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Ohio Senate Finance Committee
Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, Executive Director
May 25, 2023
Amended House Bill 33



Chairman Dolan, Vice Chair Cirino and Ranking Member Sykes and members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on the state of hunger in Ohio and to highlight the return on investment of your continuous and ongoing support for Ohio's foodbanks and 3,600 partner hunger relief agencies, including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and placed based food providers located in K-12 school buildings, on colleges campuses, in clinics, hospitals, low-income housing complexes and pop-up food distribution sites serving all 88 counties. This privilege to provide testimony is not one that I ever take lightly or for granted.

My name is Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, I serve as the Executive Director of the Ohio Association of Foodbanks, Ohio's largest charitable response to hunger. For more than two decades, the Association has successfully partnered with the State of Ohio to feed hungry Ohioans through the Ohio Food Program and Agricultural Clearance Program (OFPACP). Thank you for your current and previous support. There is no better example of a highly efficient, cost-effective public private partnership in Ohio. Through this partnership we procure highly nutritious center-of-the-plate and shelf-stable foods and direct surplus and unmarketable agricultural products from nearly 100 Ohio farmers and producers through the state's network of foodbanks and onto the tables of Ohio families, ensuring a source of nutritious, Ohio-raised food for Ohioans experiencing food hardship.

Attached to my testimony is the 2022 independent [FY 2022 Economic Impact Analysis](#)

The independent [FY 2022 Economic Impact Analysis of Ohio Food Program, Agricultural Clearance Program, Summer Food, and CARES Act Programs](#) conducted by Dr. Howard Fleeter, is attached at the end of my testimony. To highlight the R.O.I. of the state investments:

- The cumulative economic impact resulted in \$27.1 million of direct food purchases through the Agricultural Clearance Program, the Ohio Food Program, the Summer Weekend, Rural Food Delivery and Mobile Farmer's Market programs.
- The one-time Federal CARES ACT Food Relief program included \$11.7 million of food purchases made from Ohio providers.
- These Ohio-sourced food purchases led to an additional \$12.6 million in output produced across the state, for a total increase in output of \$24.3 million.
- These programs added **\$37.8 million in economic output** across Ohio, generated **\$11.2 million in income**, and led to the creation of **312 jobs**, in addition to the direct benefits of providing **39.3 million meals** to needy Ohioans.

https://ohiofoodbanks.org/site/assets/files/2533/sfy2022_annual_report.pdf

These highly effective hunger lifelines provide 1 out of every 4 meals we distribute.



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Because hunger, food insecurity, and food hardship have been a persistent challenge made worse by the most widespread public health crisis in our lifetimes and the economic fallout it has created, our network has been responding to increasing levels of need for three years and counting. The factors we face in our efforts to meet this unprecedented demand are outside of our control and made worse by pandemic supply chain issues, high inflation, the rising costs for feed, fuel and fertilizer, the multi-faceted employment crisis, product recalls on everything from infant formula to meat, impacts of climate change and drought, global demand and competition, the effects of avian influenza (bird flu) that has results in the loss of 58 million chickens and layers, to the war in Ukraine, are all contributing to higher input cost, shortages of raw materials which drive up the cost of food we need to purchase to meet the demand.

All these factors have resulted in significant cost increases for the food we need to purchase.

The as introduced version H.B. 33, Sections 307.40 and 307.43 Ohio Association of Foodbanks provided flat funding of \$24.55 million dollars in support of our two critical food programs. The Ohio House provided an increase of \$15 million per year, and I am here today to humbly ask for your additional support of an amendment of \$10.45 million per year to help us purchase more food, in our efforts to offset the skyrocketing cost of food transportation in order to meet the record level of increasing demand.

Before diving into our budget request, I would like to briefly discuss the status of food insecurity in our state and the impacts the end of pandemic era programs and interventions such as the including the universal free school meals, expanded Child Tax Credits for families with kids, and the recent end of the SNAP Emergency Allotments. The end of these programs has impacted more than 3 million Ohioans, who have significantly less purchasing power. **These Ohioans are now standing in our food lines in ever increasing numbers just trying to make ends meet and get the food they need to feed themselves and their families.**

Foodbanks are being called on to fill this food gap. We can't do that alone.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formally known as the Food Stamp Program, is the first line of defense against hunger. One of the most impactful pandemic-era relief programs - SNAP Emergency Allotments – by Congress. While these benefits were never meant to be permanent, the SNAP program has **never** seen this steep a drop-off in benefits in its entire existence. For most SNAP households, especially those made up of older adults on fixed incomes the cliff will be significant, with monthly SNAP benefits for a single adult falling by as much as \$281 per month to just \$23 per month. This hunger cliff, as we've called it, will see households losing on average \$86 per person, per month, and as a result, the average SNAP benefit will fall to a meager \$2 per meal in a best-case scenario for some SNAP recipients, for seniors that meager benefit will be just \$0.75 per day.



