

MY

Who faces hunger in Arizona?

STORY

My name is Amber Barbee. I am a married mother of three, and I live in Globe. I've lived here since I was a teenager. My husband works full-time as a line cook, and we barely make ends meet after we pay rent, bills, and the car payment.

My children are eleven, seven, and one. My seven-year-old has Attention Deficit Disorder and is on Social Security Disability. I applied for SNAP and our family receives \$16 a month. I'm not sure why we only get \$16, but I think it's because my daughter's disability check is counted as income.

The \$16 in SNAP we receive each month is not enough to feed my family. I go without and only eat one meal a day, which isn't good for my health because I have diabetes. My mom helps us out with food when she can, and I go to the food bank every week. The people at the food bank are very nice, they understand my situation. I also cut back on things like shampoo, soap, and cleaning supplies. I am doing my best to feed my family.

My children come to the Globe Public Library every weekday for the summer lunch program. It helps. The kids enjoy the meals. The food is healthy, and it takes some of the worry away for me.

If I could change the SNAP program, I'd ask for a better explanation of why we receive the minimum amount each month. My husband works a low-wage job, and we are trying hard.



Amber Barbee
Globe, Arizona