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**Grace Meng**

**Congress of the United States**

**Sixth District, New York**

**March 21, 2025**

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Noem:

I am writing to bring to your attention that numerous organizations serving New York's Sixth Congressional District and the greater New York City area have not received the payments they are entitled to under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Emergency Food and Shelter Program. This program supports organizations that feed, shelter, and provide lifesaving assistance to people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness and hunger.

You stated your department is conducting reviews of "all grants to non-governmental organizations."<sup>1</sup> These organizations, however, have received little to no communication from your department regarding the purpose or timeline of the reviews, or the duration of the payment pauses. Meanwhile, the need for the food assistance they provide is urgent and ongoing.

I urge your department to restore these payments immediately so that food pantries can continue offering essential services that many of my constituents and countless individuals throughout the United States rely on. It is simply unacceptable for Americans to go hungry while waiting for your department to conduct these so-called reviews.

Sincerely,

Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

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<sup>1</sup> Gomez, G. (2025, March 18). *NYC's food pantries and soup kitchens await federal funds*. PIX11. <https://pix11.com/news/local-news/nycs-food-pantries-and-soup-kitchens-await-federal-funds/>