



SCOTT KRUG

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 72nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(608) 266-0215
FAX: (608) 282-3672
District: (715) 459-2267
Toll-Free: (888) 529-0072

P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952
Rep.Krug@legis.wi.gov

AB 577 Harvest for Hope Testimony

Chair Duchow, I want to take a moment and thank you for holding a public hearing on AB 577 the Harvest for Hope legislation

Each year in Wisconsin, millions of pounds of edible and nutritious produce remain unharvested in farm fields due to fluctuating market forces and unpredictable surpluses. This produce goes unused even though 13% of Wisconsin residents – nearly 720,000 individuals – are at risk of hunger each day. To help combat this serious hunger issue, many Wisconsin farmers donate surplus produce to local food programs. However, these farmers incur a loss during the harvesting process.

We are introducing AB577, the “Harvest for Hope” grant proposal, to create a public-private partnership between the state, Wisconsin food banks, and Wisconsin’s agricultural and food industry. This partnership will significantly increase the amount of healthy and nutritious vegetables available at Wisconsin food banks for state residents at risk of hunger while also benefitting Wisconsin farmers and food processors. A true win-win.

The Harvest for Hope public-private partnership will help expand and advance farmers’ charitable efforts by providing a financial incentive for farmers to donate fresh, surplus produce to Wisconsin food banks. Additionally, it will leverage efficiencies of scale in harvesting and processing of food to unlock vast amounts of fresh, nutritious canned Wisconsin-grown commodities for Wisconsin food banks.

Specifically, Harvest for Hope requires the Department of Agriculture Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) to award \$1 to a statewide association of food banks for every \$1 of private funds that the association raises for the donation and processing of Wisconsin-grown agricultural products. DATCP may award a total of \$250,000 in each fiscal year. The funds will be used to assist with harvest costs incurred by farmers who donate Wisconsin-grown produce and for the preservation, transportation, and distribution to local food banks and food pantries.

Overall, Harvest for Hope will significantly increase the amount of healthy, locally-grown produce available for Wisconsin residents at risk of hunger.

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Scott Krug

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Krug". The signature is stylized and cursive.

State Representative
72nd Assembly District

David Lee
Executive Director
Feeding Wisconsin
2850 Dairy Drive
Madison, WI 53718

Testimony of David Lee
IN SUPPORT OF AB 577 HARVEST FOR HOPE
Before the Assembly Committee on Consumer Protection
December 19, 2017

Dear Chairman Duchow and committee members:

My name is David Lee and I serve as the Executive Director of Feeding Wisconsin, the statewide association of the Feeding America food banks. Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments in support of AB 577 and how it is a common sense public policy response to addressing surplus agriculture and hunger in our state.

First, a little bit about our organization. Feeding Wisconsin is a member-organized and supported association representing six regional member food banks in the state of Wisconsin. Our mission is help our food banks, partners, and stakeholders fight hunger, improve health and strengthen communities.

Together, through our food banks' network of 1,000 local food pantries and meal programs in every single county in the state, we provided over 50 million meals to our friends and neighbors in 2016.

Recognizing that hunger is a health issue, increasing our ability to source and distribute fresh produce has become a strategic priority for our food banks. According to our 2014 Hunger Study, the people utilizing food pantries throughout the state live with diet related diseases at a higher rate than others. This might have something to do with the fact that 82% of food pantry clients report purchasing "cheap, unhealthy food" to stretch their food budgets.

Our food banks have been devoting resources to increase the supply of fresh and nutritious products through our partnerships with the food industry and agriculture sector. Over the last three years, our networks' distribution of fresh products increased over 200%.

Still, there are vast amounts of surplus, fresh Wisconsin grown food products that are left in the field that simply costs donors and food banks too much to harvest, capture, and distribute. With a little bit of funding to cover these marginal costs, food banks can serve as small a safety net for Wisconsin farmers for the products that are grown for consumption.

This is not a new idea. Our peer states like Minnesota, Iowa and Michigan have each enacted similar programs where the state invests in their food banks to rescue fresh, surplus agriculture for distribution to food pantries.

In FY14, twenty-six states across the country invested about \$93 million in their food banks. These dollars helped to fill in the large gap between private donations and federal funding.

In Wisconsin, these funds could be implemented to offset the costs to source, process and distribute healthy, Wisconsin grown produce through food industry partnerships. This is extremely exciting because food banks and food pantries alike could provide a bounty of fresh, nutritious off-season, Wisconsin grown products. Or these funds could be used offset the cost that farmers incur when they donate their fresh products to local food pantries.

The legislation requires that DATCP put this program out to bid to select a qualified partner that can achieve the goals of the legislation.

As we understand it, there are a couple of amendments in the work that would make this legislation more inclusive of the emergency food network in our state. We welcome these amendments and are incredibly excited to see how other groups might implement this program that would increase the supply of fresh and healthy food for Wisconsin families that utilize food pantries.

Thank you for your time today. As part of our materials, we are also delivering a letter from a broad coalition of industry groups, healthcare systems, and food pantries that support this proposal. I hope the committee can join us and the many people around the state that support AB 577.

Harvest for Hope is a win-win for our state's agricultural community and for the Wisconsin families utilizing the emergency food system as a support to get through their tough time. Providing healthy food for today and hope for a better tomorrow is a goal that everybody should be able to support.



Healthy Kids
Collaborative



December 19, 2017

**To: The Hon. Members of the Wisconsin State Senate
The Hon. Members of the Wisconsin State Assembly**

Re: Harvest for Hope: Senate Bill 487 (Petrowski) and Assembly Bill 577 (Krug)

Earlier this year, Senator Petrowski and Representative Krug introduced SB 487 and AB 577, known as The Harvest for Hope Grant Program. We are writing today to express our support for this proposal and to ask for your support of this important initiative.

