

# **MAKE HUNGER HISTORY.**

The Make Hunger History Coalition represents over 200 organizations and over 750 individual members. Together, we imagine a Massachusetts where no family goes hungry, where every child has access to nourishing food, and where hunger is a thing of the past. This vision is within our reach, and Massachusetts is poised to lead the nation in ending food insecurity once and for all.

We believe our State Legislature plays a key role. As such, we solicited all who were not unopposed to answer the following questions.

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Name:</b>            | Sarah Wilkinson                                                              |
| <b>Party:</b>           | Democratic                                                                   |
| <b>District:</b>        | 5th Essex                                                                    |
| <b>Position Sought:</b> | State Representative                                                         |
| <b>Website:</b>         | <a href="http://www.wilkinsonforcapeann.com">www.wilkinsonforcapeann.com</a> |

What is your connection to or experience with hunger, food security, federal nutrition programs, or the food system, if any?

Candidate Answer: *I was on the Board of Selectman in Rockport for 18 years - so I dealt with residents with food insecurity*

What do you believe is the role of the state government in ensuring everyone in our state has enough to eat and reducing the demand for emergency food resources?

Candidate Answer: *One of the absolute biggest priorities of State government*

What should the Commonwealth do to ensure robust access to effective anti-hunger programs such as SNAP?

Candidate Answer: *AUDIT these programs*

As a member of the Massachusetts legislature, would you advocate for state funds to hire the staff necessary to ensure every eligible low-income resident successfully accesses federally-funded nutrition benefits?

Candidate Answer: *YES*

While hunger is a statewide issue that impacts a variety of demographics, certain populations experience it at disproportionately higher rates. For example, Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, immigrants, members of LGBTQ+ community, and people with disabilities experience hunger at disproportionately higher rates.

What do you believe are the primary factors driving these disparities, and what can government do to reduce them?

Candidate Answer: *access to resources, the government can work to focus these resources on these areas*

What else would you like to share about your plans to address food insecurity and its root causes?

Candidate Answer: *I will PARTNER with the city and towns in my district and our food pantry to get them the resources they need and get the resources to our residents*