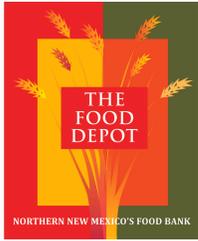


# The Food Depot

*Building Healthy Communities, Advancing Sustainable Solutions*



The Food Depot believes hunger is preventable for New Mexican families.

**Our 2025 priorities are focused on sustainable solutions to food insecurity.** The Food Depot champions a budget and policies which increase access to nutritious food, strengthen food systems, expand social safety net programs. We support state agency initiatives that will advance solutions for New Mexicans.

## Invest in New Mexico's Food Banks



- Pass a state budget with \$30 million dedicated to New Mexico's five food banks, with \$10 million to be distributed annually over the next three years.
- The Food Depot will receive approximately \$1.2 million each year.
- Food banks serve all 33 counties. Funds will support expanded distribution for food bank partners and programs, additional food purchase, and increased cold storage in food deserts.

## Launch Food is Medicine Program



- Fund the NM Health Care Authority (HCA) to start a Food is Medicine program using their 1115 Medicaid Waiver. Funds support program infrastructure to ensure success and Food is Medicine sustainability.
- New Mexico will unlock federal matching funds if the legislature invests \$13.5 million in food and \$3.2 million in infrastructure through the HCA to launch the program.
- The program will provide nutritious food and support to over 2,400 pregnant women and more than 3,000 homebound seniors with health conditions like diabetes. Food banks and partners will play a key role in ensuring individuals receive healthy foods.

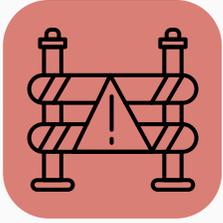
## Expand the SNAP Outreach Plan



- Require the NM Health Care Authority to consistently develop an annual statewide outreach plan for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).
- Statewide plans unlock federal funding and increase enrollment for qualifying New Mexicans.

2025 State  
Legislative Agenda

## Modernize the Anti-Donation Clause



- Update the outdated Anti-Donation Clause, as it is currently written in the New Mexico Constitution.
- The clause prevents state and local governments from directly funding nonprofits, creating roadblocks for essential funding in areas like food security, infrastructure, and disaster assistance.

## Continue Universal School Meals



- Healthy Universal School Meals passed in 2023, ensuring students in New Mexico have free breakfast and lunch each day at school.
- Renewed funding is necessary each legislative session to continue the program and ensure all kids have easy access to healthy meals every day.

## Invest in Local Food Systems

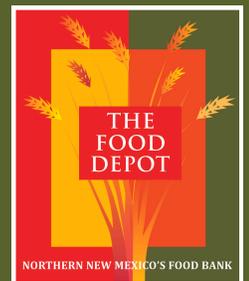


- Invest \$430,000 in the NM Grown Approved Supplier Program (ASP), which connects farmers, ranchers, and producers to institutions such as food banks, childcare centers, and senior centers.
- Appropriate \$3.4 million to the Healthy Food Financing Fund (HFFF) to provide financial tools and technical assistance to help grow and distribute local, healthy food in rural and underserved communities.
- Support the Regional Farm to Food Bank Program, which uses the ASP to buy food at fair prices from farmers and ranchers and distribute the items through the food bank network across the state.

## Expand Refundable Tax Credits



- Increase State Child Tax Credit (CTC ) for children under six to better support families and reduce food insecurity.
- Consider offering the CTC in monthly or quarterly payments for more consistent financial support throughout the year.
- Families in NM who have previously received the federal CTC in monthly payments reported lower rates of food insecurity and used the CTC to cover essential expenses (NM Voices for Children).



**The Food Depot**  
*Northern New Mexico's Food Bank*

Visit [thefooddepot.org/advocacy](https://thefooddepot.org/advocacy) to get involved in building healthy communities.

Contact Sergio Mata-Cisneros at [advocacy@thefooddepot.org](mailto:advocacy@thefooddepot.org) or (505) 510-5702 for more information.