Food insecurity is a serious problem in Wisconsin, where about 700,000 of our state's residents, including about 250,000 children, don't know where their next meal is coming from. Food insecurity is connected to numerous adverse health conditions and outcomes, especially in children.

At the same time, Wisconsin is a top-10 agriculture state, producing a bounty of incredible food products for our state, the nation and the world. Many of our state's farmers and food processors already donate produce to food banks and local food programs and despite their generosity, there are still millions of pounds of edible and nutritious produce that remain unharvested in farm fields due to fluctuating market forces and unpredictable surpluses.

We believe that the Harvest for Hope program will help to address these issues by providing the funds to increase the availability of fresh and fresh processed food for our state's residents at risk of hunger.

A healthful diet helps to reduce chronic diseases such as heart disease and diabetes. However, Wisconsin residents at risk of hunger may not have the access or the food budget needed to make healthful diet choices.

According to Feeding Wisconsin's 2014 State Hunger Report, which surveyed clients at food pantries across the state, the most requested product that clients were not getting was fresh fruit and vegetables.

At the same time, 82% of people report purchasing "cheap, unhealthy food" to stretch their budgets, 34% of the people utilizing Wisconsin food pantries report living with a person has diabetes and 53% report living with a person with heart disease.

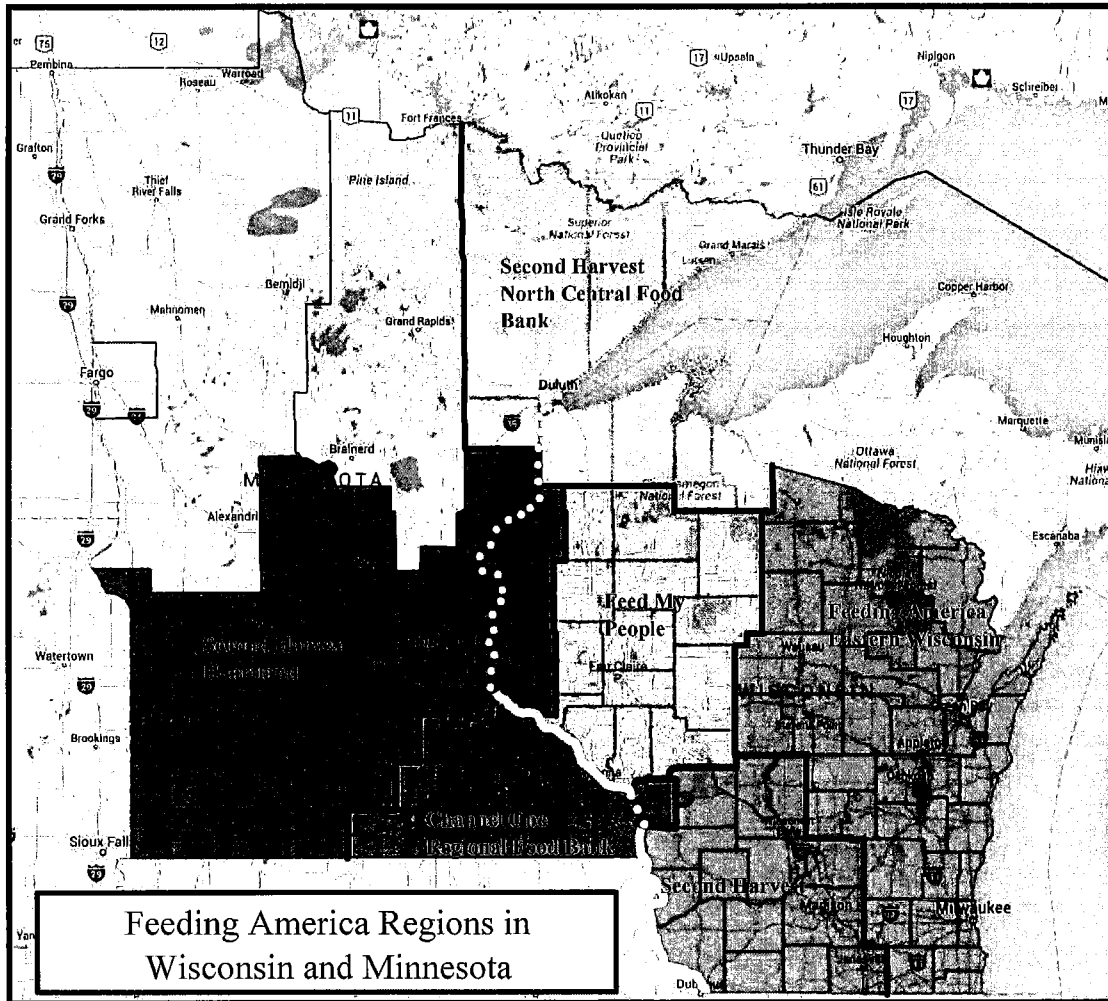
We believe that the Harvest for Hope Grant Program will help make the healthy choice the easy choice for all Wisconsin families and your support of this program would help make this happen.

Harvest for Hope is a public-private partnership. Private funds would be raised by a partnering organization that can source fresh and fresh-processed, Wisconsin grown agricultural products and distribute them in an accountable, traceable, food safe manner at scale.

These funds will be matched by the State of Wisconsin on a dollar per dollar basis up to \$250,000 per year for the next four years. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) will serve as the fiscal agent, select a partner through an RFP process and monitor the use of the funds to ensure accountability.

We are incredibly excited that the state legislature will be considering this proposal to increase the supply of fresh and fresh-processed Wisconsin grown food available in local communities for state residents at risk of hunger.

If you have any questions about this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact David Lee, Executive Director, Feeding Wisconsin at 608-960-4511 or via email at dalee@feedingwi.org.



