



**FRAC**  
Food Research  
& Action Center

# ADVOCATE

## January 2021

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FRAC is pleased and encouraged that President Biden twice in his first week in office announced a set of strategic actions to address food insecurity. The release of the [American Rescue Plan](#), which extends the 15 percent SNAP benefit increase from June to September, and an [executive order](#) that calls for strengthening SNAP and P-EBT. These announcements send an important message to the nation that ending hunger in this country must be a top priority. While these are steps in the right direction, more must be done. Read FRAC's [recommendations](#) for actions that the Biden administration and Congress can take to ensure people get the nutrition they need and to stimulate the economy.

## LATEST BUZZ



[The National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference](#) is going virtual in 2021 to allow thousands of anti-hunger advocates from all across the country to safely and conveniently attend from home. You will hear from officials from the Biden administration and the new Congress, and capture the energy while enjoying networking opportunities and learning from thought-provoking workshops that are the hallmark of this annual conference. [Register today.](#)



The [latest data](#) from the U.S. Department of Agriculture reveal the critical role that SNAP and the child nutrition programs play in mitigating spikes in hunger created by COVID-19, and underscore why these programs must be strengthened.



**Childhood hunger has skyrocketed during COVID-19.** The American Academy of Pediatrics and FRAC have teamed up to release an updated toolkit, [Screen & Intervene: A Toolkit for Pediatricians to Address Food Insecurity](#), which is designed to help pediatricians identify childhood food insecurity and connect families to federal nutrition programs.

## FRAC CHAT: LOOK WHO'S TALKING

### **A Look at Pandemic EBT's Impact so far and How the Program Can Continue to Provide Critical Support to Families**

FRAC's Deputy Director of School and Out-of-School Time Programs, Etienne Melcher Philbin, [explains](#) the recently released [data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#), showing that the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program provided a total of \$10.7 billion in nutritional assistance to eligible families with school-age children between April and September 2020.



## GET VOCAL ON SOCIAL

### Click to Tweet:

[Registration is now open for the 2021 Virtual National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference, happening March 16-18! Register here today: http://bit.ly/36oZVoI](http://bit.ly/36oZVoI) #hungerpc21

["The executive order to address food insecurity sends an important message to the nation that ending hunger in this country must be a top priority." -@fracpres Luis Guardia: http://bit.ly/bidenhungerplan](http://bit.ly/bidenhungerplan)

[Childhood food insecurity has risen during #COVID19. Check out the newly updated toolkit from @fractweets and @AmerAcadPeds that helps pediatricians identify & address childhood food insecurity: http://bit.ly/toolkitaap](http://bit.ly/toolkitaap)



### Coming Soon ...

**February 19** — [Scholarship Deadline National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference](#)

**February 21** — Webinar 4 p.m. ET: [Looking Ahead to Summer 2021](#)

**March 16-18** — [National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference](#)

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