MEDIA RELEASE

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PRESIDENT TRUMP'S BUDGET CUTS COULD BE DEVASTATING TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES

LITTLE ROCK, AR (March 13, 2019) – The Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance has grave concerns about the FY2020 budget proposed by President Donald Trump. Potential cuts to SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), child nutrition programs, and afterschool programs would be devastating to low income families. Combined with proposed cuts to other support programs, this budget will only increase the number of Americans who struggle with hunger and poverty.

"SNAP does what it is designed to do," according to Alliance ED Kathy Webb. "According to research provided by FRAC (Food Research and Action Center), we know that families on SNAP not only have improved food security, they have improved economic security, better health, and improved performance in school."

Cuts in SNAP, expanded work requirement for eligibility, and radical delivery changes will take food away from those who need it. Limiting the number of schools that qualify for CEP (Community Eligibility Program) will undo much of the progress made in Arkansas in providing school meals to kids who need them. "We know that red-tape barriers hurt low income families and their kids," said Webb. Additional budget proposals would cut Medicaid, housing supports, and greatly increase the disproportionate impact on people of color.

About Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance
Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, lead partner in Arkansas for the No Kid Hungry campaign, is a non-profit collaborative network of more than 440 hunger relief organizations across Arkansas. Our founding members include the Arkansas Foodbank in Little Rock, Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas in Jonesboro, Harvest Regional Food Bank in Texarkana, Food Bank of North Central Arkansas in Norfork, Northwest Arkansas Food Bank in Bethel Heights and River Valley Regional Food Bank in Fort Smith. The Alliance is dedicated to reducing hunger through direct relief, education and advocacy. We invite you to visit our website for details on hunger relief programs, donor and volunteer opportunities.

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