Feeding America Regions in Wisconsin and Minnesota



MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

BENEFITS OF AGENCY MEMBERSHIP

The mission of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin is to end hunger in southwestern Wisconsin through community partnerships. As a partner, we agree to put forth our best effort to provide excellent customer service, as well as provide:

Agency access to more **food**:

Foodbank member agencies have **access to hundreds of food and non-food items** that comprise our four main food programs (Donated, Purchased, Field to Foodbank, Subsidized).

- **Donated:** Highly perishable items, such as fresh produce, milk, bakery, and baby food are available at **NO cost**, whereas less perishable items are available for a **Shared Maintenance Fee** of \$0.18/lb or less. This fee offsets a small portion of the acquisition, storage and distribution costs of donated food. None of this fee pays for the food itself.
- **Purchased:** Items purchased by the Foodbank that are typically offered to agencies for less-than-retail prices.
- **Field to Foodbank:** In partnership with agricultural producers and the University of Wisconsin, **fresh produce** is available to agencies at **NO cost** and **canned produce** is available to agencies for the **Shared Maintenance Fee** of \$0.18/pound. This fee offsets a small portion of the additional costs incurred for the product to be picked, transported, cleaned, cut, canned, labeled, and stored.
- **Subsidized:** Products purchased by the Foodbank that are offered to agencies for a small fraction of the actual cost.

Agency access to more **services**:

- **Delivery Option:** Your order can arrive at your door for a low flat rate, per delivery
- **Online Ordering:** Place orders for food online, using our 24/7 online ordering system, AgencyExpress
- **Credits:** Receive credits to shop at Second Harvest through a variety of fundraising initiatives coordinated by Second Harvest throughout the year
- **Special Donations:** Receive special donations of food or credits from donors who wish to contribute only to Second Harvest partners, and want their donations to remain local
- **Support:** A Second Harvest team member from your area is assigned to your agency for added support
- **Advisory Services:** At your request, we can offer guidance with regard to capacity building, space evaluation, volunteer recruitment, outreach efforts, connection with other community partnerships and resources, and more

Agency access to more **resources**:

- Timely information on product recalls
- Partner Agency Conference, workshops, peer-to-peer mentoring mini-seminars
- ServSafe (Safe Food Handling) training
- Training and onsite application assistance for federal food assistance programs, such as FoodShare (also known as SNAP, the QUEST Card or Food Stamps)
- Information regarding regional or nationwide grant opportunities
- Tips on fundraising and communications from our team of professionals that you can put to use for your own agency

Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin seeks to help our member agencies be as successful and effective as possible, with regard to providing access to food to our neighbors in need. What follows is a set of requirements related to maintaining agency eligibility, organized operations, fair distribution practices, and food safety standards, to best serve those who need our help.

Agency Eligibility

Agreement Statements

As a partner of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin (SHFB), my agency and its applicable programs will comply with all of the following Agency Eligibility criteria:

- a. Will maintain a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status from the IRS, be wholly owned by a 501(c)(3) organization or be a church that meets the definition employed by the IRS. The 501(c)(3) agency or church must be programmatically, fiscally and legally responsible for the donated product handling/distribution activities of the designated program.
- b. Will not be located in an individual's house or home. We understand that food and non-food products may not be stored or prepared in an individual's home.
- c. Will not be a private foundation, a foster parent association or a day care association.
- d. Will order a minimum of 2,000 pounds for programs other than food pantries and 3,000 pounds for food pantry programs per SHFB fiscal year (July 1-June 30). This requirement applies to the entire Agency (not the individual program).
- e. Will order at least once each quarter (July-September, October-December, January-March, April-March) for each program per SHFB fiscal year (July 1-June 30).
- f. Meal Programs: Will maintain current ServSafe certification or equivalent for at least one meal preparation supervisor per program.
- g. Will be a member of and receive services from only one food bank in the Feeding America network.

Operations

Agreement Statements

As a partner of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin (SHFB), my agency and its applicable programs will comply with all of the following Operational criteria:

- a. Will operate with regularly scheduled hours if classified as an Emergency Service Provider, such as food and personal essentials pantries, soup kitchens, and emergency transitional shelters, which will be publicized throughout the community, including registration with the 2-1-1 agency that covers our service area in Wisconsin.
- b. Will not allow product to be sold, traded, transferred, used or bartered in exchange for other goods, services, money or other property or given to any other agency or program. Products will not be used for any fundraising purposes, including bake sales or as prizes such as a raffle.
- c. Will accept an on-site visit by a SHFB staff member prior to membership approval. After this initial visit, my agency agrees to consent to a monitoring visit once every two years at minimum to assist, advise and inspect product storage, handling and distribution areas and to learn about our processes and procedures relating to handling, storing, distributing and accounting of food and other items received from SHFB. SHFB reserves the right to visit a program site at any time.
- d. Will share in SHFB's cost to acquire, transport, sort, package, store and distribute donated food at the prevailing rates allowed by the IRS (Shared Maintenance Fee).
- e. Will maintain records at the program site for three (3) years (i) which accurately reflect the total amount of product received and distributed including all invoices, written policies, procedures and records that relate to food that has been given to clients, and (ii) which outline the Agency's procedures for determining client eligibility. The agency agrees to respond to all reasonable requests for information in an accurate and timely manner so as to allow SHFB to meet its own obligations to provide information.

