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Populations, problems, and partners. Page 4-5
For many of us, our Jewish values and ideals have shaped us as committed advocates for social justice. As advocates, we are reminded daily that our work is not easy. We are also reminded daily that our work is imperative.

At MAZON we know that we can never foodbank our way out hunger. The scope of food insecurity is too large; the charitable response, too small. Food pantries and soup kitchens were not conceived to feed entire communities. They provide a vital short-term response, but they will never solve the systemic problem of hunger.

It is programs like SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, aka food stamps) that are our nation’s frontline defense against hunger. SNAP also happens to be at the foundation of MAZON’s advocacy work.

Who relies on SNAP? 45.7 million Americans used SNAP to put food on the table in 2015. Children, seniors and people with disabilities make up two-thirds of SNAP benefit recipients. About 90% of households live below the poverty line. Families like Jennifer’s, whose story we heard as part of our This Is Hunger initiative: “Thank goodness I get foodstamps. Otherwise, we wouldn’t eat. But we still run out of food by the last week of the month.”

With SNAP under threat, the families that struggle to put food on the table need our voices now more than ever.

So how can you help us advocate for SNAP and the millions of Americans who cannot feed their families without it?

Learn about SNAP so that you have a deeper understanding and knowledge of this indispensable program. (We published a new educational series at mazon.org/SNAPseries). Sign our petition at mazon.org/SNAP so that we can send a strong message to House Speaker Paul Ryan that SNAP is crucial. Prepare to mobilize when we need you - because we will need you.

We rely on you - your support, your voice - just as the families struggling rely on us. Together, we can transform how it is into how it should be.

L’shalom,

Shirley Davidoff
BOARD CHAIR

Abby J. Leibman
PRESIDENT & CEO
Our first-of-its-kind exhibit has been traveling around the country, educating the public on the reality of hunger and encouraging visitors to take action. By promoting change through education and advocacy, MAZON seeks to ensure that our communities and our policymakers understand and consider the needs of the millions of American men, women and children who struggle with hunger. The trailer has visited Los Angeles, Phoenix, Tucson, Dallas, Atlanta, Miami, Washington D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New Jersey, with many more stops to go.

As you can see here, we brought the trailer to Capitol Hill!

Members of Congress joined MAZON’s Board of Directors, staff, and supporters to celebrate This Is Hunger on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C.

(1 to r): Mia Hubbard, MAZON’s VP of Programs; Representative Jim McGovern (D-MA); Barbara Wahl Rasove, MAZON’s Board Treasurer; Steven Krikava, MAZON’s Chair of Government Affairs and Public Policy Committee

NEW TOUR STOPS!
Check thisishunger.org for the latest locations, dates and to reserve your free tickets!
WHO DOES OUR WORK TOUCH?

Inspired by Jewish values and ideals, MAZON is a leading voice in Washington D.C. on anti-hunger issues, especially those that involve populations or problems that have been previously overlooked or ignored. In addition to engaging in broad-based education and advocacy to protect and strengthen the vital federal nutrition programs, we focus our response to hunger through:

**GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY**

*We activate supporters and synagogues in organizing advocacy campaigns.*

We enlist our network to act through educational opportunities (like our newly-launched series on SNAP at mazon.org/SNAPseries) as well as organizing state-specific projects that tackle food insecurity issues in their communities.

**YOUTH**

*We engage the next generation of Jewish anti-hunger advocates through programs and educational opportunities.*

We offer a wide range of programming to youth, like our interactive workshops on hunger, justice and Jewish values at summer camps around the country, as well as new educational resources for grades K-12. Find resources at mazon.org/education

**CURRENTLY SERVING MILITARY AND VETERANS**

*Around the country, service members are showing up at food pantries on or near military bases, sometimes in uniform, looking for help to feed their families.*

We lead the national effort to address hunger among military families by testifying before Congress, holding Congressional briefings, organizing our Military Summit, and successfully urging the USDA and VA to prioritize veteran food insecurity.

**RURAL, REMOTE AND NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES**

*Hunger and poverty are more prevalent in rural America because these communities are often overlooked, under-supported and overburdened.*

We work to improve food security and health among these communities through policy work implemented jointly with Native advocates and tribal officials, and advocating on behalf of rural communities.
SENIORS
Hunger remains a growing crisis among America’s seniors. Over 10 million seniors face the threat of hunger, a rate that has doubled in recent years.

We break down barriers that keep older adults from accessing nutrition programs through our Solutions to Senior Hunger program and policy recommendations.

