

FOOD ACCESSIBILITY IN ND for SB 2345

In North Dakota, individuals and families continue to face challenges in accessing and in being able to afford food. Major efforts of many state and local partners were successfully implemented over the last 15 months. However, the crisis of food supply, distribution, cost, and equitable access/availability continues, and the need for a coordinated, targeted approach to address food and nutrition security in North Dakota can and should be strengthened.

1. Address food supply/distribution disruptions that are impacting all communities
 - Fund ways to develop community-based food aggregation delivery and distribution methods that integrate schools, groceries, food pantries, Meals on Wheels and other places that prepare and serve food with a network of resources. This should be a simple grant process to local, regional, or statewide groups. This should include purchase of food, necessary equipment such as refrigeration/freezer or distribution costs. The program should begin by Dec 1, 2021.
\$3,000,000

Draft amendment for 2345

To allocate for 3 million dollars for the purchase and distribution of food to essential services such as schools, nursing homes, meals on wheels, food pantries, rural grocery stores managed through the ND Department of Agriculture.