- f. Will contact SHFB before soliciting food from major donors/manufacturers, processors, distributors, brokers, wholesalers, grocery chains, etc., to best ensure that we are not approaching the same donors to support the same programs, which could result in over-tapping resources.
- g. Will immediately notify SHFB of any changes in our programs, personnel, addresses, contact phone numbers, and email addresses.
- h. Will develop and implement methods to track clients through intake forms and/or sign-in sheets, including number of households, individuals, seniors and children served, as well as phone and address for food recall purposes.
- i. Will display FoodShare materials, educate clients about FoodShare, and host a SHFB FoodShare Outreach Specialist, when possible, for the purpose of promoting and enrolling people in FoodShare and/or distributing FoodShare educational materials and information.
- j. Will ensure at least 1 active representative participates annually in food safety training provided by SHFB.
- k. Will only distribute SHFB products to clients and not to other food bank member agencies, non-food bank member agencies, organizations, government or business entities.
- l. Will submit monthly reporting statistics to SHFB as required. *(See manual for further explanation.)*

Product Distribution to Clients

Agreement Statements

As a partner of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin (SHFB), my agency and its applicable programs will comply with all of the following distribution criteria:

- a. Will utilize membership in SHFB's network to serve those in need. At least 51% of program clientele must be proven low income or in crisis. *(SHFB defines low income as no more than 200% of the current year's Federal Poverty Guidelines.) Will have documented criteria for determining need and procedures for ensuring that those who receive assistance meet the criteria.*
- b. Will post the eligibility criteria in a place where prospective clients have the ability to view the criteria prior to receiving services.
- c. Will not require a client to provide a social security card or any other documentation related to citizenship in order to receive food from the agency.
- d. Will use self-declaration as proof of income among those served and not verify any form of income received.
- e. Will not solicit contributions from clients, place any financial or volunteer requirements upon clients in exchange for food, or sell food to clients in any way. *(See manual for further explanation.)*
- f. Will not use food to foster or advance religious or political views. Involvement in religious activities or requiring recipients to listen to a presentation that is religious in nature may not be a prerequisite or condition for receiving the donated product. Rather, involvement in such activities must be voluntary on the part of the recipient.
- g. Will distribute product obtained from SHFB with absolutely no conditions levied or implied. Client access to an agency's programs must not be denied based on race, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, color, national origin or ancestry, religion, handicap/disability, marital status, military status, arrest record or conviction record, or physical appearance.
- h. Agencies may provide food to ill or needy volunteers and/or staff. This is not to be a regular supplement. Volunteers and staff in need on a regular basis must be referred to another agency for regular services. *(See manual for further explanation.)*
- i. SHFB product may not be consumed or used by the agency's program staff, with the following exception: program staff in a group home, shelter, soup kitchen, or other on-site meal programs may consume Foodbank product when client meals and/or snacks are served. Primary service must be to clients.

Food Safety, Quality and Liability

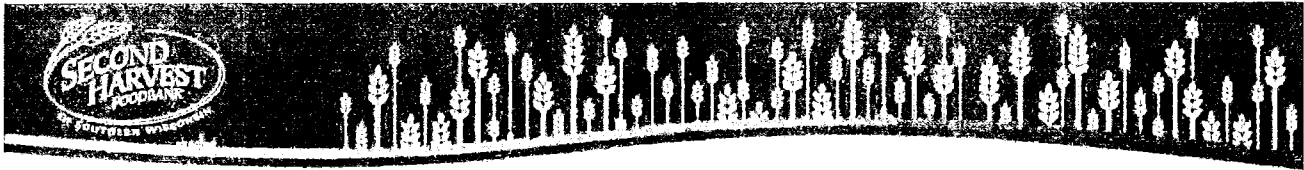
Agreement Statements

As a partner of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin (SHFB), my agency and its applicable programs will comply with all of the following Food Safety, Quality and Liability criteria:

- a. Will have proper and adequate physical space and storage to handle the food and non-food products received in accordance with safe food handling guidelines as determined by Feeding America and/or State and federal laws and ordinances.
- b. Will serve or distribute food items as soon as possible to maintain food freshness and safety in accordance with Feeding America and/or State and federal laws and ordinances.
- c. Will assume responsibility for the training of our employees and/or volunteers to evaluate, handle and/or prepare donated items.
- d. Will abide by any specifications or restrictions attached by a particular donor to a particular product.
- e. Will not transfer product to another organization or program site. Product obtained by a Member Agency must be used and distributed at the SHFB-approved distribution site.
- f. Will provide appropriate safe food handling transportation to pick up food/products at SHFB or set up a delivery appointment and pay a low flat fee for delivery. *(See manual for further explanation.)*
- g. Will not repackage for distribution any product received from Second Harvest.
- h. Will inspect the food/product as soon as possible after it is received to determine whether the food/product is fit for consumption/use. If not, the agency will immediately discard any unfit food/product and advise SHFB. We understand that we are not responsible for hidden unobservable defects (defects which a prudent inspection would not disclose). We agree to contact SHFB within two business days of receipt in order to be credited back for any fees associated with the items.
- i. Will acknowledge that no express warranties have been given and no implied warranties apply to the nature and condition of the food/product.
- j. Will only distribute SHFB products to clients within SHFB's designated service area, including the following Wisconsin counties: Adams, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Lafayette, Monroe, Richland, Rock, Sauk and Vernon.
- k. Will actively review product recalls made available on the Second Harvest website, will dispose of any recalled product, and will immediately contact any clients who may have received the recalled product to the best of our ability.
- l. Will maintain a current contract for professional pest control inspection services wherever food and non-food are stored, reflecting treatment as needed. Professional pest control will occur no less than on a semi-annual basis. We will be able to show SHFB staff proof of contract and inspections on request, and will provide SHFB with a copy of our contract for their file.

_____ hereby releases the original donor, Feeding America, and
(Agency Name)

Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin (SHFB) from any liability resulting from the donated food/products and holds them harmless from any claims or obligations in regard to the partner agency or the donated goods. The agency agrees to notify SHFB whenever it receives notice of any claim of liability with respect to donated food/product obtained from any programs of SHFB. Second Harvest strongly recommends that agencies carry adequate general liability insurance.



