



**Testimony: General Welfare Committee of the New York City Council  
September 6, 2017**

My name is Terry Hubbard and I am a customer at the West Side Campaign Against Hunger, also known as (WSCAH). I would like to thank Councilmember Stephen Levin, Chair of the General Welfare Committee, for the opportunity to testify in **opposition to any and all cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Resolution**. I would also like to thank the City Council, and Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito, for fighting for New Yorkers like me, who are food insecure by increasing funding to the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and for expanding universal free school lunch in nearly all New York City public schools.

I became a WSCAH customer 6 years ago, and I have been volunteering at WSCAH for the last 4 years. I am SNAP recipient with a monthly allotment of \$\$\$; and although I live in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, I use access-a ride to travel to WSCAH all the way on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, because of their wide selection of fresh fruits and vegetables, which are important to my diet as a person living with diabetes and a survivor of breast cancer. While being able to access healthy food and comprehensive services from WSCAH is helpful, it cannot do the work of SNAP, which honestly, is barely sufficient.

I also come to you as a customer representative on the WSCAH Board of Directors. Like you, I was elected to represent people who depend on my advocacy, which in my case, are the nearly 9,000 households of WSCAH customers, some of whom are undocumented immigrants, from all over New York City. I hope you can appreciate the similarities in our roles, and understand why this fight is so critical. You've learned a little about my story today, but there are many others, who like me, depend on SNAP with their life!

The proposed White House budget cuts would devastate so many of the people who depend on SNAP. Emergency food providers are helpful, but they cannot possibly do what SNAP can to increase access to consistent and healthy meals. From one representative to another, I am equally invested in the fight to preserve SNAP as the first line of defense against hunger.

Once again, I would like to thank the City Council's General Welfare Committee for the opportunity to testify to **oppose any and all cuts to SNAP**.