



For Immediate Release

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Home Grown Celebrates the Introduction of the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act

Home Grown applauds the introduction of the Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids Act and the proposed investments in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). We thank Chairman Scott and Representative Bonamici for the leadership in bringing this forward.

Home-based child care providers care for more than 12 million children under the age of 13, including 6.4 million children ages 0-5. A significant portion of these children are experiencing hunger: 23% of families with young children experienced hunger in February 2022 and among lower-income families, that number climbs to a staggering 45%. Sadly, the providers caring for these children, and who are on the front lines of addressing this crisis, also experience hunger at alarming rates; one in three child care providers report experiencing hunger themselves.

Policy and practice changes are desperately needed to the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to ensure equity, accessibility, and full potential of ensuring children are fed nutritious meals without placing burden on the child care providers, who make and serve the meals and may be experiencing hunger themselves. A strong renewal of the Child Nutrition Act, with investments in CACFP, is an important step forward.

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