



# 2025 State Advocacy Agenda

The Des Moines Area Religious Council (DMARC) is an interfaith organization working together to meet basic human needs for the greater Des Moines community. The DMARC Food Pantry Network consists of 14 partner food pantries, mobile food pantry locations, and a home delivery program. In FY24 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024), over 70,000 unique individuals used the DMARC Food Pantry Network. DMARC strives to provide nutritious and culturally appropriate food to all who use a food pantry.

DMARC works to “shorten the line” at food pantries by advocating for effective policies that will reduce food insecurity, address root causes of poverty, and improve the lives of the people of Iowa.

## PRIMARY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

### Support Hunger-Fighting Organizations:

- Build on state investment in the Choose Iowa Food Purchasing Pilot Project to maximize the impact of the program.

### Protect and Enhance SNAP and Other Nutrition Programs:

- Ensure Iowa’s participation in Summer EBT in 2025.
- Increase access to SNAP by raising the income eligibility to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).
- Invest in the Double Up Food Bucks program.
- Expand access to free and reduced price school meals.
- Make efforts to improve participation in SNAP and other nutrition programs.
- Bolster SNAP’s benefit adequacy through a state-funded minimum benefit.

## SUPPORTING LEGISLATIVE STATEMENT

**DMARC supports programs that empower Iowans to lead healthy, self-sufficient lives by bridging gaps in opportunity and building stronger, more resilient communities.**

[dmarcunited.org/advocacy/](https://dmarcunited.org/advocacy/)

**Questions?** Contact DMARC Advocacy & Policy Manager Luke Elzinga at (515) 277-6969 x216 or [lelzinga@dmarcunited.org](mailto:lelzinga@dmarcunited.org).