, and communities by purchasing 100 percent locally. We work with our local food industry managers, keeping the money in Oregon, and our transportation costs down.

## \$22M to strengthen Oregon's food distribution network to make one-time infrastructure investments in regional food banks to support Oregonians facing hunger.

The CCA Regional Food Bank would use its portion of these funds to help fund a walk-in cooler and freezer upgrade. This will help keep our nutritious produce as fresh as possible and our meats and other frozen items at a safe temperature. We have also identified the need to build an overflow parking area on our existing property to handle the expanding number of struggling families and individuals accessing our food distributions. Upgrades to aging power equipment to assist in the unloading and loading of trucks and mortgage reduction have also been identified as areas to strengthen our ability to maintain our distribution of food resources.





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Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. We urge you to support these important requests.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dusten Martin

Chief Operations Officer