



NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

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NCSL Virtual Meeting

School's Out For Summer!

Partnering Up to Feed Hungry Kids

Monday May 19, 2014

2 pm ET/ 1 pm CT/ 12 pm MT/ 11 am PT

21 million children rely on the free and reduced meals program during the school year, but only 17 percent of them participate during the summer. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program wants to reach more kids and invites state lawmakers to come to the table and share their ideas.



Panel:



Audrey Rowe
Administrator
USDA FNS



Jeremy Everett
Director
Texas Hunger Initiative



Kathy Webb
Executive Director
Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance

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For more information, please contact Gilberto Mendoza at gilberto.mendoza@ncsl.org or (202) 624-3576

Speaker Bios

Audrey Rowe is the Administrator for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington, D.C. FNS provides children and needy families with better access to food and a more healthful diet through its 15 nutrition assistance programs and nutrition education efforts.

She brings to the Federal government over 20 years of experience in human services policy development, fiscal management, program design, service delivery and marketing with a particular focus on vulnerable populations, low income women, children and youth.

Most recently, Rowe served as Deputy Administrator for Special Nutrition Programs at FNS, leading the effort to pass the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, the legislative centerpiece of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative to end childhood obesity in a generation.

Kathy Webb is the Executive Director of the AR Hunger Relief Alliance. The Alliance is the statewide umbrella organization for Feeding America food banks, food pantries and agencies, and hunger activists; the lead partner for the AR No Kid Hungry Campaign, and the education and advocacy clearinghouse on hunger issues in Arkansas.

Until January 2013, Kathy represented District 37 in the Arkansas House of Representatives, comprised of much of midtown Little Rock. She served as Co-Chair of Joint Budget Committee, the first woman in Arkansas history to hold that position.

Jeremy Everett is the founding Director of the Texas Hunger Initiative (THI) which is a capacity building project within the Baylor University School of Social Work and a partner of the United States Department of Agriculture, Texas state agencies, and Share our Strength that seeks to develop and implement strategies to alleviate hunger through policy, education, community organizing, and community development. THI organizes coalitions across the state to ensure access to healthy food for all Texans.

Jeremy has worked for international and community development organizations as a teacher, religious leader, community organizer, fundraiser, and organic farmer. He frequently delivers presentations to churches, non-profit organizations, universities, and the government sector on the subjects of poverty, community development and organizing, hunger, and social entrepreneurship. Jeremy regularly writes for the Huffington Post and has been featured on PBS documentaries and talk shows such as Feeding Minds: Texas Takes on Hunger and Obesity. Jeremy was recently appointed by the U.S. Congress to serve on the National Commission on Hunger.