Brice and Nikki Mosher own and operate Infinity Microfarm in Missaukee County, Michigan, which works within a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) framework, bringing together a group of local people who support the farm’s work. The Mosher charge $20 per box of fresh fruits and vegetables. Thanks to a federal nutrition program called the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP), about half of the farm’s CSA shareholders also participate in the Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program, better known as SNAP. The SNAP participants pay only $5 of the $20 cost, with the rest covered by a GusNIP grantee. It’s a great deal for both the families that participate in SNAP and the Mosher.

Unfortunately, only a small fraction of the 41 million people who receive SNAP benefits have access to GusNIP incentives. Increasing U.S. government support for GusNIP in the Farm Bill will help ensure more families have access to fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables.

Every year, Bread for the World organizes churches, community organizations, and people of faith from across the country to write letters and emails to their members of Congress who have the power to impact the policies and programs that can end hunger.

By taking part in Bread for the World’s 2023 Offering of Letters in support of the Farm Bill, you will help support domestic nutrition programs like GusNIP and SNAP, as well as funding for critical international food assistance programs.
Join Bread for the World in pursuing a world without hunger. Please take a few minutes to write your members of Congress. Urge them to support reauthorization of a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems. Additional samples letters can be found in print and email format at ol.bread.org.

SAMPLE LETTER

[Date]

Rep. ____________________________
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator _____________,

The farm bill is our nation’s most important national food system legislation. It is critical to the work of ending hunger at home and abroad. Indeed, the farm bill impacts each one of us.

As Congress works to renew our food and farm programs through the farm bill, I urge you to support legislation that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Specifically, I ask you to:

• Increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables by increasing support for produce specific Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program (GusNIP), which provides resources on top of monthly SNAP benefits for a limited number of households to use towards the purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables primarily at farmers’ markets.
• Eliminate barriers to SNAP for marginalized populations. For example, end the ban on former drug offenders, eliminate work requirements for college students, and permit indigenous communities to administer SNAP and other federal nutrition programs on reservations.
• Keep food out of landfills by increasing support for post-harvest food recovery efforts and addressing the threat to food security posed by extreme weather.
• Support funding for international food aid programs such as Food for Peace.

As a person of faith, I am moved to help and advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty - no matter where they live. This is why I urge you to support a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Sincerely,

[Your name]
[Your address]

Sen. ________________
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative _____________,

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• Keep food out of landfills by increasing support for post-harvest food recovery efforts and addressing the threat to food security posed by extreme weather.
• Support funding for international food aid programs such as Food for Peace.

As a person of faith, I am moved to help and advocate for people experiencing hunger and poverty - no matter where they live. This is why I urge you to support a farm bill that builds healthy, equitable, and sustainable food systems.

Sincerely,

[Your name]
[Your address]