

AZ End Childhood Hunger Conference

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Child Nutrition Reauthorization 2010



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www.frac.org

Richard Russell National School Lunch Act, Declaration of Policy

“It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress, as a measure of national security, to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation’s children and to encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious agricultural commodities and other food, by assisting the States, through grants-in-aid and other means, in providing an adequate supply of foods and other facilities for the establishment, maintenance, operation, and expansion of nonprofit school lunch programs.”

42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 (1946)

Food Insecurity in the U.S.

- **36.2 million** people lived in households considered to be food insecure - 23.8 million are adults (10.6 percent of all adults) and 12.4 million are children (16.9 percent of all children).
- The number of people in the **worst-off households increased to 11.9 from 10.8 in 2005.**
- **Black (22.2 percent) and Hispanic (20.1 percent)** households experienced food insecurity at far higher rates than the national average.
- The **ten states** with the highest food insecurity rates in 2007 were Mississippi, New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas, Maine, South Carolina, Georgia, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

Eliminate Child Hunger by 2015

1. Feeding and Nourishing America's Children
2. Providing all Poor Children with a Free School Meal
3. Providing Nutrition Assistance throughout the Year
4. Supporting Community-Based Providers

Obama and Biden: Tackling Domestic Hunger, 2008

CN Reauthorization Basics

Every 5 years, Congress reauthorizes the federal child nutrition programs

Programs include:



School Breakfast Program



National School Lunch Program



Afterschool Snack and Meal Program



Child and Adult Care Food Program



Summer Food Service Program



Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Committees w/ Jurisdiction

Reauthorization:

House Education & Labor Comm.

Senate Agriculture Comm.

Funding:

House Ways & Means Comm. (also House
Agriculture Comm.)

Senate Finance Comm.

Timetable for Action

- March 24 – Senate Agriculture Comm. unanimously votes out reauth. bill (\$4.5 billion/10 yrs – President proposes \$10 billion/10 yrs)
- May/June – Senate Ag Comm works w/ Finance Comm/leadership to secure additional funding for reauth effort
- May/June – House Ed & Labor Comm. votes out legislation (with funding from Ways & Means/Ag)
- June/July – House and Senate Floor votes
- July/August – Conference Report issued
- September – Rose Garden Bill Signing

Child Nutrition Forum: Building a Bigger Tent

Legislative Action Center



Statement of Principles for Child Nutrition Reauthorization
In preparation for the reauthorization of the child nutrition and WIC programs in 2009, thousands of national, state and local organizations representing anti-hunger, religious, education, medical, nutrition, direct service, school food, pre-school and child care, unions, children, after school, industry, agriculture and a host of others will join in support of a "Statement of Principles" to guide our reauthorization efforts.

CN Forum Statement of Principles

CN Reauthorization must:

- 1) increase program access and expand participation, esp. for low-income children;
- 2) enhance nutrition quality for meals and snacks (and improve the nutrition environment) (increase meal reimbursements); and
- 3) simplify program administration and operation.

Sufficient new funding is essential to finance and achieve any and all of these goals.

Child Nutrition “Access” Priorities

A strong Child Nutrition Reauthorization bill must include the following access priorities:

- Expand the Afterschool Meal Program to all 50 states (Senate Committee-passed bill).
- Improve the area eligibility test so more communities can operate afterschool, summer, and child care food programs.
- Provide funds to support the start-up and expansion of universal and in-classroom school breakfast programs.
- Invest in Summer Nutrition Programs by providing funding for start-up, outreach, and transportation grants.
- Allow child care centers and homes the option of a third meal.
- Eliminate unnecessary paperwork that serves as a barrier to participation through data-based eligibility in schools in high-poverty areas and improved direct certification systems.

President Obama's FY2011 Budget

Child Nutrition Reauthorization

- For Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization, the President's budget (FY2010 and FY2011) called for \$10 billion over ten years (subject to "paygo" rules) in new funding. The additional investments will be "aimed at ending childhood hunger, reducing childhood obesity, and improving the diets of children, and raising program performance to better serve our children."

Advocacy Options

Legislative Advocacy From Back Home



“Just a Click of the Mouse” Advocacy Options

1. Link up with a organization that is organizing the nationwide effort. FRAC’s Child Nutrition Reauthorization Center, www.frac.org.
2. Work with local and community-based organizations.

Weighing-in: More Advocacy Options

3. Urge Your Members of Congress to Cosponsor Important Child Nutrition Legislation –focus on a priority area for your community.

Current Child Nutrition Priority Bills,
http://www.frac.org/Legislative/action_center/current_childnutrition_bills09.htm

Organize a Site Visit with Your Elected Officials - All Officials!