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This benefit cliff will exacerbate hunger, food insecurity and poverty for the 1,466,608 million low-income nearly 60% of the Ohioans most impacted will be children (616,737) and seniors (245,749). The cost of increasing hunger, will mean children, no doubt will fall further behind academically, experience higher rates of absenteeism, suffer from higher rates of illness, depression, and anxiety and seniors will be at increased risk of impairments, ranging from loss of cognitive functions, malnutrition, limitations in activities of daily living, thus placing them at higher risk of losing their independence and being forced in to assisted living facilities or nursing homes.

The economic hardship will significantly impact Ohio's grocers and retailers are stagger, resulting in a loss of \$126 million in 100% federally funded benefits **per month, or more than \$1.44 billion over the next 12 months.**

Our emergency food providers can't fill this gap. Even before Congress announced the end of these enhanced food assistance benefits, our food banks, and member charities were experiencing record high demand for assistance.

Ohio's Foodbanks have been Serving as a Bucket Brigade on a Five Alarm Fire Since COVID shutdown Ohio's Economy

During the first 3 months of 2023, more than 3.1 million Ohioans, (3,174,549) 60% who are children and seniors, turned to our network for food, a record high since we began reporting statistics in 1997. The current hunger crisis is unparalleled both in its size and scope due to factors that are outside of our control. Surging well beyond the record-breaking demand at the height of the pandemic.

- During the 1st quarter (01/01/23 to 03/31/23) Foodbanks served a total of 1,137,549 households containing 3,174,549 people through food pantries.
- An all-time record high in the number of Ohioans served during any quarter since the Association began reporting service statistics in 1997.

Comparing the 1st quarter of 2023 to the 1st quarter of 2022:

- Foodbanks served 362,044 more households (1,137,549) in the first quarter of 2023 representing an increase of 31.8% more households than served in 2022 (775,505) during the same quarter.
- Foodbanks served 1,012,771 more (3,174,549) people in the first quarter of 2023 an increase of 31.9% more people than served (2,161,778) in 2022 during the same quarter:

People served:	1 st quarter 2022	1 st quarter 2023	% change
Seniors	509,629	668,820	27.1%
Children	614,763	924,962	33.5%
Adults	1,037,386	1,558,807	33.5%



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Despite having recovered nearly all of the jobs lost during the COVID-19 pandemic, high inflation has wiped out many gains Ohioans had made. Many of the households report their fixed incomes and modest wages just aren't keeping up with their increased cost of living. **All report they are unable to meet their basic food needs because they are spending most of their limited incomes for utilities, housing, transportation, health care, medicine, childcare, education, and other debts.**



**Ohio foodbanks are mandated to serve all Ohioans living at or below 200% FPL
More than 1 in 3 Ohioans today**

What does living at 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) mean? In 2023, for a family of three, it means earning an annual household income of less than \$46,060, or \$22.40 an hour for a full-time job, most economist agree that 200% of the FPL is the minimum level of income one must earn to reach self-sufficiency. A family of three in extreme poverty (below 50% of the FPL) earns less than \$11,515 per year. When families live anywhere near the FPL, they often cannot afford safe, stable, or quality housing, healthy food, and other ***necessities that all Ohioans need to thrive.***

As the demand for more food has increased significantly, the traditional sources of donated foods have declined, while the cost of food we have had to purchase to keep up with the demand has skyrocketed.

The reality is, foodbanks have been responding to elevated need, in partnership with local, state and federal governments, private donors and funders, and generous community members, for three years and our job is far from over. Unfortunately, private sector food donations that foodbanks have relied on for decades from manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers have declined significantly due to the pandemic.

The free USDA federal commodities we have traditional relied on are down sharply, resulting in the loss of over 33.8 million (33,841,600) pounds of food, a 439% reduction from its June 2020 peak. (7,703,262 pounds from January 1 to March 31, 2023.)

