

# Fiscal Year 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project Summaries

## Program History

Section 4018(b) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (PL 115-334) amended Section 203D of the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to provide funding to State agencies administering The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) to pay for projects to harvest, process, package, or transport commodities donated by agricultural producers, processors, or distributors for use by emergency feeding organizations (EFOs). These projects are known as Farm to Food Bank Projects.

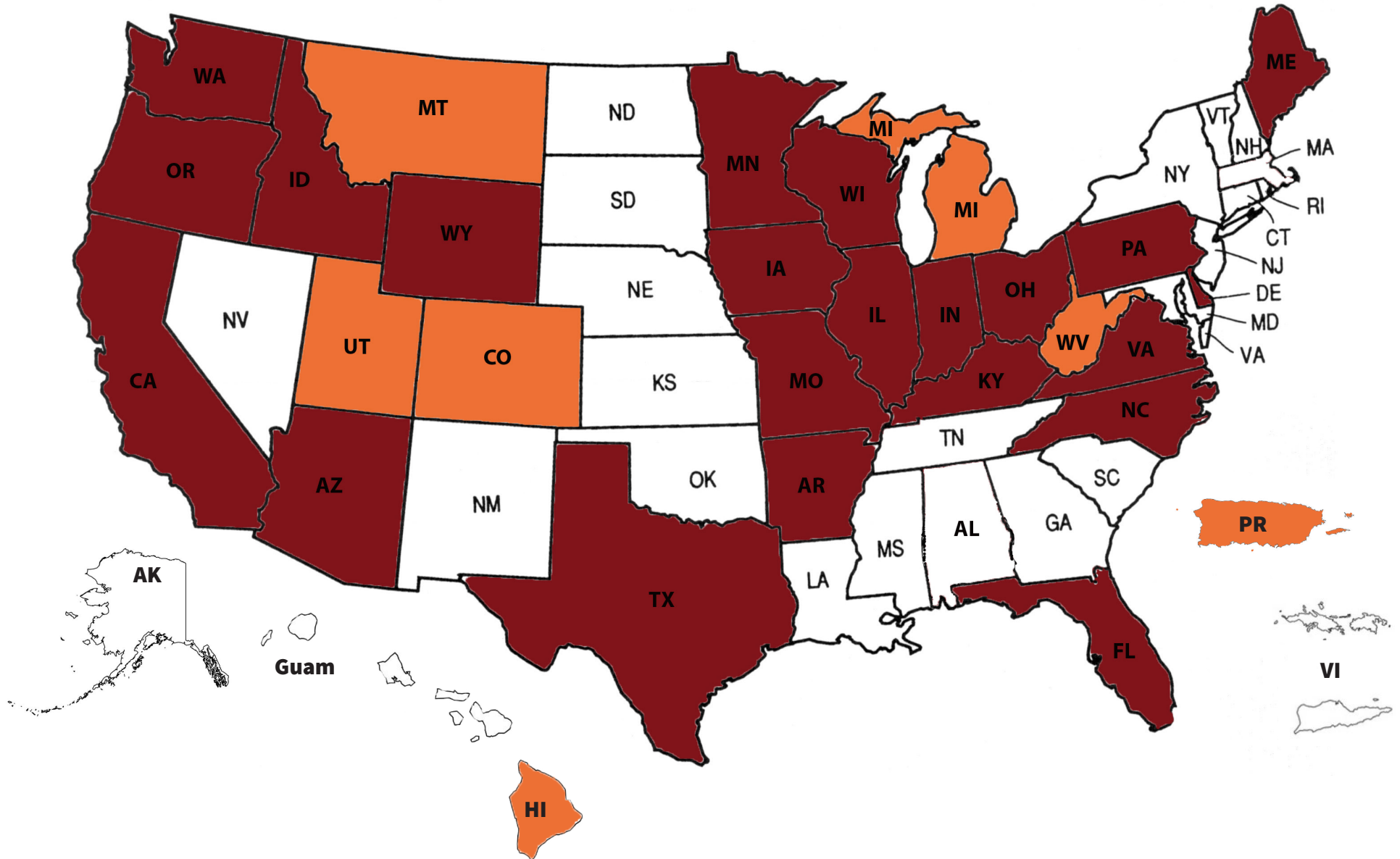
The purpose of Farm to Food Bank Projects is to (a) reduce food waste at the agricultural production, processing, or distribution level through the donation of food, (b) provide food to individuals in need, and (c) build relationships between agricultural producers, processors, and distributors and EFOs through the donation of food. For more information, please refer to [TEFAP State Plan Requests and Allocations for Fiscal Year 2022 Farm to Food Bank Projects](#).

