

## CALL TO ACTION

**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).** Formerly known as the Food Stamp Program, SNAP has served as the foundation of America's national nutrition safety net, working to end hunger and improve the health of low-income people by helping families buy the food they need for a nutritious diet. In South Carolina over 384,000 households, many of whom are low wage earners/working families who depend on SNAP each month to get the food they need for good health to ensure continued employment.

- SNAP caseloads have increased by 53.1% from 2007 – 2010:
  - November 2008 – 21,333 households (43,022 people) \$5,525,566
  - November 2010 - 30,026 households (65,249 people) \$8,876,150

### HOW THE FAITH COMMUNITY CAN HELP??

- Call SC state leaders and encourage funding of SC DSS so it is able to serve those families that depend on help. Questions about the status of DSS go to: <https://dss.sc.gov/content/about/news/story.aspx?StoryID=177>
- Call SC Congressional (federal) leaders and ask that they ensure sound funding of feeding and nutrition programs, specifically supporting the SNAP/Food Stamp program to allow families to purchase needed food for sound nutrition, subsequently enabling a healthy workforce and/or children who are ready to learn!

**Emergency Food and Shelter Program.** Congress created the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP), an annual restricted federal grant program, in 1983 to supplement and expand the work of local social service organizations, both nonprofit and governmental, in an effort to help people with **economic** emergencies (not disaster-related emergencies.) EFSP funds must be used to supplement feeding, sheltering (including transitional sheltering), and rent/mortgage and utility assistance efforts only.

The new (112<sup>th</sup>) Congress is seeking ways to cut spending/funding. Across the board cuts of 5-10% or rolling back program funding to FY2008 levels are among the ideas being discussed. This could have devastating impact on the 22 Greenville County service providers who split \$319,713 in program funding to provide local people assistance with food, shelter, rent/mortgage and utilities. These organizations are:

AID Upstate, Inc. (\$2,500)	Loaves & Fishes (\$2,500)
Alston Wilkes Society (\$4,000)	North Greenville Food Crisis Ministry (\$13,000)
Catholic Charities of the Piedmont Deanery (\$19,500)	Pendleton Place, Inc. (\$11,000)
Foothills Family Resources (\$21,500)	Project Care, Inc. (\$6,100)
God's Pantry, Inc. (\$10,000)	Project Host, Inc. (\$15,000)
Golden Strip Emergency Relief and Resource Agency (\$18,000)	Safe Harbor, Inc. (\$10,000)
Greenville Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (GAIHN) (\$6,000)	Salvation Army (\$23,500)
Greenville Rescue Mission/Miracle Hill Ministries, (\$26,000)	Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources (SHARE) (\$35,500)
Greer Relief and Resources Agency, Inc. (\$29,000)	United Ministries (\$19,244)
Harvest HOPE Food Bank, Greenville Area (\$16,000)	Urban League of the Upstate, Inc. (\$20,000)
Helping Hands Ministry, Brushy Creek First Assembly of God (\$2,000)	YouthBASE (\$3,000)

### HOW THE FAITH COMMUNITY CAN HELP??

- Call SC Congressional leaders and ask that they support funding of EFSP at FY10 level for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11).
- Call SC Congressional leaders and ask our Representative and Senators to support funding of EFSP at \$200 million for Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12).

Governor Nikki Haley <http://www.govoepp.state.sc.us/>  
 SC Elected Officials <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/>  
 SC Congressional Leaders <http://www.capwiz.com/unitedway/dbq/officials>