

Breaking Advocacy Update 01.09.2019



NTFB VOICE Advocacy Update

ADVOCATING FOR A HUNGER-FREE, HEALTHY NORTH TEXAS

Advocacy Update 01.09.2019

SNAP benefits have been secured for the month of February.

However, the USDA has instructed States to issue their February benefits no later than January 20th. SNAP recipients will see their full month's allotment of funds on this date.

While we are glad to see funding for SNAP during this uncertain time of Government Shutdown, the early issuance of funds may present a supply & demand problem for clients, partner agencies, and grocer retailers.

The best course of action is to educate all those involved of this anomaly.

- SNAP clients should be aware that though February benefits will come early, if the shutdown ends before March they will receive March benefits at their regular time.
- Potentially causing a longer time period between their benefits
- Partner Agencies/Food Pantries/Community Partners may see an increased need for emergency food assistance towards the end of February and beginning of March because of this.
- SNAP grocery retailers should prepare for an unusual sales rhythm these next couple of months.

NTFB Team - If you receive any media inquires, contact or direct them to either Anna Kurian AnnaK@ntfb.org or myself immediately.

Questions or Comments? I want to hear from you!

Valerie Stone Hawthorne, PhD

Government Relations Director

North Texas Food Bank

Direct: 832.851.0303

policy@ntfb.org