Kids Cafes

Each Kids Cafe is required to submit monthly statistical reports of the number of children, meals and snacks served for the purpose of grant monies received for this specific program. Statistical reports are **due by the 5th of the month** for the previous month's programming. This is in addition to the new monthly reporting that will be required of all partner agencies, beginning July 2013.

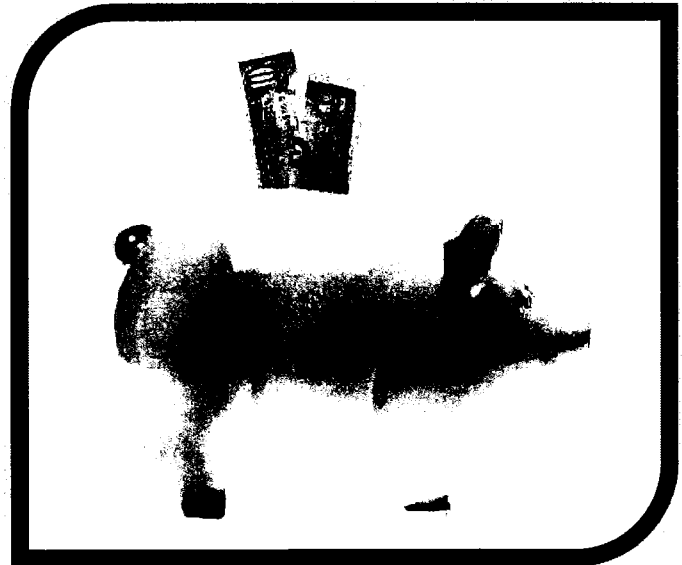
Mobile Pantries

Each Mobile Pantry is required to submit monthly statistical reports of each family served for the purpose of grant monies received for this specific program. Statistical reports are **due within 3 business days of when distribution occurs**. No other reporting will be required.

Account Balances

The Foodbank expects that all member agencies **maintain current account balances** i.e. no more than 30 days past due. Our hope is to prevent agencies from accruing excessive balances that will be difficult to pay down.

Monthly statements are sent to each agency with an outstanding balance. Any charge that is not covered by a grant will show up on the invoice. Agencies with outstanding balances will receive a reminder phone call after 90 days. Agencies with accounts over 120 days past due will be temporarily suspended until a payment schedule is created in collaboration with the Foodbank's Business Manager and **full payment** is received.



Annual Membership Renewal

The Membership Agreement will be **renewed automatically** for one year each July 1st. The membership agreement will be reviewed annually during each site monitoring visit and a new agreement will be **presented for signature every 2 years**, in order to have a current signature on file.



Paul's Pantry SINCE 1984
Neighbors Feeding Neighbors

Testimony of Craig Robbins
Executive Director of Paul's Pantry Inc.
Against AB 577 Harvest for Hope
Before the Assembly Committee on Consumer Protection
December 19, 2017

Dear Chairman Duchow and Committee Members:

My name is Craig Robbins and I have been the Executive Director of Paul's Pantry in Green Bay for 17 years. Prior to that I spent 16 years in the retail grocery industry. Paul's Pantry is the largest food pantry in the State of Wisconsin by volume. We distribute nearly 20,000 pounds of food a day, 5 days a week, to over 4,200 households in Brown County. That's over 50 tons of food provided every week to those in need. **Most of that food is unmarketable and has been rescued from landfill. It is rescued from the field, the processor, manufacturer and retailer. Paul's Pantry has rescued over 130 million pounds of donated food in the last 33 years.**

Paul's Pantry was founded by Leo Frigo in 1984. After his death in 2001, the State of Wisconsin renamed the Tower Drive Bridge, the largest bridge in Wisconsin, in Leo's honor. That bridge, the Leo Frigo Memorial Bridge, was renamed in his honor because Leo spent his life building a bridge between the haves and the have-nots.

This was a bridge built between the private sector and those in need, without government funding, red tape or regulation. Paul's Pantry has never applied for nor received any Federal, State or local tax revenue. Paul's Pantry was founded on the premise that each individual could make a difference in the lives of others. Leo was a major contributor to the state Republican Party. His wife Fran still is. This bill betrays Paul's Pantry's founding principles. **Tax dollars do not equal charity.**

Some reasons why Paul's Pantry cannot and will not offer its support of AB 577, the Harvest for Hope grant:

- Paul's Pantry has been encouraging the **donation** of unmarketable food for 33 years. Paul's Pantry supports the goal to increase the supply of healthy food for low-income households by recovering **donated** unmarketable produce from Wisconsin farmers. No one denies there is food being left in the field unharvested, **but so much of that food is being donated, and we have made great strides over the past 33 years, increasing the amount of food and awareness of the issue of hunger.**
- There are many incentives in place for farmers, food processors, manufacturers and distributors to **donate** their excess or sub-par food. **The use of tax payer dollars** to purchase that sub-par produce, will discourage farmers and food processors from **donating**. In the future, farmers and food processors **will expect payment for food they used to donate!**

over

PAUL'S PANTRY INC

1529 Leo Frigo Way • Green Bay, WI 54302-1163
Pantry: (920) 433-0343 • Office: (920) 435-4040 • Fax: (920) 965-1217
www.paulspantry.org • e-mail: info@paulspantry.org

