



Sen. Kyrsten Sinema  
317 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

April 7, 2024

Dear Senator Sinema,

As members and friends of New Journey Lutheran Church in Fountain Hills, we have regularly worked to reduce hunger by supporting the Extended Hands Food Bank; packing hundreds of heat respite lunches annually for persons experiencing homelessness in Phoenix; hosting an annual Food for Kidz meal pack that this March distributed 64,000 meals locally and internationally; and contributing regularly to ELCA World Hunger, this year celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Yet, we know that our and others' good works are not enough; they must be joined by legislation that systemically addresses broad hunger needs.** Thus, we write again to you to support bi-partisan, five-year renewal of the U.S. Farm Bill.

The farm bill is our nation's most important national food system legislation. It is critical to the work of ending hunger at home and abroad. Indeed, the farm bill impacts each one of us. As Congress works to renew our food and farm programs through the farm bill, we urge you to support legislation that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Specifically, we ask you to:

- **Protect SNAP from further restrictions.** In 2021, 12% of Arizona residents were helped by SNAP; the program helps 1 in 9 Arizona workers put food on the table.
- **Increase funding for fresh produce within SNAP benefits through the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP).** The costs of treating diabetes and obesity far outweigh the costs of the GusNIP program.
- **Reduce food waste by cosponsoring the *Food Date Labeling Act*, H.R.3159/S.1484.** In 2019, 2.22 million tons of surplus food in Arizona went to waste instead of reaching those who needed it.
- **Reauthorize the Food for Peace global nutrition program at no less than its current level of \$2.5 billion annually** and allow additional flexibility to provide the most effective form of assistance in each local context.

As people of faith, we are moved to help and to advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty – no matter where they live. This is why we urge you to support a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Sincerely,

<signatures below>

Members and Friends of New Journey Lutheran Church  
P.O.Box 19652, Fountain Hills AZ 85269



Sen. Mark Kelly  
516 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

April 7, 2024

Dear Senator Kelly,

As members and friends of New Journey Lutheran Church in Fountain Hills, we have regularly worked to reduce hunger by supporting the Extended Hands Food Bank; packing hundreds of heat respite lunches annually for persons experiencing homelessness in Phoenix; hosting an annual Food for Kidz meal pack that this March distributed 64,000 meals locally and internationally; and contributing regularly to ELCA World Hunger, this year celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Yet, we know that our and others' good works are not enough; they must be joined by legislation that systemically addresses broad hunger needs.** Thus, we write again to you to support bi-partisan, five-year renewal of the U.S. Farm Bill.

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Members and Friends of New Journey Lutheran Church  
P.O.Box 19652, Fountain Hills AZ 85269



Rep. David Schweikert  
460 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

April 7, 2024

Dear Representative Schweikert,

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