

# ALASKA



## FOOD COALITION

The Alaska Food Coalition supports policies and programs focused on alleviating hunger, building healthy communities, and promoting access to affordable, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food. We raise awareness around food insecurity by conducting research, producing valuable publications, and providing grant opportunities for our members. By cultivating a strong anti-hunger network of connections and information for Alaskans, the Alaska Food Coalition's mission is to create systems change to end hunger in Alaska.



### AREAS OF FOCUS

**Advocacy and Education:** Over the years, the primary focus of the coalition has shifted to advocacy and education of elected officials and the public. Every year the Alaska Food Coalition travels to Juneau for our annual meeting and fly-in to the capitol. Usually around 35-40 coalition members attend this energizing event to share information about hunger across the state, learn about programs, policies, and tactics to improve hunger outcomes, and to educate the legislature on hunger in Alaska.

**Research:** The Alaska Food Coalition conducts large-scale and small-scale research on hunger and food insecurity. In the past, we coordinated Alaska's portion of Feeding America's *Hunger in America* study, which arguably provides the best local data on hunger. We keep Alaskans informed of notable external research projects and reports.

**Coalition Building:** Key partnerships play an active role in the fight to end hunger in Alaska. Coalition building allows us to bring diverse voices to the table in a coordinated effort to fight hunger in Alaska. Those working directly with Alaskans have unique expertise on what is happening on the ground, and how best to support Alaskans in need – we call these folks the true experts, or grassroots advocates.

### MEMBERSHIP

Our membership consists of a dynamic group of more than 140 partners in anti-hunger advocacy from all corners of the state including:

- Food Banks and Food Pantries
- Faith-based groups
- State agencies
- Nonprofit organizations
- Tribal councils
- Education associations

### PAST PROJECTS

The Alaska Food Coalition has worked on many different issues and initiatives over the years including, but not limited to:

- School Meal Bills
- SNAP Outreach & Administrative Advocacy
- Senior Benefits
- Hunger in Alaska studies with Feeding America
- Securing SNAP Emergency Allotments during the 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic

For further questions about the Alaska Food Coalition, or if you are interested in joining, please contact Alaska Food Coalition Manager Ron Meehan at [meehan@foodbankofalaska.org](mailto:meehan@foodbankofalaska.org) or call 907-222-3103. More information can also be found at: <https://foodbankofalaska.org/alaska-food-coalition>