

MY

Who faces hunger in Arizona?

STORY

I am a single mother of a four-year old and a full-time nursing student at Cochise College. I live in Pirtleville, a remote community in southern Arizona, near the border.

I currently do not work because I am a full-time student, dedicated to accomplishing my goal of earning an Associate's degree in nursing. I am eligible for SNAP and receive \$357 for my daughter and myself. It is helping me get through college. I will be graduating in May 2019, taking my nursing exam and I hope to relocate to Phoenix, where there are more job opportunities in my field.



Priscilla
Pirtleville, Arizona

Living in a remote area of southern Arizona means there is a long commute to get anywhere. I got into the nursing program through Arizona@Work, and I share transportation to Cochise College with four other nursing students. Our drive to school is over an hour long. We also spend lots of time on the road going to clinical sites. Arizona@Work pays for my tuition and a small transportation stipend, but otherwise, I have no income.

We live with my mom, and I supplement my SNAP by going to the food pantry, where I can pick up fresh fruits and vegetables. This really helps. Next year, after I earn my degree and start working, I will no longer need to be on SNAP. But that's exactly how the program is supposed to work, right? It helps people when they need it the most.