
STATEMENT FROM

Nonprofit Hunger-Relief Organizations Serving Minnesota

JANUARY 28, 2026

Since the start of Operation Metro Surge in early December, the presence of thousands of federal ICE agents has brought chaos and violence to the communities we serve, leaving a growing number of our neighbors—including U.S. citizens—too afraid to leave their homes.

People are stranded and hungry. This cannot continue.

Minnesota is fortunate to have a strong and resilient hunger-relief network, especially in times of crisis such as this. However, with so many Minnesotans staying home for fear of being racially profiled, unlawfully detained, separated from their families or worse, we have had to scramble to find new ways to get emergency food to where it's needed most. Minnesotans have shown up to keep one another fed. Yet at every turn, ICE has made it harder to get food to hungry neighbors, including by following volunteers doing food deliveries, standing outside food shelf entrances, staging from our parking lots or near our facilities, and, in at least one instance, detaining a volunteer. This is on top of the impact on child hunger from missed school meals.

Let us be clear: every Minnesotan—indeed, every human being—deserves to eat. That should not be a controversial statement, and it certainly isn't a political one. As nonpartisan, nonprofit organizations, we represent a wide variety of viewpoints, beliefs, and life experiences. What we all share is a deep commitment to ending hunger in our communities, and every day that this federal operation continues moves us further from that goal.

For the above reasons, and out of deep concern for our neighbors, we stand united in calling for an immediate end to the surge in federal immigration activity in our state so that we can safely deliver food to neighbors in need and ensure that they can freely attend school and access healthcare and other lifesaving services without fear. Operation Metro Surge is hurting our neighbors, it is making us less safe, it is further dividing our communities, and it is making it harder to get food to Minnesotans in need. Our communities deserve better.

SIGNATORIES

360 Communities	ECHO Food Shelf	Merrick Community Services	Southern Anoka Community Services (SACA)
Anoka County Brotherhood Council	Emma Norton Services	MinneHarvest	St. Louis Park Emergency Program
Basic Needs Inc. of South Washington County	Every Meal	Mount Olivet Lab School, Inc. NOURISH	St. Andrew's Community Resource Center
Battle Lake Emergency Food Shelf	Eyota Food Pantry	Murray County Food Shelf	St. Philip's Food and Clothing Shelf
BBE Area Food Shelf	Phima's Minneapolis	Muslim American Society of Minnesota	Strandquist Food Shelf
Belgrade Avenue United Methodist Church	Foundation for Essential Needs	NCBC Food Shelf	The Aliveness Project
Bread of Life	Friendship Community Services FoodHub	NEAR Food Shelf	The Camden Promise
Bricelyn Food Pantry	Groveland Emergency Food Shelf	Neighborhood House	The Corner Shelf
Buffalo Food Shelf	Hastings Family Service	Neighbors, Inc.	The Food Group
Building Blocks of Islam	Haven Pantry	New Creations Ministries COGIC	The Good Acre
CAER Food Shelf	Hometown Resource Center	Norway Community Association	The Kitchen at Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Peter Minnesota
Calvary Food Shelf	Hope for the Community	Open Arms of Minnesota	The Sanneh Foundation
CAPI USA	Houston Community Food Shelf	Open Cupboard	Tri-Community Food Shelf
Caring For All Inc.	Hunger Impact Partners	Open Hands Midway	Uplift North
Change Inc.	ICA Food Shelf	Outreach Food Shelf	Urban Roots MM
Shiloh Cares Food Shelf	ICNA RELIEF	Pamoja Women Organization	Valley Outreach
Comet's Cupboard	Joyce Uptown Foodshelf	Pillsbury United Communities	VEAP, Inc.
Community Emergency Assistance Programs	KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc.	People Reaching Out to Other People (PROP)	Wright County Community Action (WCCA)
Community Emergency Service (CES)	La Despensa	Ralph Reeder Food Shelf	Western Communities Action Network (WeCAN)
Community Pathways of Steele County	Le Center Food Shelf	Red Wing Area Food Shelf	White Bear Area Food Shelf
Create Catering	Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf	Redwood Area Food Shelf Inc.	
CROSS Services	Manna Food Pantry, Inc.	Rochester Community Church	
Department of Indian Work	Manna Market/ YouthWay Ministries	Second Harvest Heartland	
Division of Indian Work	McGregor Area Food Shelf		
East African Dream Food Shelf	McLeod Food Shelf		
East Side Neighborhood Services	MCVC Foodshelf		