Due to ongoing supply chain disruptions, USDA has cancelled over 300 scheduled semi-loads of food in the last 15 months, forcing foodbanks to purchase replacement food at higher and higher cost.



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Many of my foodbanks are in deficit spending and are on a path that is not sustainable.

Simply put, the basic supply and demand metrics for families and foodbanks just do not add up. Our food private sector food donations and inventories are well below where they were pre-pandemic, yet 35% more people are coming to us than at the height of the pandemic who need food and the math just does not work out.

Ohio is facing a catastrophic hunger crisis in 2023. With the skyrocketing cost of groceries and a stumbling economy, reducing people's ability to purchase food will not only cause hunger but place enormous pressure on Ohio's food banks – which have already been stretched thin since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Before March of 2020, and for more than a century, the deadly 1918 flu had been the [benchmark for pandemics](#) in the US. Unfortunately, as of September 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic is officially the worst pandemic in American history. It's hard for me to believe that it's been three years ago that our foodbank board of directors called an emergency meeting to prepare our request for help from the State of Ohio: Governor Mike DeWine, Adjutant Major General John C. Harris, and the Ohio National Guard and Ohio Military Reserve were one of the first in the country to be deployed as part of pandemic response.

Mr. Chairman, we want to thank you, the members of this committee, who showed up, and served with us on the food lines, those who have personally given your time, talent and treasure - thank you for your support. We have been grateful witnesses to the power of government, advocacy and private-public partnerships. And then again, at the end of 2022 this body recognized what was at stake with the end of the pandemic-era programming and that the flat funding provided in the previous biennial budget would not suffice during these unpredictable and unprecedented times.

The \$39.45 million per year pending in Amended Sub. HB 45 demonstrates that our Governor and our elected leaders believe food security is an essential ingredient for a strong and resilient workforce, thriving children and students and an older generation that can age in place, with dignity.

Support for a Comprehensive Approach to Hunger and Health in HB 33

Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we work collaboratively to invest in food and economic security and ensure an equitable recovery for all Ohioans. The FY 2024-2025 Budget is an important opportunity to continue the strong, bipartisan support for hunger relief and to support our most vulnerable neighbors.



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In closing, the Association respectfully request support for **amendment SC0437** the purchases of an additional \$10.45 million per year over the as introduced budget, **to support the purchases another 100 million pounds of food through the Ohio Food and Agricultural Clearance programs to help feed our hungry friends and neighbors.**

Support for amendment SC 0227 that provides a modest temporary minimum monthly benefit of just \$50 for up to 70,000 low-income seniors on SNAP whose benefits dropped from \$281 per month to \$23.00 per month. This amendment appropriates \$21,415,000 in each fiscal year in GRF ALI 600564, SNAP State Supplement.

The state would provide this person with \$27/month ensuring they have \$50 a month or \$1.66/day to eat. If a person receives \$42/month in benefits the state would provide \$8 a month in state funds to bring this person's food assistance benefit to \$50 a month.

If this supplemental state food assistance benefit keeps 329 seniors aging in place and at home, instead of going into a nursing home at a cost of \$65,000 per person, per year the program becomes cost neutral.

Support Amendment SC0438 provides up to \$2.5 million per year to support Health Care Navigators **to assist the hundreds of thousands of Ohioans that will lose their Medicaid benefits because of the end of the Public Health Emergency**

We request support of amendment to provide \$2.5 million per year to support Health Care Navigators who work at foodbanks, CBOs, and other trusted community organizations, federally qualified health centers. These health insurance enrollment assister entities. Provide community-based health care navigation support and services to Ohioans who may have Medicaid coverage due. These entities provide free, unbiased help navigating health insurance options, will facilitate a smooth transition to other coverage, such as employer-sponsored insurance or coverage through the federal health insurance Marketplace. Navigators are licensed by the Ohio Department of Insurance.

This funding will allow the Ohio Association of Foodbanks to direct the maximum amount of state dollars available to Ohioans who need it most, putting food on the tables of Ohio families, positioning our children to be healthy and ready to learn, protecting the welfare and ensuring food security for our senior citizens and assisting vulnerable populations to locate the help they need to secure health insurance, while investing in and setting the anti-hunger, pro-agriculture standard among states.

Thank you again for the opportunity to not only testify before you but partner with you over so many years. I would be to answer any questions you may have.



