

Dear Pat,

Together, we did it!

The Oregon Legislature officially adjourned last week. Oregon Food Bank's agenda focused on root causes from housing, health care, people with disabilities, the earned income tax credit, the state minimum wage, and support for the Fresh Alliance program.

Due in large part to the contributions of many of you--our advocacy volunteers and supporters across the state--we have many successes to report:

- Increasing funds for services and assistance for homeless individuals and families--the additional \$10 million doubles the amount of the Emergency Housing Account and State Homeless Assistance Program for the two year budget cycle.
- Increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit for families with children under three years of age.
- Increasing the Oregon minimum wage over a six-year period, starting this summer.
- Restoring the General Assistance program, on a limited scale, to aid 200 disabled individuals a month with housing vouchers and assistance with federal disabilities application.
- Forming a stakeholder group to develop a blueprint for a Basic Health Program that explores expanded access to health care for low-income Oregonians.
- Funding the purchase of a new refrigerated truck to help with the expansion of Oregon Food Bank's Fresh Alliance program.

Many of you came to our Legislative Action Days in Salem, called and wrote legislators on short notice, and made special visits to key legislators. We want to thank you for your contributions and for demonstrating the strength of our network and our passion for ending hunger and its root causes.

[Click here to contact your state legislators](#) and thank them for acting on one of our most critical issues--increased services to prevent and end homelessness.

Sincerely,
Amy Watts-Padilla
Community Engagement Coordinator

Oregon Food Bank



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