# **UNITE US**

## Partnering with Government to Address Food Insecurity & Hunger

## **The Problem**

The federal government **ended COVID-19 eraenhanced SNAP benefits nationwide** in <u>February</u> <u>2023</u>. In combination with increased inflation, reduced benefits are contributing to food insecurity for millions of American households, creating a huge gap in resources. As a result, many states especially those that continued distributing the additional federal benefits until the final deadline are facing a food insecurity cliff for their SNAP beneficiaries. This crisis will become even more urgent this summer, when millions of American children lose access to in-school meals.



## **Our Solutions**

With Unite Us, government agencies and their partners can **proactively identify communities and individuals most at risk** to experience food insecurity and strategically deploy resources to respond. Our on-the-ground networks connect government to community-based organizations (CBOs), ensuring there is no gap in support for at-risk constituents.

**Empowering residents to find the right support.** Through our robust networks of communitybased resources and our closed-loop referral system, residents are sure to get the services they need close to home.

**Informing investments and anticipating needs.** Our insights give governments the near-instant ability to target investments to the highest-need areas. Unlike other community-level maps, ours draw from hundreds of data sets broken down by ZIP code to identify food insecurity and other social risks.

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**Connecting government to community.** We coordinate support in real time. With our partners plugged into our networks on the ground, governments can maximize local resources to accelerate food access.

**Tracking outcomes and funding.** With Unite Us, government agencies track both people-centered outcomes and services per dollar invested. Our model allows governments to improve program efficiency and ensure the success of public-private partnerships.

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## The Unite Us Difference

Unite Us powers networks in **44 states across the country**. We're enabling governments to improve constituent outcomes and service delivery by connecting them to community-based organizations and providers in their communities.

#### **Our Tools Power Cross-Sector Networks to Improve Outcomes**



### What Our Partners Are Saying

Most people come to our state agency because they want food stamps or they want cash benefits or they just need help. Oftentimes, we're able to give them approval for food stamps or approval for cash assistance, but we can't address the childcare [need]; we can't address the housing challenges that they have... So, we've worked with United Way and 2-1-1 to actually roll out the Unite Us Platform, where all our staff will actually have access to address those other needs. So, instead of saying, 'You can pick up the phone and call this place,' they can actually send a referral directly to that ZIP code in which that individual lives so that they actually can get the resources and support they need."

- Shavana Howard, Assistant Secretary, LA Department of Children and Family Services

B Have questions? We have answers. Find us at www.UniteUs.com.