Greater Cleveland Food Bank



Independent Economic Impact of FY 2022 Ohio Food Program, Agricultural Clearance Program, Summer Food, and CARES Act Programs

Prepared for the Ohio Association of Foodbanks by Howard Fleeter | March 17, 2023

I. Overview

In state fiscal year 2022, funding was provided for a series of programs to enhance the availability of fresh fruits, vegetables, protein items and shelf staple items to Ohio's 12 Feeding America foodbanks. The two largest programs are the Ohio Food Program which focuses on protein and shelf staple items, and the Agricultural Clearance Program which directs agricultural surplus items from Ohio farmers and growers to the foodbanks. Each of these programs were funded at a combined \$24.55 million in FY22. An additional \$2.8 million in state funding was provided to supplement the availability of food supplies to Ohio families over the summer. The Summer Weekend Meal "Backpack" program (which provides weekend meals for children attending summer school), the Summer Rural Delivery Meals Program (which provided eligible families in rural communities with home-delivered meal boxes), and the Mobile Farmers Market Program (which provided fresh fruits and vegetables and popular protein items such as peanut butter to families in the Summer Weekend and Rural Delivery programs).

In FY 2022, \$12 million in Federal funding in Coronavirus Relief Support was provided through the CARES Act. \$6.1 million of this funding was used to purchase emergency food supplies to be distributed through Ohio's foodbanks network in the areas hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic and its fallout. Inclusion of this funding brings **total funding for all of Ohio's food programs in FY 2022 to \$33.3 million**. In addition to this amount, \$426,000 in CARES Act funding was used for non-food items to be distributed through Ohio's foodbanks along with \$5.5 million in one-time frontline responder operating costs that were funded through pass-through CARES dollars.

Not only do these programs play a vital role in providing much-needed support to Ohio families struggling with the impact of poverty and the continued slow recovery from the recession, but these programs also provide an additional benefit to the state in terms of supporting Ohio's agricultural sector. This report provides a summary of the economic impact of these programs on the state economy.

II. Direct Economic Impact of Ohio Food Support Programs

Table 1 on the following page provides an overview of expenditures, food purchased, and meals provided through each of the four Ohio food support programs in fiscal year 2022.

The data in Table 1 (provided by the Ohio Association of Foodbanks) summarizes the **direct economic impact** of the four food support programs in place in Ohio in FY22. 45.5 million pounds of food was purchased at a total cost of \$27 million – a roughly 48% increase compared to FY 2019 (the last year prior to the pandemic). This food is sufficient to provide 39.3 million meals to needy families through Ohio's network of foodbanks (note that based on calculations made by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1.20 lbs. of food is considered to constitute 1 meal). When storage, packing, distribution, and administrative costs are included, total food support program expenditures total over \$33.3 million in FY 2022. The direct economic impact of the food support programs includes the meals provided as well as the income received by the food producers, storage, packing and distribution providers, and administrators of the programs.

Table 1: Summary of Ohio Food Support Programs, FY 2022

Measure	FY 22 Ohio Food Program	FY22 Agricultural Clearance Program	FY22 Summer Meal & Food Programs	FY22 Coronavirus Relief Food Support	FY22 Total State Food Support Programs
Total Cost of Food Purchased	\$12,680,535	\$7,293,395	\$1,968,351	\$5,072,556*	\$27,014,837
Total Pounds of Food Purchased	14,018,132	25,848,055	1,032,500	4,625,839	45,524,526
# of Meals Provided	13,023,534	21,540,046	860,400	3,854,900	39,278,880
Storage, Packing & Distribution Costs	\$1,473,000	\$1,473,000	\$421,793	\$406,670	\$3,774,463
Administrative Costs	\$736,150	\$736,150	\$421,621	\$600,000	\$2,493,921
Total Program Costs	\$14,578,042	\$9,502,545	\$2,811,765	\$6,079,226	\$33,283,221

* Federal Coronavirus Relief Support also included **\$426,251 for non-food support items** distributed through Ohio's foodbanks network. In addition, the \$12 million In Federal Coronavirus Relief Support also included **\$5.5 million in one-time frontline responder operating costs** that were funded through pass-through CARES dollars.