## FY 2022 Funding Summary

During the third year of Farm to Food Bank Project Funding, FNS allocated \$7.544 million to 29 TEFAP state agencies that submitted plans to implement Farm to Food Bank Projects. Twenty-two of those state agencies received funding in fiscal year (FY) 2020 or FY 2021 and 7 are newly participating states. The 29 state agencies that received a FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project award are identified on the map on page 2.



States conducting a Farm to Food Bank project in FY 2022 are highlighted in the map below. States highlighted in maroon also received a Farm to Food Bank project award in FY 2020 or FY 2021. States highlighted in orange are newly participating States in FY 2022. A summary of each state's project can be found on the following pages. **For an interactive version of this document please [click here](#).**



## Northeast Region

**State**  Maine

**Total Project Allocation** \$37,828

**Project Description** The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry will continue its partnership with Healthy Acadia. The aim of the project will be to distribute family-size packages of frozen blueberries to people in need utilizing donated berries from local Washington and/or Hancock County family farm operations. The berries will be collected as part of Healthy Acadia’s Downeast Gleaning Initiative that works with local farmers to harvest and process produce that would otherwise not be utilized.

## Midatlantic Region

**State**  Delaware

**Total Project Allocation** \$30,370

**Project Description** Delaware’s TEFAP State agency will partner with the Food Bank of Delaware and use project funds to maximize the organization’s access to excess produce grown by Delaware’s agriculture sector. The food bank has established a personnel structure to support project activities with positions including: Director of Agriculture, Food Sourcing Director and Donated Food Sourcing Coordinator. These three staff members will work closely with Delaware growers to secure donations of excess produce and to process the donated produce for distribution through the emergency food system.

**State**  Pennsylvania

**Total Project Allocation** \$447,557

**Project Description** The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture will use project funds to continue support of the Commonwealth’s existing Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System (PASS). Created by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 2010, PASS provides an efficient mechanism for Pennsylvania’s agricultural industry to donate safe, wholesome food products while being reimbursed for the costs involved in harvesting, processing, packaging, and transporting these foods. Without PASS, these food products would likely otherwise be left to rot in the field, plowed under, or dumped in a landfill.

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**State** Puerto Rico

**Total Project Allocation** \$175,946

**Project Description** The Puerto Rico Department of the Family (ADSEF - Administración de Desarrollo Socioeconómico de la Familia) will work with the Banco de Alimentos Puerto Rico (BAPR), utilizing project funds to pay for the costs of two key projects. The first project will involve donated milk that will be converted into cheese, butter and yogurt; and the second will focus on converting donated excess fruit and vegetables (mangoes, papaya, bananas, plantains, yautia, ñame, etc.) into frozen juice and jelly. Finished food products will be distributed to underserved populations through the food bank’s network of agencies that reaches all 78 municipalities in Puerto Rico including Vieques and Culebra.

**State** Virginia

**Total Project Allocation** \$224,985

**Project Description** The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will use project funding to support already established partnerships between the Federation of Virginia Foodbanks and local agricultural producers, processors, and distributors, who donate surplus agricultural products to the foodbanks for distribution to Virginians in need. The Farm to Food Bank project will reduce food waste, provide food to individuals in need, and maintain important relationships between emergency feeding organizations and Virginia growers, producers, processors, and distributors.

