

Hunger and Arizona in 2010

Presentation to
National Conference of State Legislatures
Fall Forum
Phoenix, AZ
December 9, 2010



Agenda

- What is the hunger scene in Arizona and beyond
- Public and private response & capacity
- Effective outreach models
- Trends and Opportunities



Hunger – what it does...

In children

In families

In seniors



Arizona's Food Insecurity Rates

Food insecurity means a person is not able to acquire the food they need to live an active and healthy life using their own resources at the time they need food, and in the way they want it.

Food Insecure of Arizona's Total Population

2004-2006 12%

2005-2008 14% ↓

2006-2009 13% ↑ (US rate 14.5%)



Food insecurity for AZ Children

- 2005-2007 = 20% (1 in 5)
- 2006-2008 = 24.2% (1 in 4) (US rate 23.2%)

Arizona child food insecurity rate is
3rd worst in the USA!



Who's most at risk of hunger?

- Children
- Disabled & ill
- Seniors
- Female headed households
- Homeless
- Minorities
- Women
- Rural households
- Uneducated
- Persons with mental illness
- Resource poor
- Unemployed – 99'ers
- Underemployed



AZ Emergency Food Household Profile 2009

- White (non-Hispanic) - 4 in 10
- Hispanic – 5 in 10
- Citizens - 8 in 10
- Have children under 18 - 5 in 10
- Have one or more employed – 4 in 10
- In poor health - 3 in 10



Who regularly have to choose to...

- Pay rent
- Buy Rx's
- Pay utilities
- Pay for car/transport
- Pay medical bills

OR BUY FOOD!



Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs in AZ in 2010

- SNAP ↑ 24% reaching 82% of eligible
- School Lunch ↑ 5% reaching 99% of eligible
- School Breakfast ↑ 13%
- Food Distribution on Indian Reservations ↑ 4.9%
- TEFAP Commodities ↑ 19.7%
- WIC ↓ 2.2% reaching 54% of eligible
- WIC Farmers Mkt ↓ 34.6%
- Summer Food ↓ 10.5% (worst in US)
- Child Care Food =
- Sr. Farmers Market ↓ Eliminated
- Commodity Supplemental Food Program ↓ 1.5%

AZ Food Banks and their network

- 134.5 million lbs distributed 2009-10
- 1,700 agencies statewide
- 40% of agencies are faith- based programs
- 1 million plus emergency food boxes/yr
- Food Banks meeting 61.2% of AZ hunger gap
- Distribution double what it was in 2007-08!



Models that work...

- Coordination and cooperation – public & private sectors together
- Electronic applications – SNAP, School Meals
- Outreach and application assistance through faith-based organizations
- Food banks as outreach and application sites
- Fresh produce programs – gleaning and acquisition/distribution



Concerns

- State and federal budget deficits
- Donor fatigue
- Lagging economic recovery
- Rising poverty rates – AZ 2nd highest in US – 16.9%
- Healthy Hunger-Free Children Act repair and implementation
- Farm Bill 2012 reauthorization



Trends and Opportunities

- Public support to end hunger by 2015 (Hart Research Associates 12/7/10)
- Faith-based organizations receptiveness
- New poor expectations not unreasonable
- Web-based Single or combined applications
- Customer Service and responsiveness
- Access regardless of geography, age, ability



Connect

- Know how hunger impacts your district
- Know state administrators of federal programs
- NCSL website on Anti-Hunger Initiative
- FRAC Food Hardship study and data
- Feeding America growing bank of data – new release in January 2011
- Visit local food bank or charities aiding hungry people, ask how you can help



Thank you for your attention!

Ginny Hildebrand

President/CEO

Association of Arizona Food Banks

602-528-3434

ghildebrand@azfoodbanks.org

www.azfoodbanks.org

