



Advocacy 101: State and Federal Policy and Why it Matters

2017 Agency Appreciation
Conference





Advocacy Update



State Budget Update

- July: General Assembly passed a \$32 billion spending bill and Governor Wolf allowed the bill to become law without his signature
- Still need a plan for how to pay for it: revenue package
- Two main priorities in state budget:
 - State Food Purchase Program
 - \$18.188 million
 - Local program to meet local needs
 - Pennsylvania Agricultural Surplus System
 - Ag + Charitable Food
 - Central PA Food Bank holds contract
 - \$1 million

FY18 Federal Budget Update – September Action Expected

- Federal Budget Resolution
 - Oppose dangerous and harmful program cuts
 - Proposed \$4.4 trillion in cuts to mandatory programs in the next decade
 - \$10 billion in cuts in SNAP
 - Additional \$150 billion in suggested cuts with downsizing and restricting of the program
 - What does that look like for the Central PA Food Bank?
 - Nearly triple its distribution with an annual increase of 200%

FY18 Federal Budget Update – September Action Expected

- Senate: still TBD, waiting on House
- House:
 - July 19 = House Budget Committee passed resolution; no floor vote before recess
 - September = floor vote expected
- Goal:
 - Make sure House Budget resolution does not pass House floor
- Action Needed:
 - What can you do? Keep pressure on through August and September. Contact your Members of Congress before 9/1/17 and sign-up for the Food Bank's advocacy alert list.
 - Tell your Members of Congress “to reject the budget resolution when it comes to the House floor and help prevent hunger in our communities.”

Fiscal Year 2018 Appropriations

Date	Activity
Thursday, June 29 th	House Agriculture Subcommittee passed their FY18 bill through subcommittee
July 18 th	Full Senate Committee passed their FY18 bill
Saturday, September 30 th	Fiscal Year 2017 Deadline
Sunday, October 1 st	Fiscal Year 2018 Begins



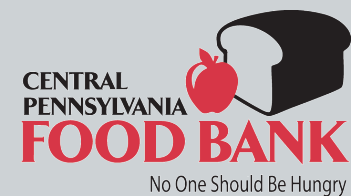
Federal Farm Bill

- Farm Bill
 - Reauthorized every 5 years
 - Current Farm Bill expires September 2018
 - Listening sessions and meetings have begun
 - Nutrition and agriculture policy
 - SNAP and Ag need to be kept together so that both urban and rural parties “buy in”
 - Impacts everyone
- Be An Advocate
 - Sign-up for Food Bank advocacy action alert e-mails



- Questions?
 - ❖ Contact Erin Smith Wachter, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy at ewachter@centralpafoodbank or 717-547-6269

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