III. Economic Multiplier Effects

In addition to direct impact, all economic activity also produces indirect and induced effects that are the result of "economic multiplier effects". Multiplier effects are the result of additional expenditures made by those who are suppliers for the food support programs, as well as from purchases made by those who derive income directly or indirectly from the food support programs in Ohio. For example, when a farmer purchases fertilizers for his crops from an Ohio crop nutrient supplier, this supplier will earn profits, make investments in his or her business, and hire employees. These types of effects are termed **indirect economic impact**. In addition, the supplier's employees in turn spend the money they have earned on other items in the local economy, providing additional economic impact, which is termed **induced economic impact**. Finally, the merchants whose goods are purchased by these employees also enjoy an increase in their income, which begins another round of economic "ripple effects".

The economic ripple effects created by the three Ohio food support programs can be measured by using standard economic multiplier models. Multiplier models allow researchers to compute the indirect and total economic impact resulting from a particular economic initiative or industry based upon the inputting of the initial data reflecting the direct economic benefits of the initiative or industry in question. This analysis uses the RIMS II Multiplier Model developed by the U.S.

Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). This model is based on national and regional economic data, which is periodically updated by the BEA. The RIMS II model is the most widely used model of its type in the country. The most current RIMS II multipliers available are based upon 2012 national data and 2020 regional data.

A. Agricultural Clearance Program

Table 2 provides a slightly more detailed overview of the direct economic impact of the Agricultural Clearance Program (ACP). The BEA economic multiplier model utilizes different multipliers for different categories of farm products. Table 2 also shows that 21.7 million pounds of the total 25.85 million pounds in produce purchased through the ACP was from Ohio farms in FY 2022 at an expenditure of \$6.1 million, which was 84% of the total \$7.3 million in ACP food purchases in FY 2022.

Table 2: Agricultural Clearance Program Total and Ohio-Sourced FY 2022 Fruit, Vegetable, and Other Food Purchases

Commodity	Total Pounds Purchased	Total Cost	Ohio Pounds Purchased*	Ohio ACP Cost*
Vegetables & Melons	22.15 million	\$5.75 million	18.6 million	\$4.8 million
Fruit & Berries, Eggs & Protein	3.70 million	\$1.55 million	3.1 million	\$1.3 million
Total	25.85 million	\$7.3 million	21.7 million	\$6.1 million

* Ohio Association of Foodbanks data shows that the ACP Ohio food purchase amount and cost estimated is 84% of total ACP expenditures.

The data in Tables 1 and 2 can be used with the RIMS II multiplier model in order to compute the total (direct + indirect) economic of the Agricultural Clearance Program on Ohio’s economy in FY 2022. In order to compute the economic impact, the economic multipliers will only be applied to the \$6.1 million in Ohio-based ACP purchases. Table 3 provides a summary of this impact, showing the direct and indirect economic impact on output in the state of Ohio as well as the income generated, and number of jobs created.

Table 3: FY 2022 Economic Impact of the Ohio Agricultural Clearance Program

Agricultural Clearance Program	Direct Economic Impact	Indirect Economic Impact	Total Economic Impact
Food Purchases			
Total Value of Output	\$7.3 Million		
Value of Ohio Output	\$6.1 Million	\$5.3 Million	\$11.4 Million
Income			\$3.2 Million
Employment			108 Jobs
Storage, Distribution & Administration			
Value of Output	\$2.2 million	\$2.6 million	\$4.8 million
Income			\$1.4 million
Employment			28 Jobs
Ag Clearance Total			
Value of Output	\$8.3 million	\$7.9 million	\$16.2 million
Income			\$4.6 million
Employment			136 Jobs

The data in Table 3 show that the \$6.1 million of direct food purchases from Ohio providers through the Agricultural Clearance Program in FY 2022 led to an additional \$5.3 million in output produced across the state, for a total increase in output of \$11.4 million. \$3.2 million in additional income was generated across the state, and 108 jobs were created. In addition, \$2.2 million of expenditures on storage, packing, distribution, and administration resulted in an additional \$2.5 million in output across the state, along with \$1.4 million in additional income and 28 additional jobs. In sum, in addition to providing 13 million meals to needy Ohioans in FY 2022, the Agricultural Clearance Program also added a total of **\$16.2 million in output** across Ohio, generated **\$4.6 million in income**, and led to the creation of **136 jobs**.

