A Lifeline for Families Struggling with Hunger

“There were times where I thought, I don’t know what I’m going to do,” said Crystle Durham, who lives in the small town of Husum, Washington, with her husband and four boys. “Where was the money to pay this bill?”

It is a question repeated in households across rural America, where a dollar no longer stretches as far as it did, traditional industries are disappearing, and worry is a constant companion.

Government safety net programs have been a lifeline for families like the Durhams. Crystle is thankful that the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutrition program meant her babies had milk and cereal when they needed it. Until she began to earn a salary as a teacher, SNAP food benefits helped Crystle buy groceries to feed her family. The yearly refund from the Child Tax Credit (CTC) and the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) made a world of difference.

“We were always catching up,” Crystle said. One year the tax credits helped them purchase the more reliable car they needed for work; another year, a refrigerator stopped running; another, they needed a new wood stove.

Congress recently expanded both the CTC and EITC, so more individuals can take advantage of the tax credits. But the expansion is only for one year. Bread for the World is urging Congress to make these expanded credits permanent.

During a really tough time when Crystle was stretching a couple of 25-cent boxes of macaroni and cheese for the family dinner, her husband Richard, a diabetic, faced the impossible choice of buying food for his children or the insulin he needs to survive.

“‘I love, love, love, my job,’” said Crystle, who now teaches third, fourth, and fifth graders. A teacher’s salary certainly doesn’t mean the Durhams are living in luxury, but it eases a lot of the constant worry. They no longer need SNAP, and they have moved off the tightrope of the poverty line.

In 20 years of marriage, the Durhams have had more than their fair share of worry, but love, deep faith, a tight-knit community, and government programs have eased some of the burden.

Bread for the World members have helped advocate for legislation and programs that have sustained millions of families like Crystle’s. Working together, we enable people in the United States and around the world to move out of poverty and feed their families.
In 2020, decades of progress against hunger, poverty, and disease underwent a drastic reversal. The coronavirus pandemic exacerbated a global hunger crisis. The pandemic continues to devastate communities across the United States with a disproportionate impact on Black, Latino, and Native American families and on immigrants. The pandemic has exposed vulnerabilities in our safety net and food systems. But we believe and trust that we are not alone. God is with us and calls us to bring light and hope amid confusion, anxiety, and fear. Everyone has a voice. But in an unjust, broken society and system, not everyone is heard. This is part of the injustice. Bread for the World seeks to amplify the voices of those who experience hunger in our nation and around the world. We believe every human being deserves dignity – not because of us, but because they are created in the image of God.

Together, we have and will continue to use our voices to lift up and advocate for our neighbors in need. We will speak up for policies and programs that address racism and gender inequity and redress the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on communities of color. We will continue to pray that our elected leaders have wisdom, humility, and moral courage, and that our churches be not gripped by fear and scarcity, but rather liberated by faith, hope, and love.
Joint message from the Chairs of the Board of Directors

We are delighted to present this report on the progress and achievements of Bread for the World and Bread for the World Institute in 2020.

**We are so grateful for the work we have done together and for the generosity of tens of thousands of Bread members who invest their time and resources to end hunger.**

2020 was a year of vital transition for Bread. After nearly three decades of outstanding leadership, Rev. David Beckmann retired as president of Bread for the World with our enormous gratitude, respect, and appreciation. After a thorough and focused national search, the board elected Rev. Eugene Cho to succeed him as Bread’s third president. Eugene brings a pastor’s heart, a preacher’s voice, a leader’s skills, and a passion for justice. Eugene is part of a new generation of leaders who came to this country as a child, built a vital and diverse church, and has worked for justice all his life. Our new president, committed staff, and Bread members have powerfully advanced Bread’s mission though this difficult year of global pandemic, renewed racial reckoning in our nation, and volatile transition in Washington D.C. In tough times, we stood up alongside people experiencing hunger and poverty, for racial and economic justice, and for those most impacted by COVID-19 in our nation and around the world.