**State** West Virginia

**Total Project Allocation** \$69,284

**Project Description** The West Virginia Department of Agriculture will use FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project funding to offset the costs of harvesting, packaging and transporting local produce to Mountaineer Food Bank. Local agricultural producers will donate produce to the food bank, which will distribute the foods directly to low-income individuals in need of food.

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## Southeast Region

**State**  Florida

**Total Project Allocation** \$699,928

**Project Description** The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will continue its efforts to reduce food waste in partnership with two contracted gleaning organizations, the Society of St. Andrew and Christians Reaching to Society (CROS) Ministries. Both organizations work with Florida farmers to encourage gleaning of leftover crops for donation to emergency feeding organizations. Farm to Food Bank project funding will be used to support these initiatives.

**State**  Kentucky

**Total Project Allocation** \$162,676

**Project Description** The Kentucky Department of Agriculture’s FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project will reduce waste at the agricultural production level by diverting fresh produce to food banks that would otherwise have been plowed under in the field due to economic factors. Project funds will be used to cover Pick and Pack Out fees which equate to the producers’ costs of picking, packing, and transporting donated agricultural products to an emergency feeding organization. Feeding Kentucky will partner with the State on the project and play a large role in project management.

**State**  North Carolina

**Total Project Allocation** \$353,202

**Project Description** The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services’ FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project will be implemented in partnership with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, the Food Bank of the Albemarle, and the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. The three food banks will work collaboratively with local growers to rescue produce that does not meet standards of the retail market and that would otherwise be wasted, and distribute the food to those in need.

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## Midwest Region

**State**  Illinois

**Total Project Allocation** \$422,870

**Project Description** The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) plans to continue development of a state-wide program with its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project funding. The program, which is coordinated by Feeding Illinois, works to capture surplus agricultural products and distribute those products to food banks and pantries throughout the State for distribution to people in need. This program was developed in 2020, with the first deliveries of donated produce to food banks in August of 2021.

**State**  Indiana

**Total Project Allocation** \$208,615

**Project Description** The Indiana Department of Health will once again use Farm to Food Bank project funding to support Fresh Connect, a social enterprise of Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana. Fresh Connect is committed to rescuing excess farm fresh food and redirecting it to food banks. Through established relationships with partners such as Indiana Grown and the AgriInstitute, growers donate unmarketable products so they are not wasted. Fresh Connect negotiates a fee to cover costs associated with harvesting, packaging, and transporting the products and works with Indiana Food banks to find outlets for the donated produce.

**State**  Iowa

**Total Project Allocation** \$67,569

**Project Description** The Iowa Department of Human Services will partner with Iowa food banks to reduce food waste by transporting, packaging, and distributing a vast selection of fresh nutritious produce, eggs, and dairy from local distributors. Through a relationship with local distributors, fresh products will be picked up and transported to food banks, which will package the foods for single family use and distribution. FY 2022 project funding will focus on strengthening existing relationships and seeking new relationships with producers, processors, and distributors.

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**State** Michigan

**Total Project Allocation** \$255,683

**Project Description** The Michigan Department of Education - Food Distribution will work collaboratively with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. The agricultural agency will work to identify agricultural products that may be at risk of going to waste, while the food distribution agency will work to divert the rescued foods to emergency feeding organizations within the State. Matching funds for the project will come from funds allocated by the State to the Michigan Agriculture Surplus System (MASS), an existing Farm to Food Bank model already established in the State.

**State** Minnesota

**Total Project Allocation** \$140,906

**Project Description** The Minnesota Department of Human Services will continue its partnership with Second Harvest Heartland for its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. Second Harvest Heartland will engage MN farmers, growers, distributors, and processors as food donors, and funnel projects funds into harvesting, processing, packaging, and transportation costs incurred by those donors as part of their donation activities.