- Paul's Pantry has relationships with local farmers going back 33 years. As an example we pick up 10,000 lbs. of potatoes at a time, several times a year from these potato farmers. If other farmers are receiving payment for their sub-par produce why should our growers continue to donate? Word will spread quickly. **Government funding will need to increase, donations will decrease.**
- **This bill does not require that foods be distributed fresh** to the food pantry. Most of your small food pantries lack refrigeration or are not open often enough to handle perishable food. **These vegetables will be processed. Salt and sugar added. This bill does not require nutrition labels or labels of any kind. Our clients are reluctant to take home unlabeled product.**
- **Canned vegetables are widely available to food pantries and are the most common item donated. There are literally truckloads of canned vegetables waiting to be donated.** They are also very inexpensive. Grade A, brand new, canned vegetables could be purchased at a cheaper price per unit, than what this bill will be able to purchase for food pantries. The difference is, you are spending hard earned tax payer dollars, for a sub- par product. Why would the state spend tax payer dollars to process and can food that is so readily available for donation?
- Feeding Wisconsin is a newly formed "statewide association" it's made up of 6 Feeding America Food Banks. **3 of the food banks are located in Minnesota.** Neither of these bills address how DATCP will be providing oversight?
- This bill only provides food to the Feeding America network and its member agencies. Paul's Pantry, **along with the hundreds of other food pantries throughout the state** who are not members of Feeding America, and don't want to be, **wouldn't have access to the Harvest for Hope food.** This bill **forces food pantries to join Feeding America in order to participate,** even though the fees have been eliminated by amendment.
- **This is a duplication of the TEFAP (Federal commodities) program. The WISCAP agencies already have a system in place for distributing 12 million pounds of Federal Commodities to food pantries statewide. Why reinvent the wheel or spend tax dollars on another government program.**

Thank you Chairman Duchow and Committee members for allowing me to speak to you today, and I again urge all of you to vote against this bill. I know a lot of hard work has gone into this, and everyone's heart is in the right place, but this bill will only discourage donation to food pantries and increase the need for bigger government.

PAUL'S PANTRY OPERATING ACCOUNTABILITY

2nd MONTH OF FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30th, 2018	NOVEMBER 2017 2nd Month	YEAR-TO DATE 2017-2018 2 Months	YEAR -TO DATE 2016-2017 2 Months	OCT TO SEP 2016-2017 12 Months	Jan-84 TO PRESENT
HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION					
1. Total number of household food visits	4,188	8,146	9,086	48,152	1,261,622
2. Number of people served by household visits	13,245	25,669	29,169	153,721	4,696,318
3. Number of visits of households of 4 or more	1,681	3,278	3,781	19,923	585,513
4. Number of households with 2 weekly visits (see note 2)	22	49	68	401	21,913
5. Number of households with 3 weekly visits (see note 2)	0	0	1	5	1,061
6. Number of new households registered	180	334	374	1,619	65,701
7. Discontinued registered households	220	362	328	1,648	63,454
8. Total number of households registered (YTD is Max)	4,055	4,095	4,249	4,249	116,639
9. Number of days of distribution	20	42	44	257	8,494
10. Average number of food visits per day	209	194	207	187	149
11. Number of renew households	218	413	452	2,703	76,306
		0	0		
OPERATIONS INFORMATION					
12. Pounds of food distributed	373,532	704,607	755,441	4,145,459	109,512,159
13. Pounds of food to other pantries	38,100	74,000	39,400	304,000	22,178,161
14. Pounds of inedible food	25,132	57,530	54,411	419,833	13,576,340
15. Total pounds of food handled	436,764	836,137	849,252	4,869,292	145,266,660
16. Pounds of food distributed per household visit	89	86	83	86	87
17. Total operating cost	\$64,837	\$132,412	\$120,216	\$848,770	\$11,625,242
18. Operating cost per household visit	\$15.48	\$16.25	\$13.23	\$17.63	\$9.21
19. Operating cost per pound of food distributed	\$0.174	\$0.188	\$0.159	\$0.205	\$0.106
20. Operating cost per pound of food handled	\$0.148	\$0.158	\$0.142	\$0.174	\$0.080
21. Purchase food cost	\$57,671	\$71,706	\$144,572	\$509,515	\$5,504,710
22. Purchase food cost per household visit	\$13.77	\$6.87	\$7	\$7	\$4.36
23. Average pounds of food handled per day	21,838	19,908	19,301	18,947	17,102
24. Average pounds of food distributed per day	18,677	16,776	17,169	16,130	12,893
VOLUNTEER INFORMATION					
25. No. of recipient volunteers working	157	303	304	1,774	81,606
26. No. of non-recipient volunteers working	140	274	316	1,658	52,105
27. No. of group volunteers working	255	483	598	3,088	67,715
28. Total no. of volunteers working	552	1,060	1,218	6,520	201,626
29. Recipient volunteer hours	3,477	6,924	7,348	44,087	2,158,045
30. Non-recipient volunteer hours	1,972	3,522	4,124	21,831	674,253
31. Group volunteer hours (see note 1 below)	419	799	1,004	5,005	129,182
32. Total volunteer hours	5,868	11,245	12,476	70,923	2,961,480
33. Average hours per volunteer	10.6	10.6	10.2	10.9	14.7
34. Average hours per recipient volunteer	22.1	22.9	24.2	24.9	26.4
35. Average hours per non-recipient volunteer	14.1	12.9	13.1	13.2	12.9
36. Average hours per group volunteer	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.9
37. Number of volunteers working per distribution day	27.6	25.2	27.7	25.4	23.7
TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION					
38. Total miles	7,979	15,218	17,901	88,550	3,483,590
39. Total pick-ups	1,376	2,667	2,737	15,830	555,981
40. Miles per pick-up	5.8	5.7	6.5	5.6	6.3
41. Pounds per pick-up	317	314	310	308	261
42. Total vehicle cost	\$3,488	\$9,003	\$7,694	\$34,493	\$1,254,027
43. Vehicle cost per pick-up	\$2.53	\$3.38	\$2.81	\$2.18	\$2.26
44. Vehicle cost per mile	\$0.437	\$0.592	\$0.430	\$0.390	\$0.360
45. Vehicle cost per pound of food handled	\$0.0080	\$0.0108	\$0.0091	\$0.0071	\$0.0086
46. Number of trips to take recipients home (Note 3)	194	385	400	2,223	60,539

Note 1: Group No. & Hours Begun Apr. 1997
 Note 3: Recipients Trips Begun Oct. 1999

Note 2: Weekly Visits (2 & 3) Begun May 1998



December 19, 2017

To: Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Consumer Protection

From: Brad Paul, Executive Director
Jonathan Bader, Programs Director
WISCAP

RE: Harvest for Hope (AB 577 & SB 487)

Thank you Madame Chairwoman and members of the Committee for inviting public comment on the Harvest for Hope legislation. We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback.

