

## Spending choices reflect our morality

Thanks to The Star for the Aug. 30 editorial, "Reach out to feed the children," highlighting the growing hunger problem in the U.S. and the need for strong federal aid programs, as well as help from the private sector. I am concerned that, in spite of the latest study which details an alarm-

---

---

ing situation, there are those in this divisive political climate who want to cut anything and everything without regard to the consequences. Programs that support hungry people, particularly children and the elderly, are needed more than ever in this economy.

Although we spend only a small fraction of our budget on these programs, their impact is immense. It makes no sense to balance the budget on the backs of the most vulnerable people. There are unavoidable choices to be made about balancing the budget. These are economic and political but also moral choices. Programs that meet basic human needs and protect lives are a part of the fabric of America and what makes it great.

**Marge Galbraith**  
*Indianapolis*