



## ENGAGE IN ADVOCACY

You can help make a difference in your community by advocating for others. As we prepare for the 2026 legislative session, here are some ways to start thinking about your church's advocacy efforts in the new year.



Join the Great Plains Conference for a Week of Faithful Witness! Learn more at:  
<https://www.greatplainsumc.org/faithful-witness>



Mark your calendars for the 2026 Ecumenical Legislative Briefing Days at Christ UMC in Lincoln!  
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 14, 2026



Consider how your church might lead a letter campaign! Visit Bread for the World at  
<https://www.bread.org/offering-letters/#how-to> for helpful templates and best practices for coordination.



Learn about legislative bills related to hunger by visiting: <https://neappleseed.org/legislature#food>



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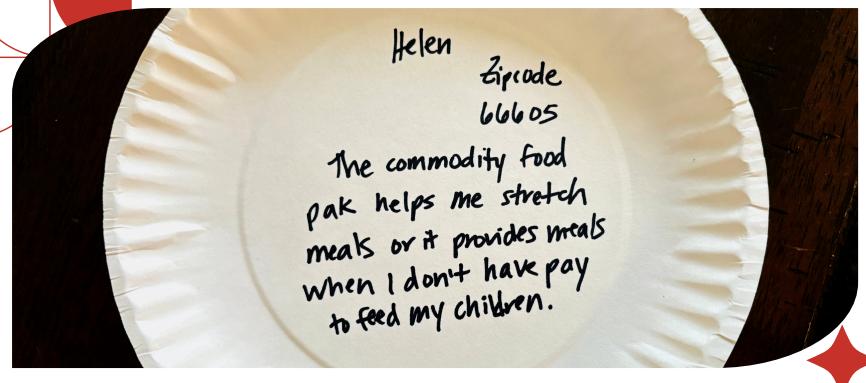
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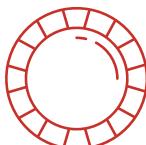


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## CALL TO ACTION

A paper plate campaign is an excellent way to gather powerful, personal messages about food insecurity in your community that can be shared with elected officials.



Purchase plain paper plates without any coating.



Decide how to implement your campaign. Consider those who are visiting food pantries, receiving meals or stopping by blessing boxes. The best time to collect stories is while they're waiting in line.



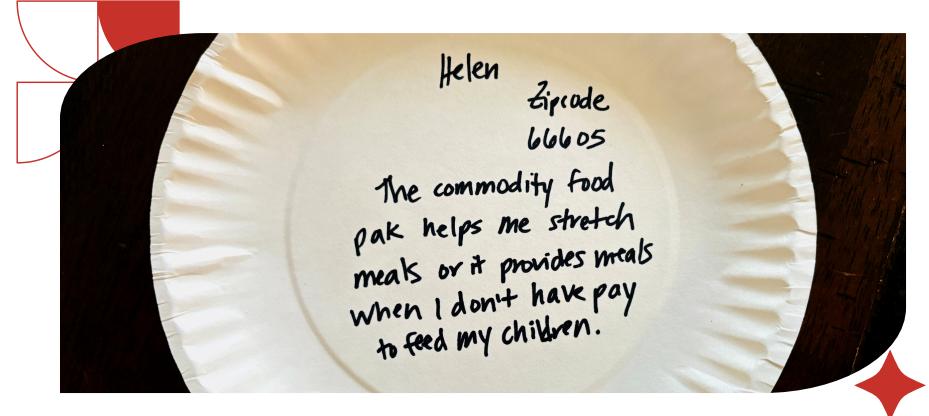
Decide what questions to ask, and keep them simple. Examples include: How is the food you receive important to you and your family? Why do you come to the food pantry/blessing box? What would you like elected officials to know about your family?



Ask the person to include their first name, age and ZIP code. That's useful for using the paper plate as a letter to send to elected officials.

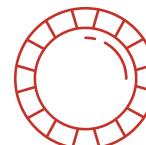


Use the plates as constituent letters and deliver them to local, state and federal elected officials.



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