**State** Ohio

**Total Project Allocation** \$406,002

**Project Description** The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) will continue its partnership with the Ohio Association of Foodbanks (OAF) on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. Project funds will be used to reimburse cheese producers for the cost to pick, pack, and transport surplus “cheese trim,” which is what remains after exact weight packaged cheese bricks are cut for sale. The cheese trim would be donated, shredded, packaged, and ultimately distributed to individuals in need through the State’s food bank network.

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**State** Wisconsin

**Total Project Allocation** \$160,743

**Project Description** The Wisconsin Department of Health Services will once again partner with The Hunger Task Force, Inc. (HTF), a food bank in Milwaukee, on a project to divert harvested, unprocessed, and unpackaged milk that would otherwise be wasted, and process that milk into cheese that will be distributed to needy individuals across the State. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent closure of restaurants, schools, hotels, and food service businesses, milk cooperatives in the State have been forced to order member dairy farms to dump milk that can no longer be utilized. HTF will contract with dairy processors in the State to process and package this otherwise wasted product and distribute it to TEFAP participants.

### Southwest Region

**State** Arizona

**Total Project Allocation** \$252,784

**Project Description** In FY 2022, project funds will be applied to the Southwest Produce Cooperative that the Community Food Bank (CFB) launched in partnership with its sister Arizona regional food banks. The Cooperative helps to reduce food waste by connecting unused, fresh produce from local farmers to food banks throughout the region, keeping it out of the landfill and into low-income Arizonans' hands. CFB currently has relationships with farming operations (producers and processors) in five counties within their service area (Santa Cruz, Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, and Pima County). CFB also has relationships with approximately 283 fresh produce brokers and distributors in Arizona. These partners provide millions of pounds of donations to food banks every year.

**State** Arkansas

**Total Project Allocation** \$107,236

**Project Description** The Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education will work with six food banks in the State (Arkansas Food Bank, River Valley Regional Food Bank, Food Bank of North Central Arkansas, Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas, Harvest Texarkana Regional Food Bank, and Northwest Arkansas Food Bank) on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project. Funds will be dispersed to the food banks to carry out allowable Farm to Food Bank project activities within their respective communities.

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**State**  Texas

**Total Project Allocation** \$1,011,990

**Project Description** Since 2002, the Texas Department of Agriculture has provided State grant funds to help emergency feeding organizations (EFOs) gain access to surplus agricultural products. The state funds have offset the barrier to donation of surplus agricultural products by covering the cost of harvesting and transporting Texas grown products to the network of EFOs across the state, thereby reducing agricultural food waste and fostering positive relationships throughout the agricultural community. The funding provided by FNS for FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank projects will increase the reach of this existing initiative.

**State**  Utah

**Total Project Allocation** \$70,549

**Project Description** The Utah State Board of Education will partner with the Utah Food Bank on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project. The food bank has relationships with many growers, processors, and distributors in the State and will apply funds to transporting donated products from these partners. Depending on the foods donated, funds may also be utilized to process and package donations. The project aims to reduce food waste and provide more consistent access to nutritional food to those in need.

### Mountain Plains Region

**State**  Colorado

**Total Project Allocation** \$165,766

**Project Description** FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank funds awarded to the Colorado Department of Human Services will be used to support ongoing collaborations with Colorado’s Feeding America food banks and Colorado farmers to rescue produce that does not meet the standards of the retail market and would otherwise be wasted. Rescued food will be distributed to those in need through Colorado’s existing statewide network of programs and hunger relief partners. Project funds will help to offset the harvesting and packaging costs associated with donated produce, in addition to supporting the staffing and infrastructure costs related to the agricultural donations.

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**State** Missouri

**Total Project Allocation** \$187,114

**Project Description** Missouri Department of Social Services will partner with three food banks to implement its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project - the Southeast Missouri Food Bank, Ozarks Food Harvest, and the Second Harvest Community Food Bank. The food banks will build upon existing partnerships with agricultural producers to support the harvesting, processing, transportation and distribution of donated agricultural products which may include fresh fruits and vegetables, rice, beans, dairy products, and beef and pork products.