FRAC Site Visit Technical Support

Legislative Action Center



- **Take Action: Work with others in your community to organize a site visit**
- http://www.frac.org/Legislative/action_center/organize_site_visit.htm

Getting your Message Heard From Back Home

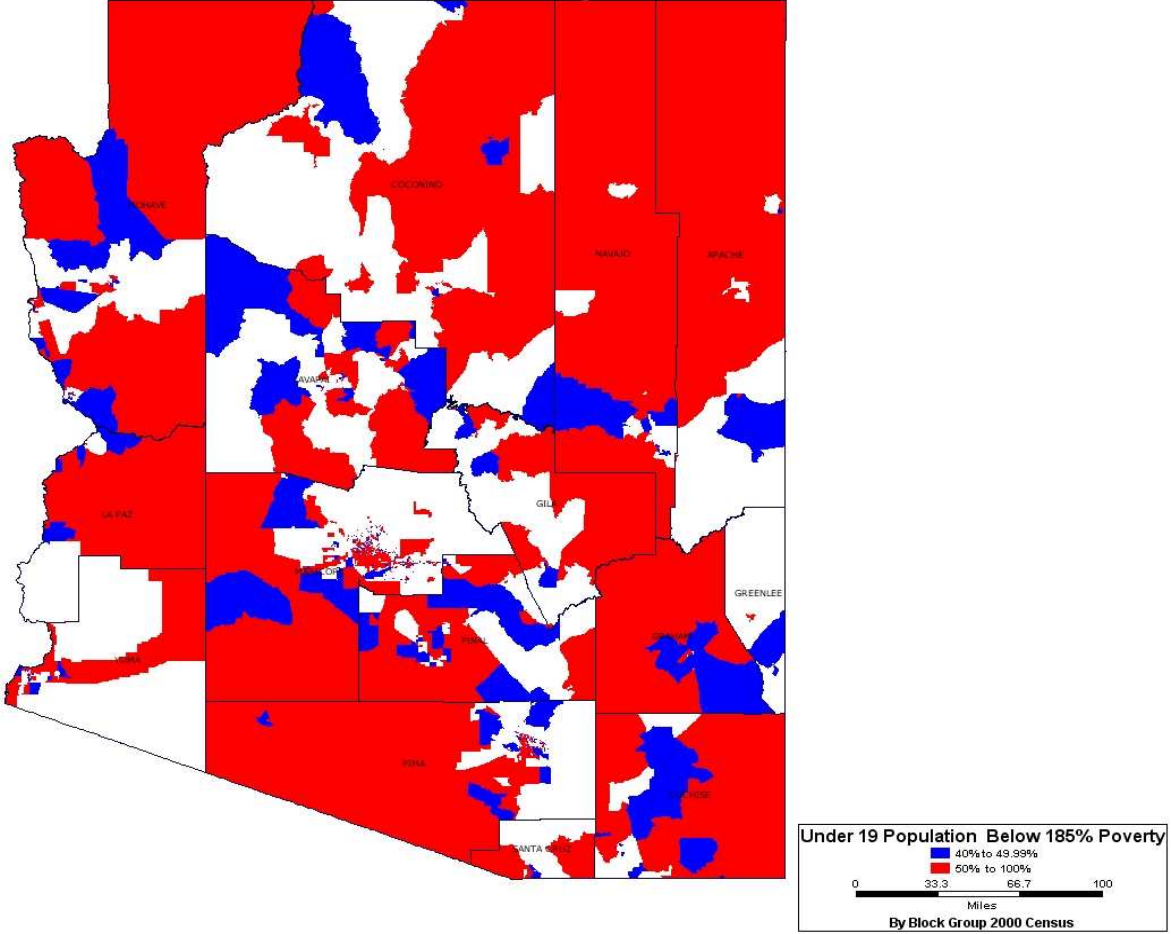
4. Staying connected to Washington, DC or your state capital from the comfort of your office – Participate in a “Community Call” with your elected officials. Volunteers and others on the front line have stories to share and create a reality-based picture for elected officials who often do not directly engage with our clients. For more, www.frac.org.

Telling the Story

5. The Visual

- Postcard campaigns with digital pictures from agencies and programs back home (with messages from constituents written on the back) are a powerful way to get across a message. Engage your volunteers and students in this effort. Scrapbooks/Photo Albums work, too!

Using Data to Make Your Point



Get Real!

Real stories capturing the need for program improvements and expansions

- Members of Congress want to hear from “real people” or people on the front line delivering services. Hearings in DC and Field Hearings or Town Hall Forums can be organized by Members or coordinated by advocates.

Elevating Programs in the Media

Op-eds: Getting an op-ed published in your local paper is a powerful way to deliver your message with a local twist.

Newspapers are looking for stories and op-eds. Describe what local agencies are experiencing on the front line of fighting hunger – use specific examples.

Reminding You of What you Already Know

- Don't be partisan
- Work collaboratively with others in your community/state in your dealings with elected officials – don't give your Member an excuse to “sit this one out”
- Expand your tent – find creative collaborations and unusual partners

“Collaborate, Cut and Paste” and Keep in Touch!

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