WISCAP is the statewide Association of Wisconsin's 16 anti-poverty Community Action Agencies and 2 special purpose agencies. Thirteen (13) of our members and 3 other partners coordinate the statewide distribution of federal TEFAP commodities to 334 food pantries, meal sites and shelters in every county. Food pantries in our network serve 200,000 households each month, while meal sites & shelters provide 45,000 meals in their communities each month. Community Action Agencies have been involved in emergency food in Wisconsin for many decades. In fact a few weeks ago WISCAP marked a significant milestone - the distribution of 200 million pounds of commodities since 1998.

WISCAP supports AB 577 - if the aforementioned amendments are adopted - because it will increase the supply of produce - both fresh and canned - recovered from farmers & food processors for distribution by all of Wisconsin's emergency food providers. This bill simply makes sense. Not only do low-income families receive healthy fruits & vegetables, but Wisconsin farmers & food processors receive payments for donating quality surplus foods. Other Midwestern states - notably Minnesota & Ohio - have long recovered their state's surplus agriculture products for donation to food pantries. In addition, the federal government itself regularly buys surplus food from U.S. farmers & processors for donation to schools & emergency food providers across the nation to aid farmers and to supplement the inventory of privately donated & purchased foods at food pantries. Wisconsin should not be left behind.

WISCAP also supports AB 577 because food insecurity in Wisconsin is real. Despite the robust economy many low-wage workers, children, seniors & disabled continue to struggle with insufficient income to buy the food they need. The number of household visits to TEFAP food pantries in 2017 is still 56% higher than before the recession. This tells us that tens of thousands of Wisconsinites remain under considerable nutritional & economic stress - including many thousands of young children.

WISCAP had concerns with the original bill as drafted that we shared with Feeding Wisconsin, who has been very responsive, and with the support of the bill's sponsors have proposed amendments that address key issues and strengthen the initiative. The amendments - which will soon be before the Committee for approval - expand participation & cooperation among providers and clarify the bill's original intent.

Specifically, the amendments:

- Clarify that HFH food will be provided to food pantries & other outlets at no charge.
- Clarify that HFH food will go to food pantries & other outlets located only in Wisconsin.
- Expands the types of food banks that distribute HFH foods to include organizations that coordinate regional distribution of federal commodities – called “Emergency Feeding Organizations” (EFOs).
- Further defines eligible food banks & EFOs as those that collect distribution data and monitor their networks for compliance with operational & food safety standards.
- Expands food pantries and other outlets eligible to receive HFH foods to members in good standing with any food bank or EFO – even independent food banks.
- Expands eligible grantees to include a statewide organization that supports the commodities network – in addition to a statewide Association of food banks.

WISCAP urges the Committee members to adopt the amendments and vote in favor of AB 577 to ensure the broadest participation in the distribution of HFH foods by Wisconsin’s networks of food banks, EFOs, food pantries and other eligible outlets. The amendments strengthen the initiative by promoting greater involvement & cooperation among organizations so HFH food are assured of reaching households in every community.

Thank you for your time & your consideration of our comments.

The Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP) is the statewide association of Wisconsin’s sixteen (16) anti-poverty Community Action Agencies and 2 statewide special purpose agencies. Our network addresses the problems of poverty across multiple sectors by helping low-income people attain greater economic self-sufficiency and by relieving situations of distress. Locally-controlled and operated Community Action Agencies strengthen Wisconsin families and communities by providing programs and services, including housing, energy, transportation, education, health, business development, family support, and food security.

Thirteen (13) Community Action Agencies and three partner agencies coordinate the distribution of 12 million pounds of federal commodities to 334 food pantries, meal sites and shelters statewide. Food pantries in the network collectively distribute over 50 million pounds of public and privately donated & purchased food annually.

Dear Chair Duchow and Committee Members:

My name is Donna Ambrose and I am the Director of Programs and Partnerships at Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. We were founded in 1986 and today serve 16 counties in Southwest Wisconsin. Last year over 1 million requests for help were answered by Second Harvest and their network of food pantries, homeless shelters and meal sites.

Before joining Second Harvest Foodbank, I was the Executive Director of The Caritas Community Resource Center in Beloit. Year to date, Caritas has served over 8,000 residents in Beloit and Rock County; the majority of the people they serve are children.

The mission of Second Harvest Foodbank is to end hunger through community partnerships. Our first and foremost partnerships are with our affiliated food pantries and meal programs. They serve as the boots on the ground outlets through which we are able to distribute food.

Second Harvest plays many roles to our many community partners but the core function we play as a food bank is to source, sort, safely store, and efficiently distribute food to our partner food pantries. Over the course of the last year, through our network of more than 225 agencies and programs, we were able to distribute more than 14 million pounds of food.

Recognizing the need to be able to provide more healthy and nutritious options to our food pantries and clients, we have begun increasing our supply of fresh products, including fresh fruits and vegetables, and fresh processed Wisconsin grown products over the last few years. In the first 6 months of this fiscal year we provided nearly 3 ½ million pounds of nutritious fruits & vegetables to our partners.