**State** Montana

**Total Project Allocation** \$31,687

**Project Description** The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services will work with the Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN) on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. The MFBN has an established network of local growers, co-ops, livestock producers, and dairy farmers that have committed to donating surplus product and livestock that otherwise would either not be harvested, processed, or sold as primary product in the retail market. Project funds will be utilized to cover the costs of processing the donated livestock, harvesting and packaging donated produce, and/or processing and bottling donated fresh milk. The final processed foods will be delivered to MFBN's network of food pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens across the State, including organizations that serve the native populations residing in the Crow, Northern Cheyenne, Sioux, Gros Ventre, Assiniboine, Chippewa, Cree, Blackfeet, Salish, Kootenai, Pend d'Oreille, and Little Shell Chippewa reservations.


**State** Wyoming

**Total Project Allocation** \$15,903

**Project Description** The Wyoming Department of Family Services will work with the Food Bank of Wyoming on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. The food bank will utilize project funds to obtain, transport, and distribute locally grown donated produce but also work to obtain, process and distribute locally raised sources of protein. This will be done by working with growers throughout the State of Wyoming and other regional sources. The donated foods will be distributed to local food pantry partners for further distribution to those facing hunger in Wyoming. The Food Bank of Wyoming hopes to build stronger relationships with agricultural producers, processors and partner organizations throughout the State through participation in the program.

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## Western Region

**State**  California

**Total Project Allocation** \$1,402,691

**Project Description** California Department of Social Services will apply project funding to an existing program in the state that is run by the California Association of Food Banks (CAFB). The CAFB Farm to Family Program works closely with farms across each county in California to ensure the safe and timely donation of produce from across the region and to reduce the cost burden of the donations for producers by reimbursing pick and pack out fees.

**State**  Hawaii

**Total Project Allocation** \$29,192

**Project Description** The Hawaii Office of Community Services will work with the Hawaii Foodbank - Oahu Branch (Honolulu County), Hawaii Foodbank - Kauai Branch (Kauai County), and The Food Basket (Hawaii County) on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. Through the project, food bank volunteers will work to collect and glean excess food donated by an established network of farms and gardens, packaging the collected foods into reusable crates. The food banks will then transport the crates to warehouses, where the foods will be packaged into household-sized bags for distribution to partner agencies and people in need.

**State**  Idaho

**Total Project Allocation** \$47,006

**Project Description** The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) will work with the Idaho Foodbank on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project. The project aims to strengthen existing farm to food bank operations within the State and to expand operations into new areas. Funds will be utilized to conduct outreach to local farms, to process and package donated foods, and to further develop program resources, such as the program website. IDHW is looking to model the program after that used by Washington State/The Second Harvest Food Bank and will work collaboratively with Washington State to do so.

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<b>State</b>	Oregon
<b>Total Project Allocation</b>	\$131,966
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Oregon Department of Human Services will partner with the Oregon Food Bank (OFB) on its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project. OFB has a network of 20 regional food banks and over 650 recipient agencies (food pantries and meal sites). Through a long-standing program, OFB works closely with farms across the state to secure donations of excess produce, to reimburse farm donors for their pick and pack out fees, and to package and transport the donated foods to its network of recipient agencies. The FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project funds will be applied to this existing operation.</p>

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<b>State</b>	Washington
<b>Total Project Allocation</b>	\$255,952
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>The Washington State Department of Agriculture will apply a portion of its FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank Project funds to its Farm to Food Pantry initiative that is operated by Harvest Against Hunger. The program helps to capture surplus produce in the State and divert it to food banks. The state agency will distribute the remaining FY 2022 Farm to Food Bank project funds through a subgrant program for emergency feeding organizations (EFOs) in the state that operate TEFAP. The subgrant program will be competitive and require EFOs to submit proposals for funding.</p>

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