

January 25, 2023

The Honorable Andy Harris U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Harris,

On behalf of all of us at Maryland Hunger Solutions, we congratulate you on your recent appointment as Chair of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee. As Chair of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and related agencies subcommittee, you have the unique opportunity to effect change and address food policy and food insecurity both throughout the country and for the people of Maryland's First Congressional District.

In Maryland's First Congressional District, an estimated 11% of households participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), <u>30,000</u> women, infants and children participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), and <u>77,000</u> K-12 students benefit from free and reduced-price school meals. As Chair of the subcommittee, you and your fellow members can help build a sustainable food system that addresses food insecurity, and we look forward to ensuring you have the information necessary regarding anti-hunger policies.

We encourage you to examine the following research we have concerning food security in Maryland. Whether it is through the school meal program, SNAP, or WIC, tens of thousands of your constituents benefit from Maryland's nutrition programs and are an integral part of the food system. Please feel free to explore our website and the website of our parent organization, the Food Research & Action Center.

Again, congratulations on your appointment, and we look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Michael J. Wilson

Director