Still, we have more work to do. Last year, we received requests for over half a million pounds of fresh products that we could not fulfill. The Harvest for Hope program would help organizations like ours leverage their private fundraising to help provide more fresh and fresh processed Wisconsin grown food for the individuals and families utilizing food pantries.

Prior to joining Second Harvest, I was the Executive Director of Caritas in Beloit, a food pantry that has served over 8,000 residents of Beloit, and surrounding communities in Rock County, in the past year. I saw the need for the fresh products that would be accessed through this program firsthand.

Every Saturday, Caritas offers fresh fruits and vegetables to the people they serve. The event is called "Surplus Saturday" and is available to anyone in need regardless of how many times they had previously visited our pantry. It began last summer and

has become a big hit! The first week-end we hosted this event, I met a mom and her young son. She was going through a difficult divorce, and due to financial constraints, had moved in with her sister's family. She shared with me how difficult it was to purchase healthy food for her son because it was, simply put, too expensive. I cannot express to you how thrilled she was when she saw a table loaded with a wide assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables. What broke my heart was when her pre-school aged son shared with me how he had to put the cuties back when they were at the store because "Mom said we couldn't afford them..." This is a kid that wants the healthy stuff, whose Mother had encouraged good eating habits, and yet, could not afford to purchase the food he needs as a young, active, growing boy.

Another woman I came to know has a different story. She is elderly, on a limited income and residing in a subsidized apartment complex in Beloit. What I can share about her is her resourcefulness, talent for cooking, and her very generous heart. Every Saturday, she would visit us for produce and promptly take her food home and prepare a big pot of vegetable soup that she would share with the other residents of her building. She is grateful for the assistance and the ability to get fresh produce from Caritas as opposed to using her limited income to purchase less healthy, or processed food.

We are proud to support AB 577 because it will help to increase the ability for food banks and food pantries to source and distribute more fresh and fresh processed. By providing a public dollar match for every private dollar raised, the state will effectively be able to double the impact of private dollar investment in increasing the amount of healthful, nutritious food for food pantries.

Harvest for Hope increases our partnership with the generous citizens of Wisconsin to continue taking steps forward toward a hunger free Wisconsin.

The goal of Harvest for Hope is a goal that every organization dedicated to fighting hunger can support.

Thank you Chairwoman and committee members for your time and attention to this matter.



Healthy Kids
Collaborative

TO: Assembly Committee on Consumer Protection

FROM: Shelly Shaw, MPH, Program Coordinator, Healthy Kids Collaborative of Dane County, Child Health Advocacy Center, UW Health/American Family Children's Hospital

DATE: Tuesday, December 19, 2017

RE: Support for Assembly Bill 577, the Harvest for Hope Grant

Good morning, my name is Shelly Shaw, and I am a representative for the Healthy Kids Collaborative of Dane County at UW Health/American Family Children's Hospital, I am pleased to speak before your committee in support of Assembly Bill 577, the Harvest for Hope Grant.

We work with partners across the county and state to create communities where all children have every opportunity to eat healthy foods and be active. As expressed by former Robert Wood Johnson President and CEO, Risa Lavizzo Mourey, "The choices people make depend on the choices they have." Every day we see roadblock after roadblock impeding opportunities children and families have to eat healthy foods. We believe the Harvest for Hope program moves us forward by changing the choices facing children and families.

We live in a community where there are 5 times as many fast food restaurants as there are grocery stores (1). For families on a budget, it is difficult to afford fruits and vegetables as prices for these products continue to rise while unhealthy options like pop continue to decline in cost (2). Given the multitude of environmental barriers to eating well, it is not surprising that only 9% of kids in Dane County are eating the recommended 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables every day (3).

Look around your community and consider your friends and neighbors who might be food insecure. Food insecurity is the clinical term for what is more commonly known as hunger and it is measured by how often people run out of money to buy enough food. In Wisconsin, there are about 700,000 people who are food insecure. About 19% of our food insecure neighbors are college graduates and 20% are children (4). In Dane County alone, 2,942 7th – 12th graders reported skipping a meal or eating less food at least once in the past month because their family did not have enough money for food. (3)

Partners in our schools will tell you that hungry children have lower math scores and are more likely to be suspended from school (4). At the clinic, our partners are seeing 23% of Dane County 7th-12th graders who are either overweight or obese (3). If our goal is to set children up to be successful adults, we have a long way to go. Being overweight or obese affects quality of life and puts individuals at risk for developing many diseases, especially heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancer (5).

The impacts hunger and poor nutrition have on our communities are profound. Statistics like this are heartbreaking by themselves, but it adds insult to injury in a proud agriculture state when edible and

healthy foods get passed over in our farms every year while kids wonder where their next meal may come from.

With that, we respectfully seek your support for AB-577. Programs such as Harvest for Hope are a win-win for Wisconsin. Our farmers will be able to donate more food and our kids living in families that are at-risk of hunger will have greater opportunities to make the choices that will help them reach their fullest potential.

Thank you,



Shelly Shaw, MPH

mshaw@uwhealth.org

608-265-6846

References

(1) Dane County Data: 85.85 fast food restaurants per 100,000 residents; 16.39 grocery stores per 100,000 residents.

(2) Wallinga, D., Schoonover, H., & Muller, M. 2009. Considering the contribution of US agricultural policy to the obesity epidemic: overview and opportunities. *Journal of Hunger & Environmental Nutrition*, 4(1), 3-19. doi:10.1080/19320240802706817

(3) 2012 Dane County Youth Assessment: 9.2% of youth in our community are eating 5 or more servings of fruits and veggies a day.

(4) Heckman, N. Division of Policy, Planning and Evaluation. Public Health Madison Dane County. *Hunger and Food Security in Wisconsin and Dane County*. June 2016.

(5) Wisconsin Department of Health Services (2012-2014). Retrieved from: <http://healthydane.org/?hcn=CommunityDashboard>