NUTRITION
Low-income families are disproportionately impacted by obesity, type-2 diabetes, heart disease and other diet-related, preventable diseases.

We endeavor to make healthy and nutritious foods more affordable and accessible to low-income families. We are collecting data on nutrition policies and practices within the charitable food system that will help direct public policy efforts.

ISRAEL
Food insecurity, though often a hidden problem in Israel, affects almost 1 in 5 Israelis.

We aim to deepen our expertise and widen both our perspective and strategic approach to hunger in Israel through the work of our new Israel Program Director.

GRANTMAKING
We support the advocacy work of organizations advancing long-term solutions to hunger in their communities.

We partner with an expansive network of anti-hunger organizations around the country and in Israel.

CAMPUS HUNGER
There are far too many college students without the resources they need to feed themselves.

We address student food insecurity through policy changes at the federal and state level by exploring opportunities to expand SNAP eligibility and participation among college students. We also created a research tool with partners Challah for Hunger so that students can explore what resources exist on their campuses.
You were focused on human rights. Why hunger now?

Working internationally clarified for me that hunger is a keystone issue that intersects with and fundamentally impacts so many other human rights issues. Nothing else is possible if a person is hungry: a child can’t study, an adult can’t train or properly work, a person’s health and wellbeing is in jeopardy. If we want to move forward on practically any other driver of physical, social, or economic well-being, we have to meet this need first.

What do you think people should know about MAZON?

I’m so excited about the leadership role MAZON plays in the anti-hunger movement. It’s not just that we build and lead coalitions to find innovative solutions to known hunger challenges - we go deeper, and search for communities whose needs have not yet been met or explored by the broader movement. Our ability to build trust with those vulnerable communities and work with them to find the appropriate solutions to the unique challenges they face is really powerful.

WE WELCOME NEW STAFF

Alexis Miller, Program Officer
Alexis Miller is the Program Officer for MAZON’s Grantmaking Department. She brings considerable experience in strategic philanthropy, issue advocacy, and political affairs, including three years as a program supervisor in the Florida Senate. She holds a B.A. degree from Florida State University in International Affairs & Russian, with a concentration in Political Science. She also studied at Moscow State University in Russia, completing intensive courses relating to Russian politics, culture, and language immersion. Alexis is currently pursuing an Masters of Public Policy at California State University Long Beach.

Samantha Cooke, Operations Assistant
Samantha Cooke joined MAZON late last year as the Operations Assistant. In this role, she supports operations activities, including human resources, bookkeeping and recordkeeping, as well as development related activities. Sam comes to MAZON with more than five years of administrative and nonprofit experience. She currently volunteers with Junior League Los Angeles and the LA Giving Circle. Sam has a B.S. in Communications and Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University.
GET INVOLVED!
We cannot do this work alone, nor will we succeed without your help. When you support MAZON, either by making a donation or by getting involved in one of our education and advocacy efforts, you join an extended family of people who are committed to protecting the most vulnerable among us. THANK YOU!

LEARN
Don’t miss our educational email series on SNAP which highlights the basics, the top myths, our government’s response and how we can end hunger together. Find the whole series at mazon.org/SNAPseries

ADVOCATE
Join us in urging House Speaker Paul Ryan to protect the SNAP program and the millions of Americans who cannot feed their families without it. SNAP is the nation’s most important anti-hunger program and a major pillar of the nation’s safety net. It lifts millions of people out of poverty - and the reforms likely to be introduced would dramatically increase hunger. Sign our petition at mazon.org/SNAP

STAY IN TOUCH
Sign up at mazon.org/email for our monthly eNewsletter and advocacy alerts to stay up to date on our activities!

LEAVE A LEGACY
Your greatest legacy can be to benefit the lives of others. Please consider lasting and ongoing support for MAZON through your estate or trust plan and become a member of the MAZON Legacy Society, a distinguished group of donors who have made a planned gift to fight hunger for those in need.

If you have already designated MAZON as a beneficiary, or for more information, please contact Amy Smith at asmith@mazon.org or by phone: (424) 208-7226.

GIVE A GIFT TODAY
Give a gift today by using the attached envelope, visiting mazon.org or by calling us at (800) 813-0557.

Thank you for your generous support!
BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR!
Help us minimize our expenses and fight for more hungry families.
Please call us at (800) 813-0557 to join our monthly giving program today!

WHO IS MAZON?
Inspired by Jewish values and ideals, MAZON is a national advocacy organization working to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds in the United States and Israel.

REACH US
mazon.org
(800) 813-0557
hello@mazon.org

JOIN US ON SOCIAL
@MAZONusa