We need a fully funded Canada Disability Benefit. Now.

It's time to address food insecurity and poverty in Canada.

Canadians are facing an affordability crisis. People with disabilities are disproportionately impacted — they are twice as likely to be living in poverty as those without disabilities.

One in seven people who access food banks in Canada rely on provincial disability income supports. Can you imagine trying to live a life of dignity on an average of \$1,500 or less per month?

Food is a human right. Yet people with disabilities are regularly forced to choose between their most basic necessities, like rent, transportation, medication, and food. This has to change.

Parliament unanimously passed Bill C-22: the Canada Disability Benefit Act, which commits the federal government to creating a new income support to reduce poverty among low-income, working-age Canadians with disabilities.

Now, the government needs to work with the disability community to co-design a robust Canada Disability Benefit in Federal Budget 2024. The benefit must:

- · Be **fully funded** to lift people with disabilities out of poverty
- · Be barrier-free and inclusive of people with all types of disabilities
- · Supplement existing disability supports and be safe from all clawbacks

We have to do this right — right now — to support the nearly one million working-age people with disabilities living in poverty in Canada.

Canadians with disabilities can't afford to wait, and neither can our country.

Sincerely,

Neil Hetherington Daily Bread Food Bank This letter is co-signed by a national coalition:

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