



# FRESH NEWS



Longmont, Colorado

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## Can Spring Start, Please?

In the heart of the vast plains, our urban garden sits among the weather that Coloradans grow accustomed to, with its drastic and daily temperature changes. Leaving the house? We wear layers for the blizzard outside, including a t-shirt or long-sleeved shirt when it gets warm mid-afternoon. No one loves it more than people that adore Winter sports, but what about those that are close to, or have already lost it all? What is the solution? Did you miss the January issue? Click [\*\*here!\*\*](#)

The Round Urban Garden is now ordering the seeds, plants, and trees for our Spring expansion, but what does this *really* mean? The food insecurity due to equity and distribution that Longmont faces is a chronic issue that affects families with

## Come as You Are

Are you retired, have young family members, or do you have a stressful job? PTSD? **You're not alone.** Come as you are and join us in the garden! We could always use extra hands. If interested, or you want to know more information, contact Jennifer Smith at the following: roundurbangarden@gmail.com.

## Your Donations

Thanks to your donations, the beginning of the orchard will be planted next month! In continuation of the garden boxes already in place, they too will be optimized and expanded upon to increase our monthly food production.

## Help Us Continue Building!

We are a garden that is completely funded by donations and supported by volunteers. Please consider supporting equitable food distribution by visiting our [Amazon Wish List](#).

children and the Latino population under the poverty line, and it continues to get worse. It will continue to get worse with the decisions of the new Administration, discussed below. The Round Urban Garden is one of a large handful of gardens in Longmont that will always work to help the issue.

## Where To Grow from Here

In affiliation with [Nourish Colorado](#), the following information is from their weekly "**Rooted in Action**" updates, specifically the week of February 10th on the federal actions and decisions, as well as actions you can take! **Knowledge is always power.**

### “Federal Level

#### WASHINGTON, DC UPDATE

The Nourish Colorado staff has been in Washington, DC this week meeting with a federal delegation. We've learned the following.

1. Legislators are not hearing a lot of concern regarding food access. See action item #1 below.
2. Legislators NEED to keep hearing loud and clear how powerful these federal programs are in communities. See action item #2 below.

***Item #1: URGENT: Call your senators and representatives to oppose cuts to SNAP and Medicaid***

#### What happened?

Last Friday, Senate Republican leaders [released a budget plan](#) that intends to increase border control, homeland security & military spending.

## **Where To *Grow* from Here (Continued...)**

### **Why does this matter?**

Budget resolutions could put Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and possibly other programs, at risk.

### **What can I do about it?**

- Contact Senator Bennett to oppose cuts to SNAP, NOW!
- Keep contacting House Representatives Evans, Crank & Hurd to oppose potential cuts to SNAP & Medicaid.
- Three things you can do right now to protect SNAP

### **Where can I go for more information?**

- Center on Budget and Policy Priorities statement on the budget resolution

### ***Item #2: Share stories of the power of federal investment in community***

### **Why does this matter?**

**Legislators are not thinking of the people who rely on federal programs that budget cuts will ultimately affect.**

### **What can I do about it?**

- Share your story about how federal programs have affected you and your community, and what it would look like if those programs are taken away. We are going to share a new story every week and tag our electives.
- Forward this form to someone who might have a story to share.

## Where To *Grow* from Here (Continued...)

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### State Level

#### ***Item #1: Bill of Interest - Prohibiting Price Gouging in Sales of Necessities***

##### **What happened?**

HB25-1010 was introduced on January 8, 2025. **The bill adds price gouging of necessities as an unfair and unconscionable act under Colorado's consumer protection laws.**

##### **Why does this matter?**

- This bill would protect the general public in Colorado from an unfair price increase in “necessities” such as goods or services that are necessary for health, safety, and welfare.
- The bill adds, that engaging in price gouging in the sale of necessities is an unfair act and creates a presumption that if the price of a necessity is increased by 10% or more above the average price that the necessity cost during the 90 days preceding the price increase, the price increase amounts to price gouging.

##### **What can I do about it?**

Track HB25-1010, and be on the lookout for future action items from us.

##### **Where can I go for more information?**

Summary of HB25-1010

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### Following Up

Last week, Nourish Colorado shared concerns on how the federal funding freeze could affect Local Food for Schools funding. We are excited to share that the USDA has issued an official Request for Proposal from states to establish cooperative agreements with the USDA so that funds may be disbursed. Colorado will be receiving an estimated \$5.9 million in funding to support the purchasing of local foods for K-12 and ECE institutions!

## Where To *Grow* from Here (Continued...)

### What else can I do?

- Contact [policyintern@nourishcolorado.org](mailto:policyintern@nourishcolorado.org) if you need more info or want to make suggestions.
- Start building relationships with Colorado's [three new Republican Representatives](#): Jeff Hurd in District 3, Jeff Crank for District 5, and Gabe Evans for District 8.
- Find Colorado State Representatives & Senators to contact [here](#), and Federal Representatives & Senators to contact [here](#).
- Follow our [state bill tracker](#).
- Check out the [resources we use to stay up to date on state and federal policy](#).
- Catch up on [previous "Rooted in Action"](#) alerts.
- Share the "[Rooted in Action](#)" [sign-up form](#) with folks that might be interested." (Nourish Colorado — "Rooted in Action," February 10, 2025 update)

## BE A PART OF THE GARDEN'S LEGACY.

**We are incredibly grateful you have joined us on this journey!**

