



Candidate Questionnaire

October 2018

Food Lifeline’s goal is to elevate the issue of hunger with candidates during the election cycle. Each candidate for state and federal office received our questionnaire. For every candidate that replied, their original responses are presented as submitted. See results at foodlifeline.org/advocacy.

Mark Hargrove	Candidate for Washington State House of Representatives, District 47, Position 1 (Covington)
If elected, what will you do to end hunger, alleviate poverty, and create opportunity in Washington state?	A recent University of Washington Study and other research show that government policies have driven up home prices by more than \$100 thousand and decreased supply, resulting in poverty and homelessness. I am pushing to reform these policies. Additionally, I am working to reduce property taxes which also add to the problem. I advocate for more innovation in education so parents can choose the best education for their children - their best tool to get out of poverty.
In Washington, 1 in 5 children experience food insecurity. What steps or legislative actions would you take to address child poverty and hunger?	In addition to my previous response, I recognize that our state's largest employer is small business. If those businesses thrive, the parents of these children are more likely to be employed and able to care for their children. I constantly advocate for policies that reduce the regulatory and tax burdens on these employers who pay the parents who feed the children. While we do need the excellent programs that treat the symptom of child hunger, these policy changes address the root causes.
Food insecurity is a major contributor to poor health and higher healthcare costs, what steps or legislative actions would you take to help food insecure people with chronic diseases, like diabetes, have access to nutritious food?	I appreciate the private sector organizations who step up to love and help their neighbors and will promote policies that better enable them to do this work. But, as in my previous answers, I constantly advocate for the policies that address the root cause by keeping people employed and in their own homes.

Please note that Food Lifeline is a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3) organization and is prohibited from participating or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.

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