

2021 Diocesan Public Policy Initiative – Feeding the Hungry and Supporting Farmers

The COVID-19 pandemic has focused a spotlight on two vulnerable groups in New York State: farmers and our neighbors who are food insecure – many are newly hungry due to job losses caused by the pandemic. NOURISH NEW YORK is a New York State initiative that provides a lifeline for food insecure families and for farmers who have been struggling with changes brought on by COVID-19. To date, through NOURISH NEW YORK, 4,152 New York farms have provided over 17 Million pounds of high-quality New York produced food to New Yorkers in-need. The impact of the pandemic has grown but, unfortunately, funding for the NOURISH NEW YORK initiative ended December 31, 2020.

This year, the Diocesan Public Policy initiative is calling on New York State leaders to provide \$50 million for state fiscal year 2021-22 to make NOURISH NEW YORK an ongoing program to respond to the need for hunger relief and farm survival across New York State.

On-line Petition can be found at: www.dor.org/Petition.

Hard copy petition will be in the Bulletin February 7. You will need to print it out and send it in.