



# Administration

**TOMPKINS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Korsah Akumfi

**DEPUTY COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS**

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## **TOMPKINS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

### **EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2025-01**

**Date: 10/30/25**

**SUBJECT:** Emergency Expenditure to Support Food Banks During SNAP Benefit Suspension

#### **PURPOSE:**

To authorize the expenditure of funds for the purchase and distribution of food to Tompkins County residents impacted by the likely suspension of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits as a result of the federal government shutdown.

#### **AUTHORITY:**

Pursuant to **County Administrative Policy No. 06-07** and related emergency management provisions, the County Administrator may authorize emergency expenditures necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare in emergency circumstances.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

1. The ongoing federal government shutdown is expected to result in the suspension of SNAP benefits effective **November 1, 2025**, leaving many Tompkins County residents without critical food assistance.
2. According to the Department of Social Services (DSS), approximately **7,200 individuals** in Tompkins County currently receive SNAP benefits.
3. Local food banks and pantries have reported increased demand and anticipate further strain in the coming weeks. Immediate action is required to ensure access to essential nutrition for vulnerable populations.

#### **EMERGENCY ACTION:**

1. The County Administrator hereby authorizes an **emergency expenditure of up to \$50,000** from available contingency or emergency funds.
2. Funds may be used to:
  - Purchase staple food items sufficient to support impacted residents.
  - Engage the services of local food banks and community food programs to distribute purchased food.

*"Promoting excellence in County operations while respecting the needs of the people we serve."*

3. The expenditure shall be executed in coordination with County departments and community partners to ensure timely delivery to residents in need.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

This emergency expenditure is necessary to maintain public health and welfare during the suspension of SNAP benefits, providing immediate relief to families and individuals who would otherwise face food insecurity. The amount requested, up to **\$50,000**, is based on consultation with DSS and is sufficient to supply approximately **30,000–35,000 pounds of staple foods**, bridging the gap until federal benefits are restored or alternative relief measures are implemented.

**IMPLEMENTATION:**

The County Administration shall oversee the procurement and distribution process, coordinating with local food banks and relevant County agencies to ensure efficient and equitable delivery.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This emergency order shall take effect immediately upon issuance and remain in effect until the SNAP benefit suspension is resolved or until further notice.

**AUTHORIZED BY:**



**Korsah Akumfi**  
**County Administrator**