

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Patrick Garofalo, President
Minnesota Grocers Association
(651) 228-0973
pgarofalo@mngrocers.com

Help Bag Hunger with a Trip to Your Local Grocery Store

Bag Hunger Campaign Joins Grocers, Vendors, Consumers, and Local Food Banks to Help Hungry Families Statewide

St. Paul, MN – October 22, 2024 – Since 2008, the Minnesota Grocers Association’s (MGA) hunger campaigns have provided over 44 million meals to families in Minnesota and have set a goal of raising 1 million meals for 2024. The MGA is encouraging consumers statewide to Bag Hunger in their neighborhoods by shopping at participating retailers during the 2024 Bag Hunger Campaign. All food and monetary contributions collected in-store will go to provide much-needed support to local food banks and shelves to benefit hungry Minnesota families.

The Bag Hunger Campaign is a three-way partnership with grocers, vendors, and consumers aimed at increasing donations to Minnesota food shelves. The MGA coordinates the program across the state and has over 300 retail participants and 11 vendor partners.

“Our grocers and vendor partners share consumers’ concerns for providing food and necessities to local families in need,” said Patrick Garofalo, President of the Minnesota Grocers Association. “The participating retailers are proud to bring the Bag Hunger Campaign to our communities, to help increase donations to their local food shelves, and to benefit area families.”

Grocers and vendor partners offer many ways for consumers to Bag Hunger in their communities including some of the following options:

- Food Drive – Buy items in the store and donate them to local food shelves;
- In-Store Promotions – Purchase specially marked items and vendor partners will donate an additional monetary amount to local food shelves; and
- “I Bagged Hunger” Icons – Customers may contribute to food shelves at the register and sign a grocery list icon that will be displayed prominently in the store.

Additionally, the MGA has a Reusable Bag Promotion. Through social media, customers can receive an MGA reusable bag by “tagging a friend and telling us which grocery store is your go-to and why”. Participate on Facebook and X @MNGrocers.

The Bag Hunger Campaign will be actively driving the program online and via social media. The MGA encourages consumers to support sponsoring companies and assist in a statewide fight to Bag Hunger by shopping for products identified by the Bag Hunger logo at their local grocers.

“According to the USDA, over 35 million Americans live in households that struggle against hunger,” said Patrick Garofalo. “By raising funds, increasing public support, and promoting local food shelf donations, the Minnesota food industry and consumers can make a difference in the fight to end hunger.”

The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) is the only state trade association that represents the food industry of Minnesota from farm to fork. We are one of the oldest trade associations in the state, celebrating over 125 years of advancing industry. We have over 300 retail, manufacturers, and wholesale members supporting nearly 1,300 locations statewide. Our member companies employ over 150,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

###