2020 was also my [John's] final year as Board Chair. It has been an honor to serve as Chair as we kept the faith in working to end hunger and poverty in our nation and world throughout these internal and external transitions. The board elected Kate Pringle to succeed me and re-elected Heather Hardinger as Vice Chair. They will help Bread build on its many strengths and grow stronger, more diverse, and more effective. We hope you will read this report of Bread’s work and success in 2020 knowing that this progress was possible because of you. Bread is blessed by the steadfast commitment, generosity, determination, and passion of its members.

With a clear mission to end hunger and to advocate across party lines and ideology, Bread for the World’s work to “bring good news to the poor, new sight to the blind, liberty to captives and to set the downtrodden free” (Luke 4:18) is more important than ever. Thank you for being Bread for the World.
2020 impact

Working together, Bread for the World members achieved significant victories in our mission to end hunger

Bread for the World’s work in 2020 was in the context of a worldwide pandemic and an unusual presidential election season. By the end of the year, 12 percent of all adults in the United States—1 in 6—reported that their household didn’t get enough to eat in the previous seven days. Globally, extreme hunger was estimated to reach 270 million people.

U.S. household food insecurity surged in March and early April of 2020, peaking in early May, and then fell after Congress passed emergency relief that reached households in need. Food insecurity then edged back up later in the year after emergency relief expired—but did not exceed the early surge. Black and Latino families have consistently experienced food insecurity at twice the rate of whites.

Yet in this time of hardship, Bread for the World members—along with churches and other partner organizations—helped create hope and opportunity for those struggling with hunger.

Bread for the World members helped persuade Congress to increase international assistance in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
U.S. commits to leading the fight against global maternal and child malnutrition

After two years of persistent advocacy, Bread for the World members helped secure bipartisan support for U.S. leadership to end maternal and child malnutrition. In 2019, Bread for the World drafted two Global Nutrition resolutions (H.Res.189 and S.Res.260) with congressional leaders. The resolutions recognize the importance of continued U.S. leadership in improving global maternal and child nutrition.

Bread for the World members participated in 586 lobby visits with 356 members of Congress and sent 83,384 letters to their legislators on the issue.

These efforts resulted in Bread for the World members and partners recruiting a total of 195 members of Congress from both parties as cosponsors for the resolutions.

In January 2020, the Senate Global Nutrition Resolution (S.Res.260) was approved unanimously by the full Senate and passed with 41 cosponsors. And in December 2020, after continued urging by Bread for the World members, the House Global Nutrition Resolution (H.Res.189) passed with 154 cosponsors.

The passage of these resolutions commits our nation to lead the fight against global maternal and child malnutrition.

Bread for the World Institute’s 2020 Hunger Report, Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow examines the role of food systems in ending hunger and malnutrition. The report studies how food, health, and education systems can better deliver good nutrition. Visit hungerreport.org to read the full report.
In March 2020, schools across the United States closed their doors in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects. Children were abruptly cut off from free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act allowed states to use temporary SNAP flexibility to provide emergency benefit supplements, maintain benefits to households with children missing school meals, and ease program administration during the pandemic. The program served 30 million eligible school-aged children from March through September 2020.

“Every day, I heard from families struggling to meet increased grocery bills due to the pandemic,” says Nicole Schmidt, Bread’s regional organizer for Michigan and Ohio. Stacy and Dave Reed from Maineville, Ohio, are one such family. Stacy and Dave have 11 kids; 10 of them live at home. Some of their children were born to them. Others are adopted, and still others are foster children. One child is away at college. Dave works in information technology. Stacy, a former teacher, is now a stay-at-home parent.

“We carry no credit card debt,” Stacy says. “I coupon. There is no Starbucks or cable.” The Reeds’ monthly grocery bill always exceeds their mortgage. The cost of food rose even higher with the kids at home starting in March 2020.

Fortunately, the family received P-EBT cards for six of the children in the spring. “I used one card a month added to our grocery budget,” Stacy says.

With everyone at home, buying, preparing, serving, and cleaning up after meals and snacks were constants—on top of virtual schooling. “I’ve put my classroom management skills to good use!” Stacy says. Over the summer, the family accessed free lunches for their children.

Now that the kids are back in school, Stacy focuses on the positive aspects of the stay-at-home orders. “2020 brought us so much family time,” she says. “There was less rushing around, picking up and dropping off. And of course, the P-EBT cards helped our family a lot.”

