



NCSL FOUNDATION

For State Legislatures

Hunger Partnership



Farm-to-School: Hunger Partners conducted a site visit to the Ventura Unified School District and the Hansen Trust Agricultural Center for school lunch, their cooking demonstration and nutrition education classes, and a visit to the school garden and the farm that provides fresh vegetables to the school district. January, 2013.

***Bringing
Public-Private
partners together
to find hunger
solutions***

NCSL Hunger Partnership

NCSL Policy on Hunger

NCSL strongly supports the state/federal partnership to provide nutrition assistance to those in need. State legislators are concerned about the vast numbers of hungry persons. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly the Food Stamps Program), Emergency Food Assistance, WIC and Child Nutrition programs alleviate and prevent hunger and enable families to improve their health and be more productive at school and at work.

Hunger Partnership Overview

The NCSL Foundation for State Legislatures launched the Hunger Partnership to raise the visibility of hunger in America and highlight innovative and lasting solutions. The goal of the project is to connect the public and private sectors to improve the availability of healthy food for hungry families.

The Hunger Partnership links legislators, legislative staff and interested businesses to identify innovative and successful programs and develop bipartisan, balanced and concise materials and mechanisms to support legislators in their efforts to reduce hunger in America.

Public-Private Partnerships

Private and non-profit sectors commit significant resources to addressing hunger in America, leveraging federal programs and enlisting their employees, customers and clients to improve the availability and accessibility of affordable, healthy food for those who need assistance.



Georgia State Senator Renee Unterman interviewing the Atlanta Community Food Bank Executive Director. March, 2011.

"The research made available by the NCSL Hunger Partnership was quite helpful in crafting SB 663 Creating WV Feed to Achieve Act," said West Virginia Senate Majority Leader John Unger, D-WV, "It enabled our Special Select Committee on Children and Poverty to incorporate into our thinking the best innovative ideas being discussed nationally."

In addition to being the Senate Majority Leader, Senator John Unger serves as the Chairman of the Special Select Committee on Children and Poverty. He also was recently named one of twenty-five NCSL's Early Learning Fellows.

Why is this important?

The number of people in the United States who had difficulty putting food on the table has grown by more than five million since 2007. Seventeen million households, or one in seven were food insecure at some point in 2010. The prevalence of food insecurity is at its highest level since 1995, when the first national food security survey was conducted. Despite record high rates of food insecurity, academics, advocates and policymakers insist that hunger is a solvable problem.

Innovative public-private partnerships to address hunger

These are some of many programs that involve partnerships among multiple organizations and state-level support.

- **SNAP Partnerships**
 - Arkansas | SNAP Outreach to Newly Eligible Families, Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance.
www.arhungeralliance.org
 - Ohio | Making Dinner a SNAP, District 5 Area Agency on Aging.
www.aaa5ohio.org/snap.asp
- **Child Nutrition Partnerships**
 - Connecticut | Breakfast in the Classroom, New Britain School District. www.endhungerct.org
 - Georgia | Farm to School Program, City Schools of Decatur.
www.decaturfarmtoschool.org
- **Food Distribution Partnerships**
 - North Carolina | Backpack Buddies Program, Inter-Faith Food Shuttle.
www.foodshuttle.org
 - Rhode Island | Raising the Bar on Nutrition, RI Community Food Bank.
www.rifoodbank.org
- **Healthy Food Access Partnerships**
 - Massachusetts | Farmer's Market EBT and Incentive Programs, Department of Agricultural Resources.
<http://wholesomewave.org/dvcp/>
 - Pennsylvania | Healthy Corner Store Initiative, The Food Trust.
www.thefoodtrust.org

Pennsylvania State Representative Evans speaks to students at De Anza Middle School in Ventura, California about their farm-to-school salad bar and their school curriculum that integrates nutrition education, gardening, and cooking. January, 2013.



Publications

- Bringing Legislators to the Table: Addressing Hunger through Public-Private Partnerships
- A Guide to the School Breakfast Program
- Public-Private Partnerships in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- How to Address Hunger in Your Community: A Checklist for State Legislators
- [Webinar] Ensuring Program Integrity and Efficiency in Nutrition Assistance Programs
- [Webinar] Food for Learning: Public Private Partnerships in the School Breakfast Program
- Feeding People, Not Landfills: Why Reducing Food Waste Matters

Hunger Partnership Members

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Real Possibilities



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Nestlé

Good Food, Good Life



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