

EAST BAY TIMES

East Bay Times reader letters to the editor for Aug. 14, 2026

Let's boost support for fighting poverty

Re: "[Cuts to USAID cost many lives as records show](#)" (Page A10, July 12) and "[Drop in WIC use is warning sign, not a success](#)" (Page A6, Aug. 11).

As a volunteer anti-poverty lobbyist in [RESULTS](#) since the mid-1980s, I am encouraged by two recent opinion pieces the East Bay Times published.

Nicholas D. Kristof always hits the mark on life-saving USAID health, nutrition and vaccination programs. As Teon Hayes said in an opinion column, children (and families) are still hungry as Republican senators seek to cut SNAP. During COVID, SNAP benefits increased, which cut child hunger in half. Those gains have gone away. My congresswoman, Lateefah Simon, fights for such programs, and I thank her and all the Bay Area members of Congress who continue to do so.

To your readers who live in Republican districts, please let your members of Congress and senators know you support such programs. Thank them when they act to save lives and promote sustainable incomes.

Susan Oehser *Oakland*