More than 1 in 4 of Ohio households with children experience food insecurity. The P-EBT program ensures that parents can buy groceries for their children who are missing school breakfasts and lunches because schools are closed.

In September 2020, Bread for the World members were instrumental in urging Congress to extend P-EBT for a full year.

“Parents have enough to worry about right now, navigating a global pandemic,” says Nicole Schmidt.

“P-EBT remains a lifeline for many families.”
Parents receive extended support in feeding children missing their school meals

When schools were shuttered because of the pandemic, Congress passed the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Program (P–EBT) as part of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. The program provided meal replacement benefits through SNAP for households with school-age children who would have received free or reduced-price meals if their schools had remained open. At its peak, the program served 8.4 million families with children. A Brookings Institution study from July 2020 found that P–EBT reduced child hunger by 30 percent.

As some schools remained closed into the fall, Bread for the World members urged members of Congress to extend this program to make sure children who continued to miss school breakfasts and lunches because of school closures would not go hungry. In September 2020, Congress extended the Pandemic–EBT through September 30, 2021.

*Bread members played a unique leadership role in a critical moment to ensure the extension and its expansion to Puerto Rico.*
Bread members find creative ways to advocate during the pandemic

“The coronavirus and social distancing change the way we do things, but not why,” said Matt Gross, director of organizing at Bread for the World.

Sheltering in place from makeshift home offices and kitchen tables across the nation, Bread for the World organizers and grassroots leaders found new and creative ways to gather and conduct activities like the Offering of Letters —Bread’s signature letter-writing campaign.

“Working apart doesn’t mean we can’t work together,” David Gist, California senior organizer.

In March 2020, he held an online gathering via video conference for 35 leaders to coordinate their advocacy and letter-writing strategy. “We are learning and improving as we embrace new technology, and I’m really impressed with how eager and adaptable California leaders are to advocate.”
In Indiana, Bread for the World members organized an ecumenical letter-writing campaign by coordinating multiple church writing events. In 2019, the campaign produced 4,000 letters. Dave Miner, chair of the Bread team in Indiana, adjusted its campaign time frame, provided options other than hand-written letters, and recruited letter writers through peer-to-peer relationships. Miner thinks they have found new ways to have even greater impact. “Different is powerful,” he said.

For Ohio-based organizer Nicole Schmidt, flexibility is the guiding principle. “We don’t know where we will be in two months,” said Schmidt, who is working with her leadership team to ensure that advocates without access to computers are still able to participate. The Ohio Bread team went “old school” and used the church’s print newsletter to build excitement and a sense of community. “We just need to get creative and think outside the box,” she said.

In Florida, Sean Kim, a member of the Joshua’s Heart Foundation’s Bread advisory board, was excited about a March 2020 meeting with his U.S. Rep. Lois Frankel (D-Fla.). As concerns about the spread of COVID-19 grew, the meeting was moved to video conference. “It was slightly disappointing that I couldn’t tell my teachers that I missed their classes to meet with a congresswoman, but I knew participating in the call would be just as rewarding as meeting Mrs. Frankel in person.”

Matt Gross summed up the year, saying, “Uncertainty about the future was no deterrent to people of faith who are compelled to advocate for a world without hunger. We were able to stay the course and stay on call.”

Hunger addressed in COVID-19 relief bills

In March 2020, Bread for the World joined coalition efforts to urge Congress to pass sweeping pandemic response legislation. The CARES Act gave immediate cash assistance to low- and middle-income households and expanded unemployment insurance. The bill also boosted funding for global disease detection and prevention and humanitarian aid.

In the final weeks of December 2020, Bread for the World and its coalition partners were successful in urging Congress to increase SNAP benefits by 15 percent through June 2021. This increase resulted in an estimated $27 more in SNAP benefits per person, per month. Nearly two-thirds of the increase will go to households with children, and 40 percent of the increase will go to families whose incomes are less than 50 percent of the federal poverty line. For example, a family of four is considered to be below the poverty line with a 2021 income of $26,500 or less. So, a family of four living on less than 50 percent of the poverty line would be earning $13,250 a year or less.
Working with the World Food Program U.S.A., Catholic Relief Services, and ONE, Bread for the World successfully urged the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure to drop harmful language in a Defense Authorization amendment that changed tonnage requirements for food aid, which would have reduced food aid at this crucial time.