B. Ohio Food Program

Table 4 shows the results of applying the RIMS II economic multiplier models to the data in Table 1 relating to the Ohio Food Program. The multipliers for the BEA economic category “Community food, housing, and other relief services” were used to compute the economic impact of the Ohio Food Program as these commodities were not purchased from farmers, as is the case with the Agricultural Clearance Program. In addition, not all food purchased under the Ohio Food Program is from Ohio providers. FY 2022 Ohio Association of Foodbanks data showed that \$5,590,453 (44.1%) of OFP food purchases were from Ohio providers. Economic multiplier effects will be computed based on the Ohio-sourced purchases only. Note that the economic impact from storage, packing, distribution, and program administration activities was the same as in the ACP program. The economic impact of the Ohio Food Program in FY 2022 is shown in Table 4.

Table 4: FY 2022 Economic Impact of the Ohio Food Program

Ohio Food Program	Direct Economic Impact	Indirect Economic Impact	Total Economic Impact
Food Purchases			
Total Value of Output	\$12.7 Million		
Value of Ohio Output*	\$5.6 Million	\$7.3 Million	\$12.9 Million
Income			\$3.9 Million
Employment			126 Jobs
Storage, Distribution & Administration			
Value of Output	\$2.2 million	\$2.6 million	\$4.8 million
Income			\$1.4 million
Employment			28 Jobs
OH Food Program Total			
Value of Output	\$7.8 million	\$9.9 million	\$17.7 million
Income			\$5.3 million
Employment			154 Jobs

* The FY22 cost of \$5.6 million in OFP Ohio-sourced food purchases is based on data from the Ohio Association of Foodbanks.

The data in Table 4 show that the \$5.6 million of direct food purchases from Ohio providers through the Ohio Food Program in FY 2022 led to an additional \$7.3 million in output produced across the state, for a total increase in output of \$12.9 million. \$3.9 million in additional income was generated across the state, and 126 jobs were created. In addition, \$2.2 million of expenditures on storage, packing, distribution, and administration resulted in an additional \$2.6 million in output across the state, along with \$1.4 million in additional income and 28 additional jobs. In sum, in addition to providing 21.5 million meals to needy Ohioans in FY 2022, the Ohio Food Program added **\$17.7 million in output** across Ohio, generated **\$5.3 million in income**, and led to the creation of **154 jobs**.

C. Summer Food Assistance Programs

Table 5 shows the results of applying the RIMS II economic multiplier models to the data in Table 1 relating to the additional Summer Food Assistance Programs provided in FY 2022. These additional food programs include the Weekend, Rural Delivery, and Summer Farmer's Market programs. The analysis of these supplemental food assistance programs used the same multipliers as were used to estimate the impact of the Ohio Food Program. Note that because of pricing and supply chain issues in 2022 almost all of the \$1,968,351 in additional food assistance purchased for these programs were acquired from out-of-state suppliers. Economic multiplier effects are computed based on the Ohio-sourced purchases only, which for FY22 includes only the \$850,00 that was spent on packing & distribution and summer program administration.

The data in Table 5 show that because the vast majority of the \$2.0 million of direct food purchases from Ohio providers through the Summer Weekend, Rural Delivery and Farmer's Market programs in FY 2022 were not acquired through Ohio vendors, there was no direct or indirect economic impact beyond the alleviation of hunger provided by the food itself. However, when the \$850,000 in operational and program administration expenditures are included, the **FY 2022 Summer Weekend**,

Rural Delivery and Mobile Farmer's Market programs added a total of \$1.8 million in output across Ohio, generated \$0.6 million in income, and led to the creation of 10 jobs.

Table 5: FY 2022 Economic Impact of Summer Food Assistance Programs

Weekend, Rural Delivery, and Farmer's Market	Direct Economic Impact	Indirect Economic Impact	Total Economic Impact
Food Purchases			
Value of Output	\$2.0 Million		
Value of Ohio Output*	Negligible*	--	--
Income			--
Employment			--
Packaging, Distribution & Administration			
Value of Output	\$0.85 million	\$0.9 million	\$1.8 million
Income			\$0.6 million
Employment			10 Jobs
Summer Programs Total			
Value of Output	\$0.85 million	\$0.9 million	\$1.8 million
Income			\$0.6 million
Employment			10 Jobs

* Due to supply and pricing issues the vast majority of the \$2.0 million total for 2022 summer food program purchases was acquired from out-of-state vendors.

