



**GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH VOICES FOR JUSTICE**  
**ACTION ALERT – SUMMER 2014**  
**Feeding the Hungry – A Corporal Act of Mercy**

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**ISSUE:**

842 million people around the world go hungry every day, making every food-aid dollar count is both a responsible use of taxpayer money and a moral imperative.

**BACKGROUND:**

Bread for the World is a group of Christian voices urging our US decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. Their 2014 letter writing campaign focuses on smart, simple reforms that can make U.S. food-aid policies more effective in helping people during crisis and in fostering long-term solutions to hunger. They are asking for more food purchases in or near the countries where it is needed. This would support local farmers and improve their lives. It would also reduce the shipping costs from U.S. shores.



**CATHOLIC CONNECTION:**

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. (Source: Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching. [USCCB website.](#))

**ACTION:**

Write to your members of Congress. Urge them to enact much needed reform to U.S. food aid. If you can connect to the internet, you can [click here.](#)

If you are not online, or wish to call or write, on the back of this page is a sample letter and contact information.



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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

<b>Rep. Sensenbrenner</b> 2449 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-4905 Phone: 202-225-5101	<b>Senator Baldwin</b> 717 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-5653	<b>Senator Johnson</b> 386 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-5323
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**SAMPLE LETTER**

Dear ( Senator Johnson ) ( Senator Baldwin) ( Congressman Sensenbrenner)

U.S. Food-aid policies can be more effective in helping people in times of crisis and in fostering long term solutions to hunger. Please improve efficiency by:

1. Allowing more food purchases in or near the country where it is needed. This would support local farmers and save the transportation costs of sending American- grown food.
2. Enhancing the nutritional quality of food aid and better target it to vulnerable populations.
3. Protecting the funding for emergency and development food aid.

These critical reforms can benefit an additional 17 million people while making sure U.S. tax dollars are used wisely. The U.S. can make these programs work better for hungry people.

Sincerely,

(your name, address, city, state, zip code)



Information for this Action Alert provided by:  
Good Shepherd parish member Carol Harder and  
Bread for the World [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)