The death rate for both mothers and infants is much higher in the United States than in other developed countries.

Bread for the World members and state partners in California advocated for Assembly Bill 3073, which allows eligible individuals in California to pre-enroll in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) while still incarcerated.

Now, once individuals are released, they can immediately access food assistance for themselves and their families.

Families in El Salvador lost their livelihoods in the midst of the pandemic. Here a young child eats a meal provided by the World Food Program.
In 2020, tens of thousands of Bread for the World members gave more generously than at any time in recent history. A record number of individuals joined as new members. Rick Steves, the noted travel writer and producer of public television travel programs, offered Bread members and his own network two opportunities to have their contributions matched by his own gifts of more than $550,000.

This wellspring of financial support enabled Bread for the World and Bread for the World Institute to play a leadership role in securing life-saving assistance and long-term opportunity for those most affected by the pandemic.

The Financial Overview is based on the 2020 audited financial statements. For the eighth year in a row, Bread for the World and the Institute received a clean audit. You are welcome to request complete copies of the audited statements, or you may visit bread.org/accountability to view the audited statements as well as the IRS 990 documents.
### Revenues

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Foundation grants</td>
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<td>Prior years’ revenue used in current year</td>
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<td><strong>Total public support</strong></td>
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<td>Other revenue</td>
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<td>Total operating revenue</td>
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<td>8,332,523</td>
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<td>Non-operating revenue: investment income (loss)</td>
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<td>730,523</td>
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<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,746,952</strong></td>
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### Expenses

#### 2020

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<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General education &amp; research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; advocacy</td>
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<td>Public policy</td>
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<td>Finance and administration</td>
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<td><strong>Total expense</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in temporarily restricted net assets</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets (beginning of year)</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets (end of year)</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,401,761</strong></td>
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#### 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General education &amp; research</td>
<td>3,896,923</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; advocacy</td>
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<td>Public policy</td>
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<td><strong>Total program expense</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total expense</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in unrestricted net assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in temporarily restricted net assets</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets (beginning of year)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net assets (end of year)</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,401,761</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thank You!

Bread for the World and Bread for the World Institute are grateful for the faithful generosity and active involvement of all our members. Bread is blessed with thousands of individuals and families that participate in the Baker’s Dozen monthly giving program. Hundreds of individuals and families have also included Bread for the World or Bread for the World Institute in their wills and estate plans, creating a Legacy of Hope.

Contributions of $100,000 or more in 2020.
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Eleanor Crook
- Eirenikos Foundation
- Eleanor Crook Foundation
- H-E-B
- Mark and Kathleen Helge
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- Schlick Endowment
- Rick Steves
- Mac and Debbie Taylor

Contributions of $50,000 or more in 2020.
- Victor and Michelle Adamo
- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- Charles E. Cheever, Jr.
- Leota B. Ester
- Kirk Humanitarian
- Gerald A. and Karen Kolschowsky
- Terence and Montie Meehan
- David and Robin Miner
- Rick Steves’ Europe Fund at the Community Foundation of Snohomish County
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Shield–Ayres Foundation
- Wallace Genetic Foundation

Contributions of $10,000 or more in 2020.
- American Baptist Churches U.S.A.
- Judith and Richard Andrews
- Preston Arsemment
- Catherine and Don Augenstein
- Patricia Shield Ayres
- Anthony and Madalyn Baumstark
- Bruce Blackie
- O.C.* and Pat Boldt
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- Mary Catherine Bunting

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- and The Honorable Elizabeth Dole
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- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- R. Bradford and Barbara Evans
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- Rev. George M. Furniss and Rev. Sandy Larson
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Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word
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Emmy and Steve Stanley
Malcolm and Lou Street
Peace Sullivan
Marilyn S. Townley
Michael and Kelsey Vander Meulen
Margaret Wallhagen and William Strawbridge
Seymour Weingarten

Contributions of $5,000 or more in 2020.
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Barbara Reilly
Nancy and George Rupp
Martin J. Spalding
John and Lucy Taylor
Katherine and Tommy Thomson
Michael Troutman and Amy Blumenshine
Carol Wehrheim
James and Evelyn* Whitehead
Charles and Angela Williams
Kathleen and Larry Zimpleman

* deceased
Bread for the World is grateful to the several individuals, families, and institutions who made generous gifts in 2020 but wish their giving to remain anonymous.

