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## Letter: Come to the table

Letter

December 20, 2012

To the editor:

Rep. Todd Young, I urge you to pass a budget deal that includes a circle of protection around programs for hungry and poor people in the United States and around the world. I am concerned that Congress is not talking about the need to protect the hungry and poor people as a priority of this deal.

Of course, the budget needs balancing, but please do not do it on the backs of the poor. Programs like poverty-focused development assistance, international food aid, WIC and SNAP are vital programs to the least of our sisters and brothers, and especially their children.

These programs, often misunderstood and considered low-hanging fruit, are constant targets for cuts even though they represent a very small fraction of the federal budget. Please, ensure that your vote does not contribute to the hardship of those least able to bear the burden for a deficit that they did not create.

Over and over again, Jesus welcomed those who were hungry to the table. I'm sure even he faced difficult finances, but he always welcomed the hungry to the table, and he commanded us to feed the least of our sisters and brothers.

SAM TROXAL, Bloomington