D. FY22 CARES Act Food Assistance Programs

Table 6 shows the results of applying the RIMS II economic multiplier models to the data in Table 1 relating to the FY 2022 CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Support program. \$6.5 million of this funding was used to purchase, pack and distribute emergency food and non-food supplies to be distributed through Ohio's foodbanks network in the areas hit hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic and its fallout. The analysis of the CARES Act food assistance programs used the same multipliers as were used to estimate the impact of the Ohio Food Program. A total of \$5,072,556 in additional food assistance and \$406,670 in non-food assistance was purchased with the CARES Act funding. However, again because of supply and pricing issues, the vast majority of this \$5.5 million in food and non-food items were acquired from out-of-state vendors. As a result, the economic multipliers will only be applied to the \$1,006,700 spent on packing & distribution CARES ACT food relief program administration. In addition, \$5.5 million in "one-time" salaries, benefits, equipment, maintenance and repairs, and indirect costs were incurred to administer the CARES Act relief program. These expenditures are also not included in the economic multiplier analysis summarized in Table 6.

The data in Table 6 show that when the direct and indirect economic impact of the \$1 million in operational and program administration expenditures are included, the *FY 2022 CARES Act Food Assistance programs added a total of \$2.1 million in output across Ohio, generated \$0.7 million in income, and led to the creation of 12 jobs.*

Table 6: FY 2022 Economic Impact of CARES Act Food Programs

All Ohio Food Assistance Programs	Direct Economic Impact	Indirect Economic Impact	Total Economic Impact
Food Purchases			
Value of Output	\$5.1 Million		
Values of Non-Food Output	\$0.4 Million		
Value of Ohio Output	Negligible*	--	--
Income			--
Employment			--
Transportation, Storage & Administration			
Value of Output	\$1.0 Million	\$1.1 Million	\$2.1 Million
Income			\$0.7 Million
Employment			12 Jobs
CARES Act Food Prog. Totals			
Value of Ohio Output	\$1.0 Million	\$1.1 Million	\$2.1 Million
Income			\$0.7 Million
Employment			12 Jobs

* Due to supply and pricing issues the vast majority of the \$5.5 million total for 2022 CARES Act food and Non-food assistance was acquired from out-of-state vendors.

E. FY 2022 Ohio Food Assistance Program Summary

Table 7 below shows the cumulative economic impact when all of the State's FY 2022 food assistance programs shown in Tables 3, 4, 5 and 6 are added together. Table 7 includes the Ohio-based purchases from:

- 1) The Agricultural Clearance Program
- 2) The Ohio Food Program
- 3) The Summer Weekend, Rural Delivery & Farmer's Market Programs
- 4) The CARES Act Emergency Food Purchases relating to the COVID-19 pandemic

The data in Table 7 show that the \$27.1 million of direct food purchases through the Agricultural Clearance Program, the Ohio Food Program, the Summer Weekend, Rural Food Delivery and Mobile Farmer's Market programs, and the Federal CARES ACT Food Relief program, in FY 2022 included \$11.7 million of food purchases made from Ohio providers. These Ohio-sourced food purchases led to an additional \$12.6 million in output produced across the state, for a total increase in output of \$24.3million. Additionally, \$7.1 million in additional income was generated across the state, and 234 jobs were created. When expenditures on storage, packing, distribution, and program administration are included, the FY 2022 Agricultural Clearance Program, Ohio Food Program, Summer Weekend, Rural Delivery, and Mobile Farmer's Market Programs and CARES Act funding added **\$37.8 million in output** across Ohio, generated **\$11.2 million in income**, and led to the

creation of **312 jobs**, in addition to the direct benefits of providing **39.3 million meals** to needy Ohioans.

Table 7: FY 2022 Total Economic Impact of All Ohio Food Assistance Programs

All Ohio Food Assistance Programs	Direct Economic Impact	Indirect Economic Impact	Total Economic Impact
Food Purchases			
Total Value of Output	\$27.1 Million		
Value of Ohio Output	\$11.7 Million	\$12.6 Million	\$24.3 Million
Income			\$7.1 Million
Employment			234 Jobs
Transportation, Storage & Administration			
Value of Output	\$6.3 Million	\$7.2 Million	\$13.5 Million
Income			\$4.1 Million
Employment			78 Jobs
Food Assistance Totals			
Total Value of Output	\$33.4 Million		
Value of Ohio Output	\$18.0 Million	\$19.8 Million	\$37.8 Million
Income			\$11.2 Million
Employment			312 Jobs