

LETTER TO MDHHS – REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT SNAP BENEFITS

Jacob Palasek
1628 Canterbury Trail, Apt 10-O
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
(989) 824-8945
palasekj@compudocgr.net

3/6/2026

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

Isabella County Office – Food Assistance Program

Subject: Request for Replacement SNAP Benefits Due to Food Loss Caused by Unsafe Refrigerator

Dear MDHHS,

I am writing to request **replacement SNAP benefits** due to verified food loss caused by an **unsafe and non-functional refrigerator** in my rental unit. I am a current SNAP recipient, and **all food lost was purchased using my Michigan food stamps.**

My landlord failed to provide a refrigerator capable of maintaining safe temperatures, which caused the food I purchased with SNAP benefits to spoil. This refrigerator has been unable to keep temperatures within the USDA-required safe range of **34°F–39°F**. I have documented temperature logs and photographs showing prolonged unsafe temperatures.

Total Food Loss:

- **Full total loss:** \$220.76 in SNAP-purchased food
- **Loss within the last 10 days (MDHHS replacement window): \$185.53**

I understand that MDHHS can only replace food purchased within the **past 10 days**, which is why I am requesting replacement for the documented amount of **\$185.53**.

Cause of Food Loss:

The refrigerator in my unit has remained unsafe despite repeated notifications to my landlord. The landlord refused to repair or replace it and knowingly left me without a safe, working refrigerator for extended periods. This failure is beyond my control and directly caused the loss of the food I bought with my SNAP benefits.

Documentation Available:

I am including temperature charts and can provide photo documentation of thermometer readings showing the unsafe temperatures:

- Photos of original refrigerator temperatures:
<https://cae.compudocgr.com/refrigerator/photos-temps-original/>
- Photos of replacement refrigerator temperatures:
<https://cae.compudocgr.com/refrigerator/photos-temps-replacement/>

I am also able to submit copies of my food purchase receipts and a detailed list of spoiled items upon request.

Requested Action:

Please process a **replacement SNAP issuance** in the amount of **\$185.53** for my lost food due to appliance failure, as allowed under SNAP replacement policy for food spoiled because of equipment malfunction or disaster beyond the household's control.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Please notify me if you require additional documentation.

NOTE: I notified the party responsible, the property manager of Canterbury Apartments East, three separate times beginning 2/21/2026, and again after that date. They did not respond, did not repair, and did not replace the refrigerator.

Property Manager Contact for Verification:

Canterbury Apartments East
1517 Canterbury Trail
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858
Phone: (989) 772-1954
Email: canterbury@livemillennia.com

Sincerely,

Jacob Palasek