

Social Justice at HSCC

HSCC has a long history of supporting social justice. The HSCC Executive Committee is made up of chairs or representatives of our major committees and meets quarterly or more if needed. The Committee is responsible for strategic planning and ensuring that all activities of HSCC are coordinated. At our March 18, 2025 meeting, a focus emerged around Social Justice at HSCC with the decision that we would identify one topic a month which HSCC has historically supported and provide current information to our congregation. For those who wish to make their voices heard on one or more of these topics there are many avenues. We will provide resources to all at our church and through the Hammond Streeter.

At our service on Sunday, March 23, 2025, the topic of food security was highlighted. As you know HSCC has long hosted the Ecumenical Food Pantry as well as providing meals for the Homeless Shelter, hosting our Free Bean Lunches and the Thanksgiving meal, and assisting with the Letter Carriers' Food Drive.

March 23, 2025, Social Justice Information:

This information affects many but in particular Food Pantries and Public Schools across the country.

On March 12, 2025, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) cancelled the program that helps food banks and schools source nutritious food from local producers.

Also, on that same day, a long-standing federal program that provides staple food products (such as rice, flour, oats, canned vegetables, canned beans, etc.) to food banks and schools announced that they will reduce monthly allocations by 50% to 65%.

March 21, 2025, a Director at the Good Shepard Food Bank confirmed that those decisions remain in effect.

Sample Message: (Write – blank postcards at HSCC, email, or call)

Dear ???:

I am writing with concerns about the USDA cancelling one program and significantly reducing another that helps food banks and public schools source fresh, nutritious food from local producers and reducing the staple food products to those entities.

I ask that you address this in the Senate, as well as with the USDA Secretary's Office and with the White House. These programs are critical to our friends and neighbors as well as our local farmers.

Rep Jared Golden
6 State St., Suite 101
Bangor, ME 04401
207-249-7400
golden.house.gov/address

Senator Susan Collins
202 Harlow St., Suite 20100
Bangor, ME 04401
207-945-0417
collins.senate.gov/contact

Senator Angus King
202 Harlow St. Suite 20350
Bangor, ME 04401
207-945-8000
king.senate.gov/contact

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500