Space does not permit us to recognize all our members whose generous financial support strengthens our collective Christian voice for an end to hunger. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to them.

Contributions to Bread for the World are not tax-deductible because its members lobby Congress to end hunger. Many individuals and families chose to support Bread for the World Institute. Contributions to the Institute are tax-deductible and support research and education.

Faith Partners
Bread for the World is grateful for our partnerships with church bodies and agencies across U.S. Christianity. This list denotes national offices of denominations and faith organizations that have partnered with Bread for the World through their national offices or local congregations.


The successful passage of many hunger measures in the COVID relief bills, speaks to the groundwork that was laid over many years by Bread...If ever there was a proof of concept for Bread, I think 2020 was it.”
– Vic Adamo, Bread for the World member since 1974

“Bread brings changemakers together on an issue—hunger—that touches families all over the world.”
– Dr. Helen Stafford, Bread for the World member since 2016
Food for the Hungry
Franciscan Action Network
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Growing Hope Globally
International Orthodox Christian Charities
International Pentecostal Holiness Church
JustFaith Ministries
La Red-National Catholic
Network of Pastoral Juvenil Hispana
Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod
Lutheran World Relief
Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns
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National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
National Black Evangelical Association
National Catholic Council for Hispanic Ministry, Inc
National Council of Churches
National Latino Evangelical Coalition
Nazarene Compassionate Ministries

National Catholic Association of Diocesan Directors for Hispanic Ministry (NCADDHM)
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Presbyterian Church (USA)
Presbyterian Women
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.
Reformed Church in America
Roundtable Association of Catholic Diocesan Social Action Directors
Salvation Army World Services Office
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Sojourners
Southern Baptist Convention
Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission
The Episcopal Church
The Salvation Army
The Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference
The United Methodist Church

United Church of Christ
United Church of Jesus Christ Apostolic
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Wesleyan Church
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Women’s Home & Oversees Missionary Society
of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Women’s Missionary Council
of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Women’s Missionary Society
of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
World Council of Churches
World Hope International
World Relief Corporation
World Renew
World Vision
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Bread for the World and
Bread for the World Institute

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Sharon Thornberry, The Dalles, Oregon
Dr. Kate Weaver, Austin, Texas
Rep. Ted Yoho, Gainesville, Florida*

* These members were elected to the board of directors for 2020 and did not serve the full year.
You can help strengthen our collective Christian voice for an end to hunger

Please join us as we work together to urge our nation’s leaders to change the policies and conditions that allow hunger to exist.

**PRAY /** [bread.org/pray](http://bread.org/pray)
- for people who struggle with hunger in our own country and abroad, that they might share in the abundance of God’s creation
- for members of Congress and other elected officials, that they support measures that allow people to move out of poverty and feed their families

**ACT /** [bread.org/act](http://bread.org/act)
- write, email, or phone your members of Congress, urging them to fund programs that provide improved access to foods that promote better nutrition
- involve your church, campus, or other faith community in Bread for the World’s Offering of Letters and other activities

**GIVE /** [bread.org/give](http://bread.org/give)
- make a gift to Bread for the World or become a monthly donor to provide ongoing financial support
- explore how you can use your donor advised fund, IRA, or other resources to make a long-term financial commitment to Bread for the World or Bread for the World Institute
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Web sites</th>
<th>Social media</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>425 3rd Street SW,</td>
<td>Phone: 800.822.7323</td>
<td>bread.org</td>
<td>facebook.com/breadfortheworld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suite 1200, Washington, DC</td>
<td>Fax: 202.639.9401</td>
<td></td>
<td>twitter.com/bread4theworld</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20024</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:bread@bread.org">bread@bread.org</a></td>
<td></td>
<td>flickr.com/breadfortheworld</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>youtube.com/breadfortheworld</td>
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